

2020 • 2021

FAR WEST

SKIER'S GUIDE

2019-2020:
A Ski Season
Like No Other!

A "New Normal?"
The 2020-2021
Ski Season.
What to Expect!

FWSA Celebrates:
**The 90 Year
Journey...**



*Ski Club
Ski Resort
Information*

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AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION
"The Voice of the Western Skier"



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email: jimmy@skiingaround.com



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Publisher:

Leigh Gieringer Graphic Services

Editor, Production Coordinator & Advertising Manager:

Leigh Gieringer

Assistant Editor:

Jane Wyckoff

Contributors:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Sandra Blackwell | David Krupp |
| Michael Bouton | Fran Long |
| Gail Burns | Sigrid Noack |
| Christine Ciardi | Sheri Parshall |
| Gordon Cordova | Donald Pribble |
| Bob Ellis | Gloria Raminha |
| Nancy Ellis | Jo Simpson |
| Chris Gill | Debbie Stewart |
| Maxine Hanlon | George Stewart |
| Joe Harvis | Emilio Trampuz |
| Wanda Himler | Eric Van Pelt |
| Todd Hood | Paul Vlasveld |
| Randy Lew | John Watson |
| Ira Lindenfeld | Linda Westlund |
| Susie Jacox | Kurt Wilke |
| Debbi Kor | Jane Wyckoff |

FWSA Convention Photographer - 2020:

the 2020 Convention was cancelled

Council/Club Circulation:

- James Nachbar - Arizona
- Paul Vlasveld - Bay Area
- Fran Long - Central
- Michael Bouton - Intermountain
- Michael Barrett - Las Vegas
- Sandra Blackwell - Los Angeles
- George Kish - Orange County
- Christine Ciardi - Northwest
- Jo Simpson - Reno
- Ira Lindenfeld - San Diego
- Michael Bouton - Direct Members

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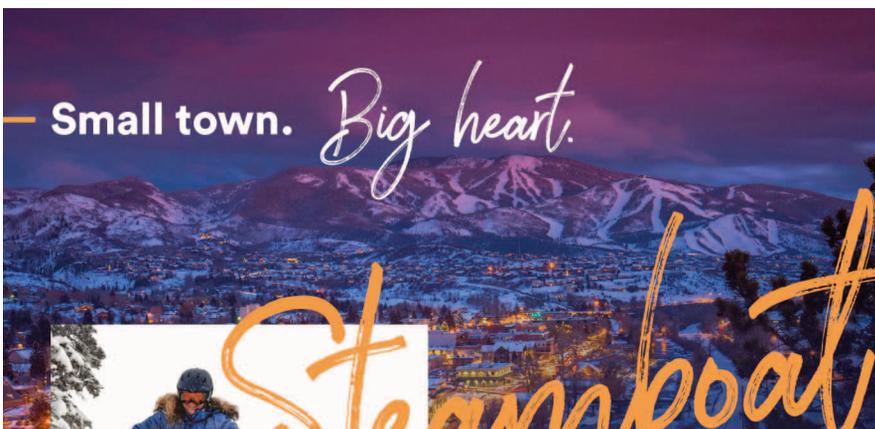
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2020 - 2021



Our 2019 - 2020 ski season started out to be fantastic. Many early ski trips were planned within the FWSA councils and clubs. Phoenix Ski Club and the Scottsdale Sea and Ski Club members joined together in Telluride, Colorado for their annual Arizona Days adventure.

photo provided by Wanda Himler



The Far West Ski Association's 2020 Ski Week was held at Big Sky Montana. As part of the Annual Ski Week, many trip participants took advantage of the race program.

photo provided by Nancy Ellis

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Check out the 2020-2021 Digital Edition Only Insert included in the digital version of the 2020-2021 Far West Skier's Guide. It is placed after page 40 online. It features:

The Far West Ski Association Turns 90

The 90 Year Journey of FWSA



The Far West Ski Association celebrated its 90th Anniversary in October, 2020. The digital only insert includes "The Far West Ski Association Turns 90" eighty page booklet examining the The 90 Year Journey of FWSA.

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Some clubs and councils were even able to travel abroad during the early months of this ski season. Intermountain Ski Council took 40+ participants to St. Moritz in Switzerland, and skied all three of the famed ski areas. After a week of skiing, they spent another week in London before returning to the states. photo provided by Donald Pribble

► This historic account describes the development of skiing throughout the western United States, the popularity of ski jumping, the formation of the California Ski Association, the humble beginnings of uphill transport, the war years, and how these elements helped lead to the creation of ski resorts, as well as, how the CSA - later becoming the FWSA - assisted in the rapid growth of the ski industry in the west. It also expands on the development of the FWSA councils. John Watson, our 90th Anniversary Committee Chair, with a large group of contributors and reknown guest authors, compiled this historic 90th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet.

Check it out at www.fwsa.org. A very limited number of hard copies have been printed and are available on a first come, first served basis. Get your copy by contacting: Randy Lew - treasurer@fwsa.org

Enjoy the New Ski Season. Get Back on the Slopes. Resorts are Prepared to Welcome You!

ON THE COVER: The 2019 - 2020 Ski Season was challenging, but we are all looking ahead to a new ski season, including the 2021 FWSA Ski Week to Sun Valley, Idaho. photo courtesy of Sun Valley Ski Resort



And, then the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the world. Many of our ski trips and other events were cancelled or postponed to keep us all safe. photo submitted by Bogus Basin Ski Club.

Ski resorts were closed everywhere. We needed to social distance. We needed to wear our "fashionable" masks even if we only went to the grocery store!

But, the 2020-2021 Ski Season is ahead of us.... We are hopeful that we will be able to return to our active lives, get our skis out of storage, plan to go to our favorite ski resorts, and gather with other club members soon!

See A "New Normal". The 2020-2021 Ski Season. What to Expect! starting on page 34. photo courtesy of Big White Ski Resort - site of the 2022 Mini Ski Trip.



FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors
2020 - 2021

PRESIDENT

Gloria Raminha (661) 800-8229
E-mail: president@fwsa.org

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Steve Coxen (503) 679-9022
E-mail: pastpres@fwsa.org

SECRETARY

Sheri Parshall (503) 706-0522
E-mail: secretary@fwsa.org

TREASURER

Randy Lew (530) 304-0802
E-mail: treasurer@fwsa.org

VP COMMUNICATIONS

Joe Harvis (973) 964-0834
E-mail: vpcommunications@fwsa.org

VP COUNCIL SERVICES

Chris Gill (858) 382-1427
E-mail: vpcouncilservices@fwsa.org

VP MARKETING & SPONSORSHIP

Debbi Kor (503) 314-7078
E-mail: vpmarketing@fwsa.org

VP PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Fran Long (805) 712-5781
E-mail: publicaffairs@fwsa.org

VP MEMBERSHIP

Michael Bouton (208) 703-0444
E-mail: vpmembership@fwsa.org

VP RACING

Bob Ellis (530) 414-4270
E-mail: vpracing@fwsa.org

VP NO. AMERICAN TRAVEL

Nancy Ellis (530) 414-8261
E-mail:
vpnorthamericantravel@fwsa.org

VP INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Debbie Stewart (559) 737-0882
E-mail: vpinternatontravel@fwsa.org



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHAIRMAN TRUSTEES

Linda Westlund (480) 216-2010
E-mail: trusteechair@fwsa.org

TRUSTEE

Jo Simpson (775) 722-6468
E-mail: trustee4@fwsa.org

TRUSTEE

Tom Bundgard (619) 884-3848
E-mail: trustee2@fwsa.org

TRUSTEE

Tucker Hoffman (510) 329-6838
E-mail: trustee3@fwsa.org

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by Gloria Raminha
President, FWSA

COVID-19, who knew?!? Greetings and welcome skiers, boarders, adventurers, and world travelers to the 33rd edition of the *Far West Skiers Guide*, "The Voice of the *Western Skier*", serving all snowsports enthusiasts. The *Far West Skiers Guide* is published each year to provide information to council and ski club members and anyone interested in joining an organization that is dedicated to serving its membership with information on organized group activities and group travel where you can find like-minded friends who ski, board, like to explore new places and enjoy new adventures.

FWSA is a not for profit, volunteer organization which was founded in 1930 with the mission to develop and provide benefits for affiliated ski clubs and members. FWSA is one of the largest ski associations in the U.S. made up from ten councils, representing more than 50,000 members, from over 150 clubs. If you are a member of a club affiliated with one of the FWSA councils, you are automatically a member of FWSA. Additionally, FWSA has direct members from across the country and internationally. Most of our membership covers these twelve western states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

This year with COVID-19, we have had many challenges to deal with, starting with the cancellation of our Annual Convention and canceling several of our scheduled trips through the end of 2020. However, we have some exciting trips scheduled in 2021 starting with our Annual North American Ski Week, European Ski Week, Mini Ski Trip and much more. We are continually monitoring our US and International travel destinations and are hopeful that these trips will proceed as planned.



Here is a list of scheduled trips for 2021 and 2022:

- North American Ski Week, Sun Valley, Idaho, January 30-February 6, 2021
- International Ski Week, Sölden, Austria, postponed to, 2022 with a post trip to TBA
- Mini Ski Week, Zermatt Resort & Spa, Midway, UT (Near Dear Valley & Park City) March 21-March 26, 2021
- Alaska Cruise & Denali Tour, June 19-30, 2021
- Croatia, September 10-19, 2021
- Dive Trip to Roatan, Honduras, October 9-16, 2021
- Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado, January 22-29, 2022
- Madonna di Campiglio, Italy with extension TBD in 2023
- Big White, British Columbia in 2022 - dates TBA
- African Adventure Trip in Central/East Africa - details TBD
- Dive Trip to Cozumel in the Fall of 2022 - details TBD

These trips are well planned by our Travel VPs and their staffs. All trips include various amenities such as welcome and farewell parties, happy hours, lunches, wine tasting, recreational ski racing, day tours and much more. Our member clubs also have active year around social and recreational events, including their own ski trips, recreational races, dinners, cruises, dive trips, biking, wine tasting, camping and more. Many FWSA and member clubs' activities welcome families and children. Visit our website at www.fwsa.org or follow us on our Facebook page to learn more about our organization.

Although 2020 has been a challenging year, we are excited that we are able to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the founding of the Far West Ski Association. The Association was

founded on October 7, 1930 at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. Although we could not conduct our celebration in San Francisco as planned, **John Watson**, our 90th Anniversary Committee Chair, with a large group of contributors and guest authors, compiled an historic 90th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet, published by **Leigh Gieringer**. **Jane Wyckoff** was the managing editor. This Booklet is available for purchase through our website at www.fwsa.org, and is also a Digital Insert in this issue of the *Far West Skier's Guide*.

Our councils offer recreational ski racing sanctioned by the Far West Racing Association (FWRA). Since we use a handicapping system for our racers, they are grouped with other racers in age groups who have similar racing skills. It allows members of all abilities to have fun and be competitive within their racing class. Recreational racing is a great way to improve your skiing techniques.

FWSA has established important relationships with the National Ski Council Federation (NSCF), National Forest Service (NSF), International Ski History Association (ISHA), United States Ski & Snowboard (USSA), the United States Ski Team, Women's Ski Jumping USA, North American Snowsports Journalists Association (NASJA) and Snowsports Industries America (SIA). We are strong supporters of the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) Environmental Charter and have endorsed their "Sustainable Slopes" objectives. We are active participants in the informal and bipartisan Congressional Ski & Snowboard Caucus. Our goal is to effectively represent the interest of all our members and the snowsports public.

The Far West Ski Association is one of many snowsports organizations who will continue to educate and inform our membership in its support of the call to end racial injustice and inequity. Industry leaders have been conducting a variety of frank and open conversations with their memberships through webinars and workshops. The goal has been to examine ways to create a more inclusive winter community. They have included a historical perspective of how we got to where we are today, and to develop short and long term goals for the organization. The FWSA Board of Directors included this topic at its July Meeting. You will find several articles of interest in this publication addressing the issue of diversity in snowsports and in our organization.

We will host our 88th Annual FWSA Snowsports Convention in San Diego, CA at the Marriott Mission Valley, June 10 - 13, 2021. The fun will begin with activities starting on Thursday, with a Sail around the San Diego Harbor, Bike Ride by the Beach, and

the Taste of San Diego Pub Crawl. This is a great way for the ski industry and delegates to meet and greet on an informal basis. On Friday, events will include the 14th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, a San Diego Trolley Tour La Jolla/Mt. Soledad Memorial, Aqua Adventures, or other activities unique to the area. After the Friday optional activities, there will be a Pool Party followed by an all club's Happy Hour, then the Annual Silent Auction and Snowsports Show which is open to the public. Participants will have the opportunity to bid on terrific ski and adventure packages. Saturday begins with a Travel Expo, the Snowsports Leadership Academy and Public Affairs Panels. There will be an Awards Luncheon, a Keynote Presentation, Cocktail Party and Awards Dinner and Dance. The final day for the Convention is on Sunday where elections, club and council awards, and a brunch will end the convention.

FWSA has a working relationship with the Far West Ski Foundation (FWSF), a nonprofit charitable organization that is tax exempt under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3). We work with the Foundation to support our Athletic Scholarship Program, Adaptive Sports and Skier Rehabilitation Program, Fly Girls - Women's Olympic Ski Jumping, and Preserving the Legacy - Ski History Program. The Foundation continues to grow, and we will continue to work hard to make each year more successful than the last. We thank all of you who have made generous donations to the FWSE.

We have an outstanding Board of Directors, Trustees, Committee Chairs and Committee Volunteers who make an exceptional team and are dedicated and committed to making our Association the success that it is year after year. With our strong working relationship with our Industry Partners, these volunteers have come up through the ranks in their clubs, councils and the Association and have a ton of knowledge and history with the FWSA. I would like to thank all the volunteers for all they do for our organization.

I encourage everyone to check out www.fwsa.org where you can find information about FWSA's future events, travel plans, convention, member benefits and much more.

I look forward to seeing you on the slopes, in my travels and/or at our 88th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention in San Diego. To all of you, have a fun filled season on the slopes and in your travels. Stay safe, stay healthy and have fun. ▲▲

FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION Committee Chairs & Other Representatives 2020 - 2021

FWSA ANNUAL CONVENTION

ANNUAL CONVENTION CHAIR

Debbi Kor (503) 314-7078

E-mail: conventionchair@fwsa.org

CONVENTION TREASURER

Randy Lew (530) 304-0802

E-mail: conv-treasurer@fwsa.org

HOST COUNCIL CONVENTION COORDINATOR - 2021

Chris Gill (NWSCC) (858) 382-1427

E-mail: hostconventionchair@fwsa.org

Barbara Blase (858) 869-7091

E-mail: hostconventionchair@fwsa.org

SILENT AUCTION CHAIR

TBD

E-mail: silentauktion@fwsa.org

TRAVEL EXPO CHAIR

TBD

E-mail: travelexpo@fwsa.org

CONVENTION REGISTRAR

Jean McCassey (858) 560-8722

E-mail: registrar@fwsa.org

FWSA RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

AWARDS CHAIR

Steve Coxen (503) 679-9022

E-mail: svcawards@fwsa.org

CLUB/COUNCIL COMMUNICATION AWARDS CHAIR

Bill King (614) 371-4762

E-mail: willie2K@gmail.com

COUNCILS' MAN & WOMAN OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION PROGRAM CHAIR

Sheri Parshall (503) 706-0522

E-mail: cougskier@aol.com

FWSA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIR

TBD

E-mail: safety@fwsa.org

HISTORY COMMITTEE CHAIR/ PARLIAMENTARIAN

John Watson (760) 723-6539

E-mail: history@fwsa.org

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

TBD

E-mail: environment@fwsa.org

Continued on page 9

2020 - 2021 Council Information

Please check council websites
for dates, times & locations
of council meetings.

Arizona Ski Council

3217 East Glenhaven Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85048
President: *Wanda Himler* (602) 326-2205
E-mail: president@arizonaskicouncil.org
Website: www.arizonaskicouncil.org

Bay Area Snow Sports Council

P.O. Box 5248
San Jose, CA 95150-5248
President: *Paul Vlasveld* (408) 314-4649
E-mail: bac.president@skibac.org
Website: www.skibac.org

Central Council of California

1729 Ponderosa Lane
Paso Robles, CA 93446
President: *Fran Long* (805) 712-5781
E-mail: fancat87@gmail.com
Website: www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org

Intermountain Ski Council

PMB 131, 10400 W. Overland Road,
Boise, ID 83709
President: *Jennifer Coutts* (817) 832-5364
E-mail: jcoutts29@yahoo.com
Website: www.intermountaincouncil.org

Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

1466 North Clybourn Avenue
Burbank, CA 91505
President: *Sandra Blackwell* (818) 441-6191
E-mail: lacpresident@lacouncil.org
Website: www.lacouncil.org

National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region

P.O. Box 153452
San Diego, CA 92195
Vice-President: *Todd Hood* (203) 570-5733
E-mail: vicepresident@nbswt.com
Website: <http://www.nbswt.org>

Northwest Ski Club Council

5331 SW Macadam Avenue, Suite 258
Portland, OR 97239
President: *Christine Ciardi* (503) 819-3128
E-mail president@nwskiers.org
Website: www.nwskiers.org

Orange Council of Ski Clubs

3665 South Bear Street B
Santa Ana, CA 92704
President: *Sheila Van Guilder* (714) 656-6032
E-mail: svanguil@yahoo.com
Website: www.orangecouncil.org

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

5142 Biltmore Street
San Diego, A 92117
President: *Ira Lindenfeld* (858) 395-5442
E-mail: chrismgill@me.com
Website: sdsc.clubexpress.com

Sierra League and Council

1691 Ashbury Lane
Reno, NV 89523
President: *Jo Simpson* (775) 722-6468
E-mail: jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.sierraleague.com



Each year, councils elect a man and a woman of the year. The program chairman, Sheri Parshall speaks with the 2019 council honorees at the 87th Annual Convention. photo / Eric Van Pelt

Council Services Links FWSA To Councils & Clubs

by Chris Gill

Vice President - Council Services, FWSA

The position of Vice President of Councils Services is to work together with the presidents of the 10 FWSA member councils to manage programs and initiatives that benefit our clubs. This has been a primary goal of the FWSA organization. We have talented and involved individual council presidents and program chairs that work very hard to administer the programs we oversee.

Council Services oversees the following FWSA programs: *Club and Council Communications* and *Outstanding Club Awards, Councils' Man and Woman of the Year Recognition, Charities and Our Community* and *Family and Youth Program*.

The *Club and Council Awards* program provides an opportunity to recognize and reward hard working volunteers. Our committee chairs strive to administer competitions that are relevant along with easy submissions.

The *Charities & Our Community Service Recognition* chaired by *Sigrid Noack*, highlights the good works our clubs and councils do to benefit their communities. The yearly club and council charity efforts are given a platform through this program each year at our annual convention. The club and council submissions are shown on a video slide show during the convention. Each one of the clubs and councils are awarded a certificate, which can be displayed on their website.

The *Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Program* is chaired by *Sheri Parshall*. This program offers councils the opportunity to send an outstanding man and woman from their member clubs to the annual convention. The candidates submit applications and go through an oral interview. The candidates are honored at the FWSA Luncheon and Awards Banquet. We are extremely grateful to *Big White Ski Resort* for their continued sponsorship of this program. Big White provides a ski trip for two to their resort to the FWSA winning Man and Woman of the year.

The *Club & Council Communications* and *Outstanding Club Awards Program* is chaired by *Bill King*, who has done an outstanding job providing for easy submissions and judging. This award allows clubs and councils to enter their website, newsletter and overall programs for recognition. Next year we will be adding social media as part of the judging criteria.

The *Family & Youth Program* is chaired by *Linda Coxen*. We are in the process of developing a new direction for this program. We are looking at a recognition certificate/award to those clubs and councils who have programs offered to family and youth.

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 or request for information at cmg@san.rtx.com. ▲▲



Metropolitan New York Ski Council Chairman Michael Calderone delivers face masks to a local hospital. The council spent \$10,000 to have the masks manufactured which they subsequently donated to two local hospitals. photo submitted by Jo Simpson

National Ski Council Federation Brings Councils & Clubs Together Nationwide

by Jo Simpson

*National Ski Council Federation, Public Affairs Chair
Sierra League and Council, President*

The Far West Ski Association and member councils and clubs are all members of the National Ski Council Federation. The Federation provides Far West councils an opportunity to interact with ski councils in the central and eastern United States to exchange ideas and receive valuable information for our member clubs. Membership in the Federation provides a variety of benefits.

As with most other ski organizations featured in this publication, the Federation has operated differently this summer and fall. Our annual meeting that was scheduled to be in Telluride was replaced with a virtual online business meeting. We missed our usual collaboration with our industry partners that occurs during the onsite meetings. We did, however, hold an online meeting with them during the spring where we shared information about plans and challenges for operating in the 2020-2021 season.

The successful online auction that has been held annually in the fall since 2017 was also canceled out of respect for the challenges the resorts and businesses who have generously donated items for auction are facing this season.

The Federation offers members a variety of attractive discounts on items such as ski rentals, lodging, car rentals, travel insurance and a variety of ski gear. To access the benefits and other Federation information, ski club members can go to the Federation website www.skifederation.org and request a password.

Ski clubs can post their trips on the website to attract new members through their trip offerings.

The Federation was formed in 1999 to provide ski councils an opportunity to exchange information and to discuss among themselves and with the ski industry important issues that impact clubs and councils throughout the United States. The Federation represents 30 councils across the United States. The councils have 640 clubs with more than 300,000 club members. The Federation elects officers every other year so the following officers elected in 2019 are continuing: President, Lisa Beregi (Crescent Ski Council - southeastern U.S.); Vice President, Cheryl Mann (Texas Ski Council); Treasurer, Greg Schmid (Cleveland Metropolitan Ski Council); and Secretary, Sheri Parshall (Northwest Ski Club Council). Like FWSA, the Federation is completely operated by volunteers.

For detailed information regarding the NSCF, including participating councils and member resources and benefits, visit our website at www.skifederation.org. ▲▲

FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION Committee Chairs & Other Representatives

2020 - 2021

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COMMUNICATIONS/ PUBLICATIONS

FAR WEST SKIER'S GUIDE EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Leigh Gieringer (480) 600-6099
E-mail: skiersguide@fwsa.org

THE COUNCILMAN EDITOR

Nick Cowell (619) 851-7116
E-mail: councilman@fwsa.org

FAR WEST NEWS FLASH EDITOR

Debbi Kor (503) 314-7078
E-mail: newsflash@fwsa.org

MEDIA PRODUCER

George Stewart (559) 679-7722
E-mail: marketingmedia@fwsa.org

WEBMASTER

Joe Harvis (973) 964-0834
E-mail: vpcommunications@fwsa.org

SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR

Jane Gutierrez (323) 325-5534
E-mail: socialmedia@fwsa.org

COUNCIL SERVICES

CHARITIES & OUR COMMUNITY CHAIR

Sigrid Noack (310) 499-8181
E-mail: charities@fwsa.org

FAMILY & YOUTH INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Linda Coxen (503) 679-6425
E-mail: family@fwsa.org

2020-2021 OTHER CONTACTS

TAX ADVISOR

John Reinhardt (503) 330-3838
E-mail: johnreinhardt@hotmail.com

FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION

John Watson (760) 390-0900
E-mail: fwsf@fwsa.org

ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR

David Krupp (310) 925-4143
E-mail: commawards@fwsa.org

BYLAWS COMMITTEE CHAIR

George Kish (714) 997-1090
E-mail: bylaws@fwsa.org

SUCCESSION PLANNING

Todd Hood (203) 570-5733
E-mail: successionplanning@fwsa.org

A Ski Season Like No Other!

by **Debbi Kor**

Vice President - Marketing, FWSA

Ski season 2020 began early, with lots of snow throughout the country. Everyone was having fun, getting in some great days on the slopes, being with their friends and family, and just enjoying the beautiful outdoors. Unfortunately, that all came to an abrupt halt in mid-March, with the COVID-19 which stopped lifts from running, snowcats from grooming and doors being shuttered at all of our favorite ski resorts.

Up until that time, we had a chance to escape to the wonderful outdoors, cruising the slopes at a new location or to simply revisit some of our favorite haunts. Whether that was in Aspen, Whitefish Mountain Resort, Silverstar, or Mammoth Mountain, we had fun wherever we went! Far West's Ski Week was to Big Sky this year, from January 25 through February 2, 2020. We had approximately 250 attendees. *Josh Pelczar* and his team took very good care of us during our stay. *Sports America Tours* was our tour operator, doing an outstanding job, ensuring that we had plenty to do while we were there, including the Welcome Party, an On-Mountain Picnic, an Après Ski Party, as well as, a fantastic Awards Party at the end of the week. Schure Sports, Inc. provided a raffle prize of a Karbon Ski Suit, which went to *Barbara Gottlieb*, of Sierra Council. This raffle raises money for the Far West Athletic Scholarship Program. We always get a lot of support from the local businesses when we are on a ski week. They want to welcome us into their community and are happy to provide door prizes for our group. This year, we had donations from: *Olive B's Big Sky Bistro*, *Buck's T4 Restaurant*, *Scissorsbill's Saloon*, *Gallatin Riverhouse Grill*, *Solace Spa*, as well as *Big Sky Resort* who provided several gift bags. Thank you to each and every one of you.

Far West provides many opportunities for our members to receive discounts on lodging, ski and board rentals, outdoor gear, and some adventures, like reduced rates on lift tickets, sailing adventures, and shuttle rides from the airport to Steamboat, or some of your favorite Utah resorts. All you need to do is click onto our NEW website (www.fwsa.org) and check out the extensive list of **Member Benefits** (under *Member Corner*), where our club and council members can take advantage

of great discounts. We have a new lodging partner this year, *Highland Vail*, a *Double Tree by Hilton* at *Vail Resorts*. Receive 15% off the rack rate when you call to make a reservation. There is also a *Double Tree by Hilton* in Bend, Oregon as well as, *Forest Suites* in South Lake Tahoe, *Atlantis Casino Resort Spa* in Reno, and *Hyatt House* in Salt Lake City. If you are looking for a new pair of skis, check out *Meier Skis*, out of Colorado. They will do a "custom pair" of skis for you at 20-30% off. To get around in the Park City area, give *The Transportation Network* a call to receive 20% off the shuttle service from the Salt Lake City airport. If you're in Steamboat, check out *Go Alpine* for all your shuttle needs to and from the airport. Lastly, if you are considering a European bike, or bike and barge tour, check out *Girolibero Cycling - Europe*. Lots and lots of goodies here, just for the taking, so check them out before planning your next trip!

Far West Ski Association has a host of sponsorship opportunities available, including: Program, Corporate, and Convention Sponsors. We are fortunate to have long-standing commitments from a number of mountain resorts, including: *Big White Ski Resort*, who has sponsored the *Far West Councils' Man and Woman of the Year Recognition Program* since 2001; *Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation* has been our sponsor of the *Western Ski Heritage Award* since 2000; *Aspen/Snowmass* sponsors *The Environment Award*, which was implemented in 2015. *Mammoth Ski Area* is the new sponsor of the *Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award*, while *Whitefish Mountain Resort*, *Averill Hospitality Group*, and *Schure Sports, Inc.* (makers of Karbon ski wear) have been long-time sponsors of the *Far West Athletic Scholarship Program*, which began in 2004, with *Whitefish Mountain Resort* and *Grouse Mountain Lodge* as our original sponsors. We thank each and every one of you for your continued support!

Far West Ski Association is celebrating our 90th Anniversary in 2020. To commemorate the event, we have published a 90th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, contact *Randy Lew* at treasurer@fwsa.org.



The Far West Ski Association Convention provides a golden opportunity for club and council members to meet with industry representatives, learn about their resorts and make plans to visit them. Unfortunately, the 2020 FWSA Annual Convention was postponed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. This convention photo showing the Mammoth Mountain booth and their Representative Stephanie Pollard was taken at the 2019 FWSA Convention. We are looking forward to the 2021 FWSA Convention to be held in San Diego next June. Mark the dates of June 10-13 to attend the upcoming convention and meet resort reps. photo / Eric Van Pelt Photography

If you are a vendor or new business, and would like to join Far West as a Member Benefits Partner, or a Sponsor with our organization, please contact me: fwsadebbi@comcast.net, or check our website at: www.fwsa.org/membership/benefits for further information.

We will be conducting our **88th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention** in beautiful San Diego, California **June 10-13, 2021**, at the *San Diego Marriott Mission Valley*. We look forward to see YOU there! Come "Sail into San Diego" with us. ▲▲



The Far West Skier's Guide is a printed publication of the Far West Ski Association distributed to clubs, councils and others. The 2020-2021 issue is the 33rd Annual. It is also the 11th issue available in a digital format. photo / Leigh Gieringer

FWSA Communications

by Joe Harvis

Vice President - Communications, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association began 2020 on a high note with the deployment of our new website and member management system going live in February. There were a few glitches but overall, it was quite successful. Members, both direct and affiliate club and council members, have registered for a Login ID and Password that is only needed to enter the Member's Only area and create events. All our clubs and councils have the ability to add their functions and trips to our events calendar.

We still have more to do to build out the new system. Eventually, we will be able to link with our councils and clubs who are also using the Club Express website and members management system. When this is complete, those clubs and councils will only have to define their activities and events on their own site, and they will filter up to the Far West site.

All direct members from the past three seasons, as well as, affiliated members who have participated in one of our travel programs from the past three years have been preloaded into the member database. When we went live, each were emailed their registration login and password. Those members can sign in and review their member profile to update any missing or incorrect information. We encourage members to verify your information.

Others can click on "Member Sign Up" and create and complete the registration form. One can even sign up to receive the Far West News Flash simply by checking the "News Flash Subscription" box under the "Interests" section of the Member Profile.

Moving forward, we expect to handle all convention and travel registrations and pay-

ments within this new system, as well as, direct membership renewal payments.

This issue of the Far West Skier's Guide has fewer pages than past issues due to the ongoing pandemic, which has reduced advertising and cancelled events that would normally have had coverage in this issue. We expect that things will be back to normal next season, but unfortunately there are no guarantees that this virus will have been contained anytime soon. We can only hope and pray for it to be over quickly. However, our team, Leigh Gieringer, our Editor and Publisher, and Jane Wyckoff, our Assistant Editor, still published a high-quality issue to make us proud. We hope you enjoy this issue.

FWSA also publishes The Councilman, a bi-annual internal newsletter, edited by Nick Cowell, to keep our membership informed on all the goings on at all levels of the Association, including our councils and their clubs.

Lastly, Debbi Kor edits and publishes the Far West News Flash. This is a monthly newsletter that is an email subscription-based publication for our members and industry friends.

Our Marketing Media guru, George Stewart, continues to produce videos from our conventions and trips. These videos can be found on our You Tube channel accessible from our website photo albums.

We are gearing up to put more emphasis on our Social Media activities with Facebook, Twitter and will be creating a presence on Instagram. Jane Gutierrez has recently become chair of this effort.

In closing, keep informed on all things FWSA by staying plugged in to our website, www.fwsa.org, and all of our publications. ▲

2020 WESTERN REGION SKI & SNOWBOARD SHOWS

Compiled by Jane Wyckoff

Most of the western region ski and snowboard shows have been postponed until 2021 due to the pandemic. The following virtual ski shows and sales are still scheduled. Be sure to check their websites for additional information. Have a great ski season and we look forward to being back to a full list of ski and snowboard shows for 2021!

NOVEMBER

SnowJam Ski & Snowboard Expo
San Diego

Clearance Sale
(Reservations Required) and
Virtual Experience / Membership
November 13 - 15, 2020
Del Mar Fairgrounds,
Del Mar, CA
<http://snowjamshow.com/sandiego/>

SnowJam Ski & Snowboard Expo
Las Vegas

Virtual Experience / Membership
November 21 - 22, 2020
Las Vegas Convention Center /
South Hall
Las Vegas, NV
<https://snowjamshow.com/lasvegas/>

DECEMBER

Ski Dazzle Show
Ski • Snowboard • Active Sports •
Travel

\$Million Sale (TBD) & Virtual Show
December 4 - 6, 2020
Los Angeles Convention Center,
Los Angeles, CA
<https://skidazzle.com/>

Mark Your Calendars to participate in a Ski & Snowboard Show near you. Since they are virtual, you can attend on your computer from anywhere! ▲▲

SnowboundFest.com Goes Live!

by Nick Sargent, SIA
Ski Industries America

SnowboundFest.com is an online platform that connects winter outdoor enthusiasts with brands, resorts and retailers via fresh, new content featuring intriguing winter athlete and industry executive interviews, informational how-to articles, exclusive product previews, destinations, promotions and more. Check it out - snowboundfest.com!

FWSA DIRECT MEMBER APPLICATION 2020 - 2021

Direct membership is available for an individual or family who are NOT a member of a FWSA affiliated snowsports club. Members of FWSA affiliated ski clubs are automatic FWSA members. Membership is effective through April 30, 2021.

DIRECT MEMBER BENEFITS

■ FWSA Membership Card ■ Member Benefits & Discounts ■ Copy of the annual *Far West Skier's Guide* ■ Online access to *The Councilman* subscription ■ Invitation to the Annual FWSA Convention and Silent Auction ■ Participation in the FWSA Travel Program, and more.

ANNUAL DIRECT MEMBER DUES:

\$30 per member; \$50 per couple; \$60 per family. Please copy this form and fill it out. Make checks payable to FWSA and mail to: FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION c/o

Michael Bouton, VP - Membership,
9632 Dorsetshire Place, Boise, ID 83704
(208) 703-0444 / mbouton0559@msn.com

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Daytime Phone #: _____

Fax #: _____

E-mail: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Are you interested in information about ski or snowboard clubs in your area?

The Far West Skier's Guide can be sent directly to you.

The FWSG is available at no cost to members through your ski club, however, if you wish to have the magazine sent to you directly, please fill out this order form and include \$5.00 to cover postage and handling. Send to:

FAR WEST SKIER'S GUIDE
3115 South Price Road
Chandler, AZ 85248

2020 - 2021 2021 - 2022

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____



Michael Bouton, Vice President of Membership of the Far West Ski Association, speaks to a group of newcomers to the 2019 FWSA Annual Convention. He provided information on the Association, councils, clubs, the Convention and answered their questions. The Conventions are a great place to meet representatives from other clubs and councils.

Eric Van Pelt Photography

Membership in FWSA

by Michael Bouton

Vice President - Membership, FWSA

As I write this report regarding membership for our 2020-2021 *Far West Skier's Guide*, it feels like we are all stuck in time. It has been a rough seven months for all of us "get ready and go" type of people. When our plans for travel and adventure get changed and postponed, we tend to do nothing and just wait. I know there are many of you are waiting to hear that our FWSA trips will be able to go as scheduled, however, during these uncertain times you need to plan for the positive and be ready with your passport and your membership.

The Far West Ski Association offers a myriad of programs and benefits to not only its club and council members, but Direct Members, as well. These include: travel opportunities; discounts on lodging, equipment and services at select resorts; recreational racing, publications, and the Annual Convention. It is easier than ever now to register and pay your membership on line through www.fwsa.org and *Club Express*. If that doesn't suit your needs, send me your email address and I will reply back with an application and address to mail/USPS it in. (My e-mail address is: membership@fwsa.org).

There have been 14 new direct members this year. I encourage all those past direct members to renew and be ready for all the activities and trips that will be coming soon. We need you to be part of our dynamic organization. The FWSA International and North American trips are first class. If you are a skier or snowboarder, and interested in joining a ski club to take advantage of the wide range of year around activities offered by our clubs and councils, find a club near you. See the council and club listings starting on page 41). Even if you are not a snow enthusiast, the organization offers adventure trips to exotic and interesting destinations around the world.

I encourage you to wash your hands and take all the precautions to stay safe and well. Find that face covering that meets your personality and have confidence that things will get better soon.

Think snow! ▲▲

THE NORTH AMERICAN TRAVEL PROGRAM

by Nancy Ellis

Vice President - North American Travel, FWSA



The 2020 FWSA Ski Week participants traveled to Big Sky Resort in Montana. photo provided by Nancy Ellis

The Far West Ski Association Travel Program offers trips for ski club and direct members to destinations in North America, Canada, and U.S. territories. Our annual ski week is extremely popular, offering activities for skiers/boarders and non-skiers. We have a week of skiing/boarding, parties with dancing, racing, and opportunities for shopping and winter activities in the area. Far West Ski Association councils sell the trip and plan their own activities, as well.

This is a great opportunity to meet people from your council and other councils, enjoy one of the many ski resorts in the country, and have a lot of fun! In 2020, the Ski Week was to **Big Sky, Montana**. We were very fortunate that our trip occurred prior to the pandemic outbreak that caused so many cancellations of numerous activities and travel plans. We are confident that future trips will be great and that the resorts are doing their part to keep everyone safe.

We will be going to **Sun Valley, Idaho** January 30 - February 1, 2021. Our destination in 2022 will be to **Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado**, January 22 - 29.

Past ski weeks have been to Big Sky, Steamboat, Banff, Breckenridge, Telluride, Whistler, Beaver Creek, Jackson Hole, and Keystone.

We also offer a second ski trip in March which is immensely popular - the Mini Trip. This is a 5-day late spring trip. It doesn't include as many planned activities to keep the trip more affordable. Participants have flexibility to explore the area on their own or participate in group activities. This coming year, we will be going to **Zermatt Utah Resort & Spa** in Midway, Utah, from March 21- 26, 2021. Past trips have been to Winter Park, Mt. Bachelor, Snowbasin, Whitefish, Crested Butte, Sun Peaks, and Alyeska.

The North American Travel program plans adventure trips every two years that are non-ski trips. In 2021, we

plan to take an **Alaska Cruise** through the inside passage with a tour to **Fairbanks** and **Denali National Park**. This trip is scheduled for June 19 - 30, 2021. Participants have the option to do the entire trip, or only do the cruise or land trip portion separately. More details will be added to the www.fwsa.org website when available.

Past adventure trips have been: a **Windjammer Cruise** aboard the Vela, exploring the fabulous British Virgin Islands; summer trips to **Mammoth Lakes** with fishing, kayaking, and bike riding; **Panama Canal Cruise**; **Caribbean Cruise to the U.S. Virgin Islands, Bahamas, and St. Maarten**; and a **Mississippi Steamboat Cruise** and **New Orleans** trip.

Check the Far West Ski Association website www.fwsa.org for a listing of our trips and how you can sign up. We're looking forward to seeing you on one or several of our exciting trips!



ABOVE: A group representing several FWSA councils were on a site inspection excursion to Sun Valley to make preliminary plans for the 2021 Ski Week. LEFT TO RIGHT: Bob Ellis, Alan Godwin, Jo Simpson, Nancy Ellis, Mike Terry, Sandy Blackwell, Marilyn Sigler and Rod Robinson.

photo provided by Nancy Ellis

RIGHT: Sun Valley offers over 2,000 acres of varied terrain between Bald and Dollar Mountains. On Baldy, there are 13 chairlifts and 65 varied trails for skiers and boarders of all ability levels. With its varied terrain, substantial vertical drop (3,400') and the area is typically known to have an absence of wind, this historic mountain is noted to be a skier's favorite.



One of the most popular activities at Sun Valley is boarding a horse-drawn sleigh ride through the snowy slopes. However, due to social distancing protocols that will be placed this season at ski resorts, bookings for sleigh rides may be affected. Contact guest services for more information. photos courtesy of Sun Valley Ski Resort

**Make Your Plans To Join Us
On Our Upcoming
Ski & Adventure Trips!**

North American FWSA Ski Week - 2021

Sun Valley, Idaho

January 30 - February 6, 2021

Sun Valley Ski Resort is our destination this winter for our 2021 Far West Ski Association 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.

Sun Valley is known for their snowmaking and groomed runs. They have snowmaking on 646 acres and groomed runs on 810 acres. Sun Valley is on the Epic Pass this coming year. People with the Epic Local pass get two days of skiing at Sun Valley and 50% off the daily rate for additional days. Those with the full Epic Pass will get seven days of skiing/riding at Sun Valley. As an added benefit, people purchasing the Epic Pass or IKON Pass through Winter Ski & Sports get \$50 discount on their lodging.

Our group is staying in the recently renovated Sun Valley Inn and Sun Valley Lodge, as well as, the Sun Valley Lodge Apartments. All properties are close to the village shopping and transportation centers. Sun Valley has complimentary shuttle service to the ski hills, as well as, to the town of Ketchum where there are a variety of shops and restaurants.

Ski Week activities include a Welcome Party, Picnic, Banquet and Après Farewell Party, and Council Challenge Races. Optional activities include Bowling, Nordic Skiing, Ice Skating, Movies, Hot Tubs/Jacuzzi, Spa & Salon, and Sleigh Rides.

Sandy Gaudette, Tour Operator with Winter Ski & Sports, and *Kevin Bracken*, Sun Valley, have planned a great trip for our group. Check out the www.fwsa.org website for information and Trip Leader contacts to sign up for this annual trip!

Sun Valley is an historic ski area. It was America's first destination ski resort dating back to 1936. Read about its early development in the 2020-2021 Digital Edition featuring the historic account of **The 90 Year Journey of FWSA**, found between pages 40-41 (*in the DE*).



*Sun Valley offers a wide variety of scenic trails for all ability levels - ski trails and terrain parks.
photo provided by Nancy Ellis*

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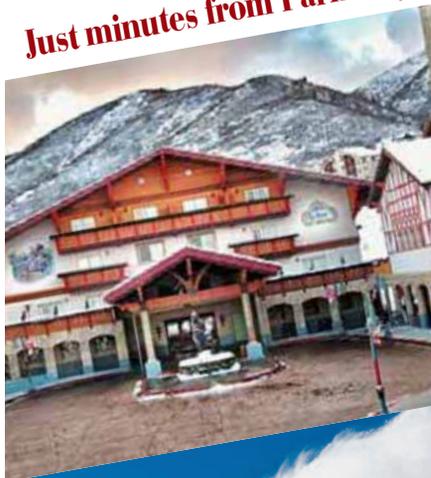
FWSA Ski Week: Jan 30 - Feb 6, 2021

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full service spa and
wellness center,
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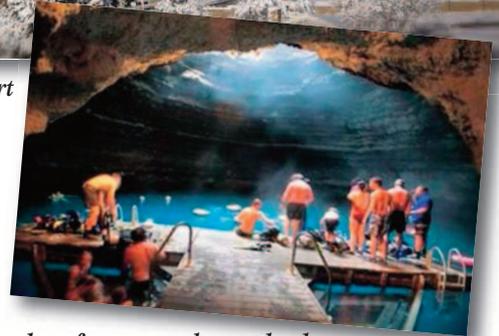


Max Jensen
866.ZERMATT
435.709.9500

max.jensen@zermattresort.com
www.zermattresort.com



The mountains around Zermatt Utah Resort & Spa are part of Deer Valley - just 11 minutes to the gondola. Both Park City Ski Area and Sundance Resort are a mere 20 minute shuttle ride. The fabulous Wasatch Nordic Cross Country track is around the corner for a change of pace. A day pass is just \$6.00. photos provided by Maxine Jensen



Across the street is a 10,000 year old Geothermal Crater... a perfect heated pool to relax after a great day on the slopes.

North American FWSA Mini Ski Trip - 2021 Zermatt Utah Resort & Spa March 21 - 26, 2021

We look forward to going to *Zermatt Utah Resort and Spa*, located in Midway, Utah for the 2021 FWSA Mini Ski Trip. It's a 4-star resort hotel offering hotel and condominium rooms and features two restaurants, a Swiss bakery, the Chalet Lounge Bar, indoor/outdoor pools, and indoor/outdoor hot tubs. There is complimentary shuttle service to Deer Valley Ski Resort, Park City Ski Resort, as well as, to Midway and the Heber Valley. A 10,000-year old Crater Hot Springs is within walking distance of the resort.

We are staying in Standard and Deluxe Alpine Rooms at Zermatt Resort. These rooms have the following amenities: refrigerator; microwave; Keurig; flat screen TV; hair dryer; daily housekeeping, ski lockers, coin op laundry, outdoor heated pool, outdoor hot tub, free wireless high-speed internet, free parking, restaurant on site, 24-hour front desk and grab-&-go snacks. Deluxe rooms are much larger and have a fireplace and sitting area.

The trip includes an FWSA Meet & Greet Party, Welcome Breakfast & Farewell Dinner, day ski trips to either Deer Valley or Park City, and a day trip to Sundance Resort where people can either ski/board or sign up for optional art classes such as pottery, jewelry, and soapmaking. Other optional activities in the area include spa treatments, ice fishing, tubing, ice skating, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, cross country skiing, and sleigh rides.

It is your responsibility to book your own air into Salt Lake City. Shuttle service is available from Salt Lake Airport to Zermatt Utah Resort. You'll be given ground transportation information later. It is recommended that you purchase Travel Insurance in case you need to cancel the trip after the cancellation deadline. Replacements will be permitted if the person is a compatible replacement. Check the www.fwsa.org website for suggestions of Travel Insurance vendors or you can do a search on your computer.

Maxine Jensen, Zermatt Utah Resort and *Gloria Saiya-Woods*, Ski.com are working with FWSA Trip Leader, *Gloria Raminha*, to make this a fun trip. Check the www.fwsa.org website for sign up information. Contact Gloria Raminha for more information: garSKI2011@gmail.com; 661-800-8229 or 661-829-5996. This will be a unique and fun trip! Don't miss out! Save the above dates and sign up now to reserve your spot. ▲▲



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THIS PAGE: Aspen Snowmass Ski Resort consists of four separate mountains. skiers will find more than 5,300 acres of skiable terrain between Snowmass, Aspen Mountain, Aspen Highlands and Buttermilk. One can catch a shuttle that goes between the resorts if you want to ski multiple areas during your stay. In addition to a variety of awesome terrain, for all ability levels, there is a wide selection for dining, nightlife and shopping for which the town of Aspen is known.

NEXT PAGE: Let it Snow!!! The Aspen area can expect fresh snow fall between October (sometimes in September) and May and it is not unusual to see some snowfall in June. In January, when the Far West Ski Week is planned, snowfall can be close to 40 inches of new powder. Prepare for some great powder while you are on this trip. Make your plans to join us in 2021.

photos courtesy of Aspen /Snowmass

North American FWSA Ski Week - 2022

Aspen/Snowmass, CO

January 22 - 29, 2022

by Nancy Ellis

Vice President - North American Travel, FWSA

FWSA members will be heading to Aspen/Snowmass for the Annual FWSA Ski Week, January 22-29, 2022. Mary Manning with Aspen/Snowmass and Gloria Saiya-Woods with Ski.com are thrilled to be hosting this ski week. This resort is consistently ranked #1 for families and skiers of all abilities by all ski magazines

Snowmass is the largest of the four mountains in the area. It's vast expanse of terrain includes 94 trails and the largest descent of any resort in North America. It has a top elevation of 12,509 feet and an average snowfall of 300". Aspen/Snowmass has varied terrain and boasts four ski mountains – Snowmass, Aspen Mountain, Aspen Highlands, and Buttermilk. There is something for everyone whether you ski, board, or want to relax in a beautiful destination with so much to see and do. Activities include tubing; snow biking; snowcat dinners on Snowmass or Aspen

Highland mountains; spas; snowshoe tours; shopping; and unlimited restaurants and bars. The city of Aspen is a few miles down the road for additional dining options, nightlife, and shopping.

Our lodging will be at Snowmass and council participants have a range of room types available such as hotel rooms or condos with ski in/ski out options and lodging a short walk to the ski hill. Snowmass' base area has expanded and now has many restaurants, an ice rink, indoor climbing wall, Alpine "Breathalyzer" Mountain Coaster, bars, and shops.

Aspen/Snowmass is a partner with IKON and people purchasing the full IKON pass will get seven days of skiing/riding at any of the four ski hills in the area. For those without the IKON pass - 3, 4, and 5-day lift tickets at great group rates will be available.



Our ski week activities will consist of:

- Welcome Party
- Council Races
- Mountain Picnic
- Dine Around, Dessert, & Dance
- Friday Après Party
- Council Parties & Dinner

Information about this trip will be available on the www.fwsa.org website beginning in April 2021.

FWSA 2022 SKI WEEK | JANUARY 22-29, 2022

ASPEN  SNOWMASS.



SNOWMASS
COLORADO

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- Two unique ski towns
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- Exceptional FWSA events
- Huge variety of dining options
- Ability to manage your individual reservation online
- Pay a deposit or in full with credit card, check or ACH

For more information contact your club or Gloria Saiya Woods at Ski.com.


TO THE MOUNTAINS

GLORIA SAIYA WOODS
GLORIA@SKI.COM
800.837.0155



The Big White mountain trail map indicates 118 runs, 15 lifts, 5 alpine bowls and a Terrain Park. This vast terrain provides a huge variety of options for skiers and snowboarders to suit everyone from “never-evers” to “show me the steep and deep”. There’s a green run from the top of every chairlift. Snowsport enthusiasts can confidently explore the entire mountain - from the perfectly groomed cruisers to mogul fields and glade runs. Don’t forget night skiing! The resort has a night



lift capacity of over 5,000 people per hour. Everything is conveniently located in this charming ski-in, ski-out village! photos courtesy of Big White Ski Resort

North American FWSA Mini Ski Week - 2022

Big White Ski Resort, British Columbia, Canada

Dates to be Determined

Since the scheduled 2020 FWSA Mini Ski trip to Big White Resort needed to be cancelled due to the world pandemic, we have postponed this trip until 2022. The dates and details are currently being discussed. Information on this trip will be added to the www.fwsa.org website as it becomes available.

Big White is home to the best snow in British Columbia and the longest season in the Okanagan Valley. It's easy getting to Big White by flying into Kelowna's International Airport and taking a 55 minute shuttle to the resort. Big White is Canada's largest totally ski-in, ski-out village. It has: 18 on-mountain restaurants, cafes, delis, pubs, and night clubs. The village also has retail stores for snow and

snowboarding gear and accessories; a boot-fitter; and gift shops. Everything you need for your stay is located right in the village! This trip will include a Welcome Party, Farewell Dinner, and complimentary Snow Host Mountain Terrain Tour.

Optional Activities Include:

- Ice Climbing / Ice Skating
- Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides and/or Dinner & Sleigh Bells;
- Dog Sled Tours / Snowmobile Tours / Snowshoe Tours / Tube Park
- Spa Services
- Kelowna Rockets Hockey Game,
- Night Skiing.

Mountain Stats:

- 294 inches annual snowfall
- 2,765 skiable acres
- Village center elevation—5,757 ft. Summit elevation—7,606 ft.
- 15 lifts including 1 highspeed gondola
- 905 groomed acres; 1,525 alpine & glade acres; 460 acres of open bowls
- 15.5 miles of Nordic trails
- Beginner/Easier — 18%; Intermediate — 54%; Difficult/Expert — 22%; Extreme — 6%

Contact *Gloria Raminha*, Trip Leader, for information and to sign up for the trip: garski2011@gmail.com.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

by Debbie Stewart

Vice President - International Travel, FWSA

Despite the uncertainty of the travel climate, one thing that remains for certain is the extraordinary dedication from the FWSA International Travel Program to continue and deliver our members impeccable travel planning and service, regardless of the unprecedented times we find ourselves in.

We do not travel to visit. We travel to experience the places we are in by meeting the locals and immersing ourselves into their culture. Our passion is to explore the hidden treasures and places that will encourage us to discover wonder. We travel to exciting places where regular moments become extraordinary.

As we transition to a new normal, FWSA's International Travelers must modify one's behavior and desires for the greater good. We absolutely understand different people are going to have various comfort levels, and it is our job to make sure we cater to all our travelers with trips that meet them, so we all can explore the world together.

Numerous FWSA skiers and boarders did travel to Davos, Switzerland on the International Ski Week in late February - early March. It certainly appears that there was plenty of snow in Davos as Kathlen Karmel rests in front of this poster. Geschmacksrichtung: Eiskalt (Flavor: ice cold). Although snow covered, the air temperatures were not ice cold! photo by George Stewart



Adventure Trips 2021



One of the destinations will be to Hvar, a small Croatian summer resort island in the Adriatic Sea. Highlights of this port town include its 13th-Century walls, a hilltop fortress and a main square anchored by the Renaissance-era Hvar Cathedral; plus its beaches.

photo provided by Alpine Adventures

TOP: For our unforgettable cruise along the beautiful Dalmatian Coast, we'll be sailing on the exquisite MS President yacht.

LOWER: The 2021 Dive Trip will be to Roatàn, Honduras. photo / Debbie Stewart

2020 Croatia Adventure Trip – 2020 Dive Trip

Postponed to September 2021

We knew our FWSA members wanted to go to Croatia in 2020, and we will in 2021! FWSA and Alpine Adventures have coordinated this adventure trip to Croatia **September 10-19, 2021**. 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 will not 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 cannot 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.

Due to the unpredictable situation regarding the safety and health of travel, the 2020 dive trip in Cozumel was cancelled. Our priority is to provide a wonderful vacation experience for both the diver and non-diver and reassure a high level of security and wellbeing for our members.

2021 Dive Trip - Roatàn

The 2021 FWSA Dive Trip will be to.....Roatàn, Honduras! Arrangements are already underway for next year's Adventure/Dive Trip. We will be staying at the Anthony's Key Resort for our 12th FWSA scuba dive trip October 9-16, 2021. This resort is Roatan's most admired and innovative resort that offers dolphin encounters and world class dive experiences in a true island atmosphere. This gorgeous location offers years of service and prides themselves in this wonderful paradise. The Anthony's Key Resort will provide you with all the necessary elements for an unforgettable vacation in Honduras.

Their PADI 5-Star Career Development Center has been ranked as one of the world's top dive resorts for the last 50 years. Full service...you will get it here. They offer equipment rentals, a full-service photo shop, PADI continuing educations to further your certification, convenient dockside equipment storage, freshwater showers, and rinse tanks. Dive and snorkel opportunities with the dolphins at the Roatan Institute for Marine Sciences and onsite Hyperbaric Chamber and Clinic. That IS full service!

Your Dive package includes seven nights accommodations with three meals a day, a welcome/orientation social, admission to the Roatan Museum, a day excursion to Maya Key, Island Fiesta on the Key, complimentary wi-fi, three single tank boat dives per day, two single tank night dives, air tanks, weight belts and weights, a buoyancy control workshop, shore diving and much more.... Non-divers have a snorkel package option, with two snorkels daily by boat and guide, 1-night boat snorkel, underwater fish ID card, slide show and one dolphin encounter.

The lodging will be in the top of the line Key Deluxe bungalows that are dispersed along the perimeter of the key. These overwater bungalows feature wood floors, Honduran hardwood furnishings, natural stone counter-tops, air conditioning, many glass windows for spectacular ocean views, and a private covered deck.

Roatan is the largest of the Bay Islands. It is a long, narrow, hilly island that is completely surrounded by a large reef system, part of the Mesoamerican Reef which is the second longest barrier reef in the world and has an extremely large marine biodiversity. The coastline has outstanding white sand beaches, iron shore bluffs, and mangrove forests. Come join us on this fantastic island paradise vacation!



Sölden Ski Resort is a high altitude resort in the Tyrolean area of Austria, offers skiing and snowboarding on three mountain peaks, two glaciers, abundant snow and a variety of terrain. photos provided by Debbie Stewart

International Ski Week 2022

Sölden, Austria

Postponed to February, 2022

2021 International Ski Week in Sölden, Austria: After careful consideration, and serious discussion, this trip has been postponed to February, 2022.

Travel plans are underway for the 2022 FWSA International Ski Week in Sölden, Austria!

We are looking forward to being in Sölden since the Austrian charm and hospitality are incomparable. Sölden Ski Resort offers three areas: Sölden, Obergurgl and Hochgurgl.

They kick off the winter season with the Audi FIS Alpine Ski World Cup Opening in October and have been the US Ski Team training location for years. Yes, it is certainly worth traveling to Sölden!

The infinite number of slopes and ski trails for all levels and abilities coupled with the perfect grooming of no less than 91 miles of slopes make Sölden an utterly unique winter sports center. Thirty-two 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 Sölden! Sölden is Austria’s first resort offering no less than three mountain peaks beyond 10,000 ft. Sölden’s marvelous BIG 3 peaks mark a new dimension in skiing and experiencing the Alpine scenery. Snow is guaranteed from October through May thanks to its high alpine location of the slopes up to 10,958 ft, two glacier ski areas and excellent snow-making sys-

tems covering about 75% of the slopes with 350 snow guns.

This area is one of the locations for shooting scenes sites for the James Bond movie “Spectre”. One must take the gondola to the top of the mountain, enjoy the view at the Ice Cube Restaurant and take the incredibly special “ELEMENTS” tour explaining how the movie was made.

Sölden prides themselves for being very progressive, forward thinking, innovative yet bringing tradition into the future. Sölden is the largest village township in the Otztal Valley while offering many outdoor activities besides downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and much more.

There are several ski rental shops offering state of the art equipment in which you can exchange at your convenience to try out various equipment. There are many stores and restaurants and bars providing lots of nightlife. You will enjoy a great après ski atmosphere, as well as, weekly events such as night skiing and the Sölden Party.



The Elements 007 Cinematic installation built inside the summit of the Gaislachkogel Mountain at the top of the gondola in Sölden. A must see attraction. photos provided by Debbie Stewart



International Ski Weeks 2023



Set beneath the high peaks of the Brenta Dolomites, Madonna di Campiglio offers top alpine winter sports with Italian style.
photo / Pexel

Valle Nevado is known for its wide-open terrain and snow quality due to the resort's altitude, southern orientation, and its extensive snowmaking system.
photos / Valle Nevado

Madonna di Campiglio, Italy with an extension - TBD Winter, 2023

Madonna di Campiglio is the main point of access to the Dolomites mountain range. This vibrant Italian ski area links four small sectors known both for excellent grooming and steep runs. The slopes spread out widely. A spectacular 16-minute gondola ride connects to neighboring resort Pinzolo. The ski area has 57 lifts and 93 miles of ski runs and a capacity of more than 31,000 people per hour.

Madonna di Campiglio is one of the world's classic ski centers and one of Italy's most famous ranking with Cortina, Courmayeur and San Martino. Considering its long history in winter sports it has the benefit of an extensive and hugely enjoyable ski area with access lifts coming right down into the town - both unusual assets compared to many of the other famous ski resorts of long standing. The resort's altitude gives it more dependable conditions than many traditional winter sports centers.

So, traveling with the FWSA International team provides you the opportunity to experience, achieve personal fulfillment and self-discovery in ways you may never had imagined. We think the purpose of time off is to take a break from your daily routine. To allow yourself to recharge and think about other things. And travel does this better than anything else. We discover things about others and ourselves as well as seeing the world through a different lens, which then enriches our lives.

We hope your experiences will be memories for a lifetime as we refresh, engage, and appreciate our dreams and goals.

Summer Chile Ski Trip (Valle Nevado) with an extension trip to the Atacama Desert Postponed to Summer, 2023

You asked...we will still deliver! Once again, due to the uncertain times, we will be adjusting our travel schedule. But...we will be planning the FWSA summer ski trip to Valle Nevado, Chile with additional skiing available at La Parva & El Colorado.

Valle Nevado is South America's premier ski resort, offering access to over 7000 acres of terrain and has the most modern lift operation on the continent. They are proud of the fact that there are no lift lines, a laid-back environment with entertaining ambience and delicious gourmet food. The awe-inspiring peak of El Pomo towers above the twin valleys in which the three best ski areas of South America will be found. You will be flying into Santiago, then travel 90 minutes to the ski area of the world-famous Andes mountains. This area will provide you amazing views, varied terrain, and an incredible experience during our summer...their winter. This trip will be limited, so when the registration materials are available, do not hesitate to save your spot!

After Valle Nevado, we will be traveling to the Atacama Desert, which in some parts is compared to the surface of Mars. The Atacama Desert is a desert plateau covering a total area of 40,541 square miles, stretching 600 miles from southern Peru into northern Chile, west of the Andes mountain range. The Atacama Desert is the driest place in the world, as well as the only true desert to receive less precipitation than the polar deserts. Most of the desert is composed of stony terrain, salt lakes, sand, and felsic lava that flows towards the Andes.

According to the New York Times, it is the #2 place to visit. It is a 2-hour plane ride from Santiago to Calama. Calama is known for the largest open pit copper mine in the world and the Atacama Desert receives worldwide recognition for its focus on astronomy. Astronomy prevails there because this desert sits at 6,000 feet, which offers exceptional skies and 330 clear nights each year. We will have the opportunity for hiking, biking, and adventuring out to see unique environmental landscapes. Their sand dune terrain makes you think of Mars. There are salt flats, lagoons inhabited with flamingos, areas with geysers, unique flora and fauna, various animals to see and so much more!

Our Int'l Travel Team and Travel Committee continues to reach out to our members garnering their feedback regarding desires and how to meet their international travel needs for the future. Our commitment to capturing the imagination of our members, create adventuresome travel experiences with lasting friendships and memories continues to evolve. We strive to provide you the trip that you deserve - One that is hassle free and lets you leave your worries at home. And in these times, what travelers need more than ever is good, solid advice, confidence in your choice of travel organization and comfort knowing you are in good hands. To you, it is peace of mind. To us, it is integrity!

Keep strong, stay safe, head held high and every day is a new day to dream of your next travel adventure with FWSA.



See the world with FWSA Post trips, Adventure trips and and Internatinal Ski trips. TOP: Croatia, 2021 FWSA Adventure Trip; and LOWER: Madonna di Campiglio, Italy - FWSA Ski Week 2023.

The FWSA current travel program provides flexibility to your travel. A pre or post trip might be included. As long as you are making the expense to travel to a destination, why not take some extra time to explore what these areas have to offer? The 2020 Post Trip was to Portugal where a group of Far West participants visited several Lisbon historic landmarks. Due to its location on the Iberian Peninsula on the Atlantic Ocean, Lisbon is one of the oldest cities in the world. It is the second oldest after Athens, Greece in Europe. It predates most other major European capitol cities by centuries. Some of the other International pre and post FWSA destinations include London, Paris, and Rome; plus river cruises along the Danube, the Rhine and the Rhone - and many more wonderful places. Participants have ventured to destinations on all seven continents. What a great way to see and experience the world around us! Check out these future travel opportunities in the box. photo / George Stewart

We want to invite you to experience the world with FWSA, an organization you know and trust, to provide unique tours and quality travel at a Great Value!

Upcoming FWSA International Travel Opportunities What's Ahead??? A Lot!!!

- 2021 Croatia Adventure Trip
- 2022 Sölden Austria Ski Week & extension trip
- 2022 African Adventure trip – central/east Africa – details tbd.
- 2023 Madonna di Campiglio, Italy Ski Week – extension trip tbd.
- 2023 Valle Nevado, Chile Summer Ski Week with extension to the Atacama Desert
- 2024 Zermatt, Switzerland Ski Week – extension trip tbd.
- 2024 Galapagos Adventure trip – details tbd
- 2025 Val d'Isere, France Ski Week – extension trip tbd.

Mark your calendars now to join us!

FAR WEST RACING ASSOCIATION
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- 2021 / 2022 -

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*Bob Ellis (530) 414-4270
rellis9681@aol.com*

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bmwrrider8@yahoo.com*

FINANCIAL OFFICER

*Nancy Ellis (530) 582-0566
nancyellis2@sbcglobal.net*

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bwarz@linkline.com*

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geachus@cox.net*

FWRA League Race Chairs

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Open League

*www.olrc.org
Debi Phelps (530) 414-8503
bmwrrider8@yahoo.com*

Singles League

*www.slracing.org
John Walsh (415) 596-7234
johnwalsh37@sbcglobal.net*

LOS ANGELES COUNCIL

ROKKA League

*www.rokkracing.org
Laura Priess
rokkracers@aol.com*

ULLR League

*Ken Kawahara (310) 944-0371
ken.kawahara@verizon.net*

**NORTHWEST SKI CLUB
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*www.pacrats.org
Peter Dodd
President@pacrats.org*

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Maxine Hanlon (714) 641-8513
maxch@prodigy.net*

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*www.skisandiego.org
David Arnold
darnold@gmail.com*

SIERRA LEAGUE AND COUNCIL

*www.sierraleague.com
Nan Carnal (530) 550-5228
nan.sierraleague@gmail.com*



Recreational Race Events are for Everyone!

by Bob Ellis
President, FWRA
Vice President of Racing, FWSA

Attending a recreational race event is a lot of fun and something that people of all ages can enjoy! The Far West Racing Association has several race leagues where people can race for fun and socialize with other skiers/riders from member clubs. We have: Schuski, ROKKA, and San Diego Alpine Leagues that race at Mammoth Mountain; Sierra, Singles, and Open Leagues racing at resorts in Lake Tahoe; and PACRAT League racing at Oregon resorts. Each of these leagues have weekend races and clinics where people can participate in training techniques to improve skiing and racing skills.

Far West Ski Association has races at the annual North American Ski Week each year. In 2021, there will be individual Giant Slalom races and team Match races at Sun Valley Resort. The Match races are a lot of fun as teams of six see how close they can match the times of their first and second runs. The team with the least total time between 1st and 2nd runs wins the coveted "Council Challenge".

Far West Race Leagues participate in an Annual Championship; and this year's will be held at Mammoth Mountain April 9-10, 2021. Discounted lift tickets and lodging at Mammoth Mountain Inn will be available. A race clinic will be held on Friday, April 10 for racers and skiers and the Giant Slalom and Slalom races will be held on Saturday. People can free ski on Sunday or explore the area. Contact me, *Bob Ellis*, at rellis9681@aol.com or (530) 414-4270 for information.

You don't have to race to participate in recreational races! Come out to cheer your friends, ring cowbells, and encourage racers down the hill. You can volunteer to help record times, assist with registration, or line people up at the start gate. After the races we gather to hand out awards and socialize.

Come join in the fun even if you aren't interested in racing. Spectators and volunteers are a valued part of our races. Contact the league race chairs listed on the left column for information about races near you. ▲▲



ABOVE: The Far West Ski Association holds races at its annual North American Ski Weeks. In 2020, the ski week was held at Big Sky Ski Resort, Montana. Racers are lining up at the Big Sky Giant Slalom race as they wait for their turn to compete.

The accompanying photos are of racers zooming down the course. Big Sky race photos provided by Nancy Ellis



The 2021 race schedule dates are listed below. For more information, contact the Race Chairmen listed on page 26.

2020 Big Sky Ski Week

by Nancy Ellis,
Vice President - North American
Travel, FWSA

*Far West Ski Association
would like to thank
all of the generous
donors to our
2020 Big Sky
Ski Week held
1/25 - 2/1, 2020.*

- ◆ Big Sky Resort
- ◆ Chopper's Grubb & Pub
- ◆ Buck T4
- ◆ Solace Spa - Big Sky Resort
- ◆ Dave O'Connor
- ◆ Scissor Bill's Saloon
- ◆ Olive B's Big Sky Bistro
- ◆ Gallatin Riverhouse Grill

2021 FWRA Race Schedule

by Bob Ellis
President, FWRA; Vice President - Racing, FWSA

Date	Format	Location
OPEN/SIERRA/SINGLES LEAGUES		
January 23	GS	Alpine Meadows #1
January 24	TBD	Alpine Meadows #2
February 27	SL	Sugar Bowl #3
February 28	SL	Sugar Bowl #4
March TBD	TBD	Heavenly #5
March TBD	TBD	Heavenly #6
PACRAT LEAGUE		
January 3	NASTAR Open	Mt. Hood Skibowl
January 24	PACRAT #1	Mt. Hood Skibowl
January 31	PACRAT #2	Mt. Hood Meadows
February 21	PACRAT #3	Mt. Hood Skibowl
March 14	PACRAT #4	Mt. Hood Meadows
March 28	PACRAT #5	Timberline
ROKKA/ULLR LEAGUES (SCHUSSKI & SAN DIEGO – See ULLR LEAGUE)		
December 19	TBD	Mammoth #1
March 27	SOCAL - Championships	Mammoth
ALL LEAGUES		
January 30 - February 6	FWSA Ski Week - GS / SL	Sun Valley, Idaho
April 9 - 10	FWRA Championships	Mammoth
	Championships - SL	
	Championships - GS	

NOTE: Schedules subject to change.
Please check league websites for the most up to date information.

The FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program

by David Krupp
Athletic Scholarship Committee Chair, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Program is entering its 17th year, growing from an initial \$1,000 in scholarships in 2004 to \$12,150 and 15 recipients in the 2020-2021 season. The total awarded since the program's inception is now \$177,000 to 123 different 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 come 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), a year round winter and summer resort; *Averill Hospitality*, a premier choice in mountain resort accommodations; *Grouse Mountain Lodge* in Whitefish, Montana; *Schure Sports, Inc.* (www.karbon-mail.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), 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. ▲

Far West Ski Foundation Trustees Endorse 2020 Scholarship Committee Allocation

by John Watson
President, FWSF

The Athletic Scholarships for 2020 will be made in spite of this virus era. We have authorized 15 scholarships valued at \$12,150 to be distributed as grants. We were smart enough in our early years to prepare for a one year gap in revenue for scholarships. Fortunately, our partners are just as determined as we are to hang tough and carry on their support for scholarships.

Unfortunately, we have no backup for adaptive ski schools or museums and education. So we do seek your help as individuals or from your organizations for these purposes. We have about 30 adaptive ski schools and a half dozen museum type organizations and facilities in FWSA territory. There's always the possibility of a worthy snowsport research project as well.

The best way to do this is through your PayPal account or by sending a check to the FWSF Treasurer *John Reinhardt*. If you use PayPal, send to Far West Ski Foundation and no fees are charged. If by check, send to *John O. Reinhardt*, Treasurer FWSF, 6105 SW Sheridan Street, Portland, Oregon 97225. Don't forget to make your check out to FWSF.

If you or your club or organization would like information on becoming a contributing partner for the FWSA Scholarship Program, please contact *David Krupp*, Chairman, at davidkrupp1@gmail.com.

Stay safe and get ready for a different ski experience this season. ▲

Best Wishes to AJ Hurt and Lila Lipanja on their World Cup races this year!



ABOVE: AJ Hurt, FWSA Scholarship recipient through Sierra League and Council, is from Carnelian Bay, California and skis for the U.S. Ski Team. She began her career with the Squaw Valley Race Team, ranking #1 in every discipline for her age group, which garnered the interest of the U.S. Team. She traveled with the "C" and "D" Team during the 2018 season, starting in her first World Cup in Killington on U.S. home soil as a 16-year-old, just shy of her 17th birthday. As a current member of the U.S. "C" Team she is looking to spend the off-season at Dartmouth.

RIGHT: Lila Lapanja was born in Truckee, California in 1994 and has lived her entire life in Incline Village, Nevada, just minutes away from the northeast shores of Lake Tahoe. She is 5-time recipient of the Far West Ski Association's Athletic Scholarship Program, crafting her racing skills at Diamond Peak Ski Resort. She skied for one year on the Sugar Bowl Race Team before joining the ranks of the U.S. Ski Team in 2011. She now skis on the World Cup Circuit for Team Clif Bar.

photos provided by David Krupp



Far West Ski Association Celebrates 90 Years

by John Watson
President, FWSA



Est 1964

Skiing as a sport began in the goldfields of California commencing in the 1860s, quickly becoming what in essence was league racing coordinated by the Alturas Snowshoe Club. Far West hadn't been born yet so we can't take any credit for that racing program. Commencing in the 1890s, skisport became a spectator sport which attracted people to the snowy places, especially those having a ski jump. There was money to be made if jumpers could be persuaded to come and provide the attraction. Facilities proliferated for jumping, cross country and telemark skiing. But soon, Alpine ski equipment was available by mail order and downhill skiing flourished commencing in the 1920s. The growth of modern skiing was born in California and globally.

The Chamber of Commerce saw an underserved industry having great promise. They saw exposure in the Winter Olympics as a way to promote California's potential and help launch an industry. Los Angeles was awarded the 1932 Olympics, but neither Tahoe nor Yosemite could meet IOC's requirements for a world class ski center to host the Winter Olympics. California's potential was not the actual – a hard lesson. But skisport in California and globally continued to grow; it surged in Tahoe, the Sierra, northern California, Yosemite, the San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains. It is within this century-plus of snowsport that the 90 year journey of the Far West Ski Association lies.

What were the roots and driving energies of the Association and its members and followers? The ski people were political influencers and customers for the providers of the ski experience. They organized and presented thrilling competitions. The initial 1930 organizing impulse for Far West was oriented around competition and that thread existed in

the Association in some form or another – even to league racing – into the 21st Century.

Interrupted by a World War, the impulse accelerated to provide more ski sites, enhanced by the experience of returning 10th Mountain Division veterans. In the minds

of some, the inadequacy of California's facilities in the 1929 Olympic initiative demanded that the Association take a supporting role in the development of ski opportunities. Area development became part of FWSA's DNA and in some form or another these activities continue in our Public Affairs portfolio.

California Ski Association (FWSA since 1946) was a part of the National Ski Association (formed in 1905) and members paid their dues directly to CSA. By 1940, though, grass roots organizations sprung up inside the inside district organizations of CSA. And clubs had been formed since the late 1920s, with members paying dues to the clubs. Federation must have been a trendy concept, because organizations composed of clubs became known as Federations, hence Bay Area Ski Federation and the Federated Ski Clubs of Southern California. These became FWSA councils in 1966 and 1946 respectively. Members would still owe dues to FWSA and to their club, later even council. It is amazing how the arguments over dues emerged for decades, whatever the amount of the dues.

Making a connection between the grass roots councils and the regional Association provided more direct (or indirect) communication with members. The councils conducted their own programs more immediately relevant to their local issues. The direct Association connection was made by Southern Council by incorporation including FWSA in its name. The possibilities for increased membership and communication convinced the

Association for a new initiative toward council development. Council development and affiliation today and in the future defines the geographic reach of FWSA.

The competitors and competition were a central focus of Far West through 1976. In parallel with competitions conducted under FIS rules, FWSA created the concept of an intramural racing program between clubs in 1960. Implementation by leagues began and in 1964 the classic model – the ROKKA League was formed by six Los Angeles area clubs. The Bay Area formed two leagues – Singles and Open. Orange Council operated the Schusski League and Inland Council was focused on racing as the Inland League. Participation in league racing continued through 2002 and even further. It was enhanced by the National Ski Weeks providing inter council racing and sports. Now in decline, racing in your league provides fond memories and a trophy shelf. ▲

The Makeup of the History of the Far West Ski Association

by John Watson
History Committee Chair, FWSA
Past President, FWSA

In addition to skiing with friends having common interests in snowsport, an energetic social life, great apres ski parties and the dazzling bounty of the winter snows, the Association does have a tangible history. The epic 90-year history of FWSA is contained in a just-published, 80 page booklet. The booklet could have been much larger in content and scope, save for the realities of cost, schedule and staffing. The booklet will be made available through the website www.fwsa.org at a nominal cost. But here is a compact listing of the threads that are woven into and make up that history.

What are those threads that bind? They are the first interests in snowsports starting 1895 onward, the growth in numbers of skiers and ski clubs, satisfying the needs for instructors and organizations that could execute the drama of competitions which would attract paying customers, the need for more and better skiing opportunities (the basic rationale

The Far West Ski Association was born (as the *California Ski Association*) in the Palm Court of the Palace Hotel at a lunchtime meeting on October 7, 1930. We were planning an event in San Francisco in early October, 2020 to commemorate our founding 90 years ago. Unfortunately, this event needed to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, the FWSA developed an historical 90th Anniversary Booklet developed by the Far West Ski Association - John Watson, History Committee Chair and his committee. This booklet has been printed in limited copies. However, this 80 page historical account of the skiing in the western United States and the organization of the California Ski Association which later became the Far West Ski Association, will be inserted into the 2020-2021 *Far West Skier's Guide* Digital Only Insert, which will be available at www.fwsa.org and the National Ski Council website at www.skifederation.org, plus many council and club websites.

for FWSA in area development), the growth in sites serving the need for ski terrain and upski capability, the explosion in technologies and numbers for skiers which forced skiing undertaken by niche sportspersons to take on the status of a national mass recreation (accelerated with televised viewing of the 1960 Olympics), club and league racing, the enhancing effects of the expanding menu of travel opportunities, the effect of the Olympics on FWSA, the irregular development of council structures and their integral into our regional organization. Tell me what I've missed. Virtually each of these threads deserves its own history.

Ski or shred on! ▲▲



photo provided by Sigrid Noack

The Unrecables Celebrates its 40th Anniversary by Gordon Cordova

The Unrecables (Unlimited RECREational Abilities) is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year. The Unrecables is the Los Angeles Chapter of Move United (formerly Disabled Sports USA) and is affiliated with the Far West Ski Association and the Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs. In 1980, founder Ron Bass had the vision of enabling people with disabilities to snow ski. With the generous support from Dave McCoy, the group soon started skiing at Mammoth Mountain and is still enjoying "their" mountain on one weekend every winter month. In 1983, the group started traveling to more distant ski resorts: New Zealand and Canada and many Western US ski areas, mostly joining FWSA and LAC ski weeks. The Unrecables enjoys support from friends in the other ski clubs in LAC and being involved with the FWSA.

Congratulations to The Unrecables on their 40th Anniversary! Here's to the next 40!

For more information contact info@unrecables.org. ▲▲



Historic Ski Clubs & Councils

Historic Club	Location - Council	Founded
Cascade	Portland, OR Northwest	1928
Fresno	Fresno, CA Central	1934
Longview	Longview, WA Northwest	1935
San Diego	San Diego, CA San Diego	1935
Sequoia	Visalia, CA Sierra	1935
Modesto	Modesto, CA Bay Area	1936
Mt. Hood Ski Patrol	Mt. Hood, OR Northwest	1937
Bogus Basin	Boise, ID Intermountain	1937
Marin	Marin County, CA Bay Area	1938
Long Beach	Long Beach, CA Los Angeles	1938
Bay Area Council	San Francisco, CA Bay Area	1940
Los Angeles Council	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1940
Schnee Vogeli	Portland, OR Northwest	1942
Idaho Falls	Idaho Falls, ID Intmtn	1947
Phoenix	Phoenix, AZ Arizona	1948
Grindelwald	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1949
Vand Bakke	West Covina, CA Orange	1950
Desert	Richland, WA Northwest	1953
Hawaii	Aiea, Hawaii Northwest	1953
Balboa	Newport Beach, CA Orange	1955
Skiyente	Portland, OR Northwest	1955
Wailers	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1957
Nisei	San Francisco, CA Bay Area	1958
Cheyenne	Cheyenne, WY Intmtn	1959
Single	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1960
Torrey Pines	San Diego, CA San Diego	1961
Snowbounders	Anaheim, CA Orange	1962
San Diego Council	San Diego, CA San Diego	1963
Orange County	Fountain Valley, CA Orange	1964
Bergfreunde	Portland, OR Northwest	1967
4 Seasons West	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1967



2020 Far West Convention

by **Debbi Kor**

Convention Chairperson

Picture the sight of majestic Mount Hood off to the east. Picture the beautiful Columbia River flowing past the Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach, in Portland, Oregon. This is what you would have seen, had there been a Convention May 28-31, 2020.

The Northwest Ski Club Council was all set to host the 88th Annual FWSA Convention, in Portland this year. However, due to the Corona Pandemic, that did not happen.

I'd like to thank the incredible Convention Committee that we had in place. Led by **Sheri Parshall**, they were on the ball and had everything planned down to a gnat's eyebrow.

The committee consisted of: **Jeanne Reinhardt, Shawn Storey, Sue Rimkeit, Sandy Schaub, Jessica Tagliofico, Marilyn Sigler, Mary Olhausen, Linda McGavin, Steve Coxen, Norman Peer**, and **Chris Ciardi**, President of Northwest Ski Club Council. Keep your ideas and plans in reserve, as NWSCC will be back to host once again, in 2022, at the Red Lion.

Far West has a number of Program Sponsors, who help us out each year, and I'd like to thank them for their continued support. They are: **Big White Ski Resort**, sponsor of the *Far West Council's Man and Woman of the Year*;

Steamboat Ski & Resort for the *Western Ski Heritage Award*, *Aspen/Snowmass* for the *Environment Award*, and *Mammoth Mountain Ski Area* for the *Safety Person of the Year Award*.

Along with those, mentioned above, we have several sponsors of our *Athletic Scholarship Program*, including **Whitefish Mountain Resort**, *Averill Hospitality (The Lodge at Whitefish Lake and Firebrand Hotels)*, *Schure Sports, Inc.*, the *U.S. Ski Team*, and the *Far West Racing Association*. These programs will all be carried out next year, in San Diego.

We hope to see you all at the San Diego Marriott Mission Valley, in San Diego, California, next June 10-13, 2021. San Diego Council of Ski Clubs will look forward to seeing you all.

Please join us, as we
"Sail into San Diego".

*** **

San Diego Council Happy Hour followed by the amazing *Silent Auction* and *Snowsports Trade Show*. Here you can bid on wonderful ski trips, merchandise, lodging and adventure travel. You will also have an opportunity to meet the industry representatives.

Saturday will start with a brief *General Session* and then a day where everyone can **"Sail into San Diego"** with a wide variety of meeting choices to enrich their experiences. Options include the *Travel Expo*, where you have the opportunity to meet with the snow-sport industry representatives for some one-on-one time. There will be several sessions of our *Snowsports Leadership Academy*, with fun and informative topics of interest. The *Public Affairs Panels* will feature US Forest Service personnel, ski personalities, and snow-sports experts to educate and inform. The *Keynote Speaker* selected will provide motivation and inspiration. The *Saturday Evening Awards Banquet* will recognize outstanding volunteers and industry partners for their contributions to FWSA and snowsports, followed by musical entertainment and dancing!

On Sunday, delegates will participate in the *FWSA General Session* and *Elections*, and the club and council recognition awards and charities awards will be presented. There will be a wonderful breakfast buffet to enjoy before heading home.

For additional details regarding the Annual Meeting and Convention, contact FWSA Convention Chair **Debbi Kor**, fwsadebbi@comcast.net or Host Council Convention Coordinator **Chris Gill** hostconventionchair@fwsa.org. We look forward to seeing all of you at the **"Sail into San Diego"** FWSA Convention. For more information on the FWSA 88th Annual Convention can be found at [https:// www.fwsa.org/](https://www.fwsa.org/).

FWSA's 88th Annual Convention San Diego, California - June 10-13, 2021

by **Chris Gill**

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs, Host Council Convention Coordinator

The FWSA is happy to announce that the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs will be hosting our 88th Annual Convention at the Marriott Mission Valley from June 10-13, 2021. This location is very central and you can access the trolley line behind the hotel to reach many of the top tourist attractions.

The Marriott is about eight minutes from the San Diego International Airport. Transportation for the hotel is available through Super Shuttle at a discounted rate of \$12 per person. The layout of the Marriott provides attendees with close proximity to state of the art meeting rooms. There is a 24 hour fitness center, free Wi-Fi, laundry room free of charge for hotel guests, tropical outdoor pool and bar pavilion area, breath taking balcony room views, which will have been remodeled by the time of our FWSA Convention, offering luxurious bedding with down comforters and complimentary amenities. On site discounted self-parking is available. Additional information on reservations can be found at <http://www.reservation-counter.com/marriott> or call **619-692-3800**. Be sure to mention our group name - *Far West Ski Association*, to get our group rate.

The beauty of the Mission Valley Marriott hotel location is with the trolley station behind the hotel. The trolley can take you to Old Town, Little Italy, Gas Lamp Quarter, Sea Port Village and Petco Park for a baseball game. Explore Coronado and visit the famous Hotel Del Coronado by taking the ferry across for the day.

With warm temperatures and panoramic ocean views year round, San Diego is the ideal

endless summer destination. Locals and visitors alike indulge in San Diego's diverse activities and bustling culinary scene.

The San Diego Convention Committee has been hard at work exploring the optional activities for those attending the convention. Our optional tours offer both sightseeing and recreational activities that the locals enjoy by living in San Diego.

Starting on Thursday, attendees will have two options for the day. The first will be the San Diego Harbor Cruise with lunch buffet. You will cruise the beautiful San Diego Harbor and view the famous Midway Aircraft carrier, Coronado Bay Bridge, Cabrillo Monument Point and the North Island Naval station. For those wishing to get some exercise we have arranged for a bike ride along some of the bay and beach areas with a stop for lunch. Thursday evening will conclude with the **"Taste of San Diego"** Pub Crawl.

Friday will start off with the **Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament** at River Walk Golf Course. This will include breakfast, lunch and prizes. Non golfers can either do the **San Diego Trolley Tour** or the **Aqua Adventure**. The trolley tour includes visiting Mt. Soledad Memorial Park, sight seeing along the coast beaches with a stop in La Jolla for lunch. There will be free time for shopping and walking down to the cove to visit the sea lions. The Aqua Adventure will offer paddle boarding, kayaking, hydro biking, outriggering and includes lunch by the bay.

Late Friday afternoon you will enjoy the



FWSA's 89th Annual Convention Portland, Oregon - June 9-12, 2022

by **Debbi Kor**

Northwest Ski Club Council, Host Council Convention Coordinator

Far West Ski Association's 89th Annual Convention will be held in the beautiful Pacific Northwest, in Portland, Oregon. The weather is sunny and warm, the trees are lush and green, the Willamette and Columbia Rivers are flowing and the beautiful view of Portland at night is not to be missed. Our host for this event will be Northwest Ski Club Council. **Sheri Parshall**, FWSA Secretary and past president of NWSA will be the Host Council Convention Coordinator. The dates are June 9-12, 2022.

We will be staying at the Red Lion on the River - Jantzen Beach. Located in the Northern-most part of the city, the resort's outstanding hospitality and service allows for success-

ful meetings and unforgettable leisure activities. Guests can enjoy nearby championship golf, on-site tennis, a pool overlooking the Columbia River, walking paths - one path will take you to the Jantzen Beach Shopping Center, with several top-notch stores.

Far West held the 65th Annual Convention here in 1997.

Located just 12 minutes from the Portland International Airport, the Red Lion offers pick-up service at the near-by MAX station for those who wish to take the Red Line train from the airport. Otherwise, LYFT, Uber, or shuttles are available.

Newly renovated guest rooms (320 non-smoking rooms) offer king and double queen

rooms, plus various suites for your lodging pleasure. JB's Bar and Grill will be available for group get-togethers, and the Espresso Lounge is open each morning at 6 a.m. for a quick Grab-N-Go before heading out for the day.

Being in the Northwest, we will not be at a loss for things to do: skiing on Mt. Hood, hiking in the Columbia River Gorge, cruising the mighty Columbia or wonderful Willamette River. The ideas and activities are endless.

Complimentary on-site parking is offered. Free Wi-Fi in guestrooms, ballroom, and social spaces, lobbies and restaurants, as well. Additional information can be found at www.redlionontheriver.com.

Make your plans to Join us in Portland - June, 2022.

IN THE HEART OF IT ALL...AN URBAN OASIS



SAN DIEGO MARRIOTT MISSION VALLEY...

The San Diego sunshine could not be any better appreciated right here with us.

SAN DIEGO MARRIOTT MISSION VALLEY is ideally located in the

heart of Mission Valley, and is the perfect gateway to experience the best of San Diego. At the hotel, enjoy a host of amenities and services, from cityscape to poolside views and casual dining at our restaurant, DEN. We have a fully equipped fitness center and outdoor pool with a waterfall where you can lounge at our poolside cabanas. Each guest room features a walk-out balcony. Well-appointed and spacious suites offer 55" SMART TV's, high-speed Internet, perfect for anyone visiting San Diego. Enjoy easy access to San Diego State University, SDCCU Stadium (formerly Qualcomm), and historic Old Town, or hop on the Rio Vista Trolley and explore Mission Bay, SeaWorld, and Downtown San Diego including PETCO Park and the famous Gaslamp District. We are minutes away from both Mission Beach and Pacific Beach, so take a stroll on the boardwalk and treat yourself to a California Burrito.

Book your stay at www.Marriott.com/SANMV



A “New Normal?” The 2020-2021 Ski Season. What to Expect!

by Jane Wyckoff
Past President, FWSA

All of a sudden, the lifts stopped. There was silence. The mountain ownership returned to the animals of the forest and the mountains. There was still a lot of snow and plenty of snowsports activities to be enjoyed before the season was to end. But, the 2019-2020 season came to a dramatic halt mid-March due to a pandemic – COVID 19. The resorts closed, and American skiers overseas urgently booked those last flights home before the borders closed, and some of those airline tickets were quite costly.

The Summer Months

Just as we acknowledged “*we are in this together*” and stepped forward to help those in our communities needing assistance, the snowsports industries came together, probably more than ever before, and will continue to do so. Leading industry organizations are conducting online meetings for industry members and the media to address COVID-19 issues, concerns and solutions.

Snowsports Industries America (SIA) is the winter industry’s non-profit trade association, supporting its members through insightful research, education and events, while advocating for issues that impact the future of the industry. SIA conducted town halls and workshops throughout the summer and just released a report entitled “*The Impacts of COVID-19 on Snowsports Consumer Trends and Insights*” for its members. The report is the result of a survey of over 1,000 avid winter enthusiasts on the impact COVID-19 has had, and will have on their spending. (<https://snowsports.org/>).

The National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) is the trade association for ski area owners and operators, and represents over 300 alpine resorts and 400 supplier members who provide equipment, goods and services to the mountain resort industry. NSAA supports a thoughtful return to outdoor winter recreation, and an advisory group of ski industry leaders developed the “*Ski Well, Be Well*” operational best practices, based on scientific guidelines from experts. Each ski area can adapt the operational best practices, which can be scaled according to the appropriate local COVID-19 response. A copy can be downloaded from their website. (<https://www.nsaa.org/>)

Mountain Travel Symposium (MTS) is an annual gathering of mountain travel professionals worldwide. MTS assists the travel industry in establishing relationships, building their business, and creating a strong mountain business community. MTS conducted a series of “*Recovery Road*” webinars during the summer months in an interview style with leading members of the snowsports industry, national and international, on how they were dealing with the impact of COVID-19 on their business and plans for the winter. The series can be viewed on their website. (<https://www.mtntrvl.com/>)

The winter industry took stock and began to immediately strategize for the upcoming summer season and 2020-2021 winter season. Borders were closed. Air traffic decreased to an unprecedented level. The first challenge for the ski resorts was adapting to changes required by the local, county and state regulations due to COVID-19, as they prepped and made ready to welcome guests to their communities. Incredible views, mountain and non-mountain activities were available to guests, but it was a changing environment. Special promotions and discounts were offered.

A wide array of activities were available, including: mountain biking, hiking, golf, fishing, scenic chairlift rides, mountain coasters, alpine slides, and mountain dining. Health procedures were implemented to promote both guest and employee safety throughout the summer months. Sanitation stations, signage to remind guests to be socially distant and updates and changes to operations greeted visitors. Alterra CEO Rusty Gregory reported that their summer resort operations, such as mountain biking and scenic lift rides, which cater mostly to local customers, drew a robust business. People were looking for ways to spend time outdoors.

Aspen Snowmass noted that their guests, employees and community all contributed to a successful summer with a strong adherence to the **Five Commitments to Containment**, and working together they were able to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and keep the strain off their health care system. Their five commitments were: *Contactless Online Booking, Sanitation, Mandatory Masks, Social Distancing, and Capacity Limits*.

The summer experience for the resorts was a time of adjustment, and policies were modified, refined and improved, as planning continued for the winter season. Once the guests were on the hill, things went quite smoothly. It was time to experience the outdoors and wide open spaces, fresh air, and to enjoy the activity selected. It was getting on the shuttle buses to travel, gathering in lodges for food and drink, and traveling up the mountain on lifts and in gondolas that created the most challenge. Masks were required in the shuttle buses and lodges, in lift lines and on the gondolas. Everyone was required to maintain a distance of six feet. A good amount of training was necessary in order for employees to adhere to the mandated protocols, and to enforce rules for the protection of both the employees and the guests. Humans naturally congregate and communicate. A mountain bike would be a natural social distancing tool, but participants tended to group together and socialize. These same challenges will also be addressed this winter.

A boost to the summer activity was provided by an increase in local resident visits, both in North American resorts and in European resorts, as well. As air travel decreased, car travel increased with locals taking advantage of opportunities offered at their local mountains. Resorts are staying positive that this same support from the locals will continue to be seen this winter, as the Pandemic continues, and some aren’t ready yet to take air transportation for a ski vacation.

Ski resorts have invested a remarkable amount of time and financial resources during the summer months in developing winter operational plans, to attract skiers and boarders back to their winter playgrounds, and to feel safe. They have worked closely with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), state and county health departments, to set up their new protocols and procedures. It is going to require patience and understanding from the guests, and respect for the rules and regulations required.

FACING PAGE: *The 2019-2020 ski season came to an abrupt halt in mid March, 2020 throughout the Northern Hemisphere. Chairlifts stopped. Slopes were empty.*

photo courtesy of Aspen/Snowmass



The President and Chief Operating Officer for Mammoth Resorts, Mark Brownlie, noted that, “We are investing over \$1 million in COVID-19 related resort enhancements. These include increased ‘grab and go’ food and beverage offerings, additional outdoor seating and quick transaction technology. As always, we will be nimble in making adjustments mandated by local health officials and state government as the COVID-19 mitigation environment continues to change.”

As skiers and snowboarders, everyone moves through the summer months, anxiously awaiting those first snowfalls with the return of winter. It is going to be especially welcome this winter – fresh air, the great outdoors, carving turns down our favorite run, getting out of the house! Yes, we need this. Ski safety has always been an important component of the snowsports experience. We follow basic guidelines to have a safe and healthy experience on the slopes. So, this winter, another component has been added to those basic guidelines we know so well; following safety protocols to keep resort employees, guests and the resort community safe and healthy during the pandemic.

Are you a free spirit? Like to plan a ski trip at the last moment – grab your gear and head to the mountains, stay where you can find lodging, and purchase a lift ticket at the ticket window at the resort the morning you plan to ski or board. Not anymore. Times are very different now. Advanced planning is absolutely mandatory. And, what can you expect to experience in making your plans, and actually at the resort itself? Of primary concern in your trip plans are traveling to the resort, lift tickets, finding lodging, and planning for food.

The Basics – Travel, Lifts, Lodging, Dining

Travel

We all know the primary safety precautions: wear a mask, don’t touch your face, wash your hands often, sneeze into your elbow, and keep a social distance of at least 6 feet. If you feel sick, or have been in contact with someone with COVID-19, don’t travel.

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) established a webpage to provide resources and information to assist passengers who travel during this time. It assures the public that it will continue to adjust its security operations during the COVID-19 global pandemic, is ready to meet the current and future security needs of the nation’s transportation systems, and remains dedicated to keeping travelers and their frontline workforce healthy and secure.

TSA also launched the “*Stay Healthy. Stay Secure*” campaign, which details proactive and protective measures that have been implemented at security checkpoints to make the screening process safer for passengers and their workforce by reducing the potential of exposure to the virus. The campaign includes guidance and resources to help passengers prepare for the security screening process in the COVID environment. Face coverings are required and reduced physical contact measures will be taken. TSA is allowing one liquid hand sanitizer, up to 12 oz. per passenger, in carry-on bags. Be sure to check your airline’s website for any information applicable to travel with a designated carrier. (<https://www.tsa.gov/coronavirus>)

When an airport shuttle is needed, advance notice will be required and a reservation made. Vehicles will be cleaned before and after each use, and the drivers will be wearing masks and gloves. Seating will accommodate for social distancing, and passengers might not be able to occupy the front passenger seat.

Group travel by bus will require face coverings, cleaning and dis-

infecting procedures, and reduced physical contact. The number of passengers that can be on a bus at one time will be limited. This limitation has especially impacted the FWSA ski clubs and councils, planning club trips to their local mountains.

Season Passes/Tickets

Season ticket holders will be given priority access on the hill, so if you haven’t purchased a season pass yet, you might consider doing so this year. Resort visits will be under a stringent control, to avoid overcrowding. In order to do that, lift tickets will be mainly by advance purchase only. Walk-up window ticket sales might not be available at the resort. Not only does advance purchase help control the number of tickets sold, but it also avoids overcrowding at a ticket purchase location.

It was natural for season ticket holders to hold back on purchasing their season passes, until they had more information on how the pandemic would impact the ability to ski or board, so purchase deadlines were extended. For the 34 North American resorts offering the **Epic Pass**, reservations are required for every day of the upcoming season. In addition to the season pass, day passes can be purchased. New for 2020/21, is the Epic Mountain Rewards, where purchasers can save up to 20% off food, lodging, lessons, rentals and more. Vail Resorts Operating Plan has an early season reserved for pass holders only, and will not be selling lift tickets until December 8. (<https://www.epicpass.com/>)

Rusty Gregory of Alterra stated that the **Ikon Pass** sales were “*shockingly strong*” leading up to his company’s May 27 deadline to buy at the lowest price. The pass was available for \$999 and a discount for renewing customers. The Ikon Pass services up to 44 worldwide destinations, with a choice of passes available, including a 4-Day Pass. A discounted price was still available until October 14. The Adventure Assurance was expanded, where a customer can roll the purchase price paid for an unused pass over to 2021/22, or defer the purchase price paid for the 2020/21 Pass toward the purchase of a 2021/22 Pass. (<https://www.ikonpass.com/>)

New this year, Big White Ski Resort is introducing an online, no-touch day ticket dispensing system. The only way to purchase a day ticket, the program automatically offers guests 25% off the retail price of the day (adjusted for mid-week, weekends, and peak periods). There will be 15 pick-up ticket boxes located around the resort.

Lodging

Book your reservation before traveling to your destination. You can rest assured lodging properties have also invested heavily to ensure guest safety. You will see a constant cleaning and sanitizing of all public areas. They will be working off a COVID-19 Checklist that is in accordance with the current CDC Guidelines for disinfection. Elevator use might be limited to only guests sharing a room being allowed in an elevator at the same time. Otherwise, service might be limited to only one or two persons at a time. Lodging amenities, such as a pool, massage, spa, hair salon and fitness centers will follow sanitation and social distancing guidelines, and not all the amenities you are used to, will be open.

The procedure at the front desk will minimize contact with employees. You might see decals or tape to indicate space for social distancing. A contactless check-in will be the priority, via email or text message. Keys will be ready to be handed to guests. Credit card readers will be facing the guests, for self use, rather than handing

your credit card to the reservationist at the front desk. Guest bills will be E-mailed and available the morning of departure, or slipped under the door, and check-out will be contact free.

Food Service

Resorts are going to want you to minimize time spent in buildings, due to the space capacity limitations. To maximize time spent by guests outdoors, additional outdoor seating will be provided for food service. Expect to see outdoor heaters and tents. Also, you can expect an addition of “pick up and go” food service. Guests will be encouraged to avoid the peak lunch rush, and might find it advantageous to bring their own water and snacks to enjoy on the mountain, to avoid waiting to enter a food service area.

Ski resorts are offering some attractive lodging and booking incentives right now. For example, Steamboat has a “**Plan with Confidence**” program for the season ahead, offering the VIP Vacation Package to lock in low early season rates. It also has an attractive cancellation policy, should your plans change or should the resort be closed due to COVID-19 during any part of a planned vacation. The booking guidelines have been changed to offer guests a 10% lodging deposit with final payment due 30 days prior to arrival or 45 days prior to arrival for stays between December 18, 2020 and January 3, 2021. Whitefish Mountain Resort has a policy that if a governmental agency restricts recreational travel to or from Montana or the state, province or country from which the travelers reside, they will be issued a full refund for lodging and lift tickets if the effective date of the restrictions take place prior to the traveler’s arrival.

Looking forward to some fine dining at your favorite resort restaurant? Best to make an advance reservation. Spacing will be limited due to social distancing guidelines. However, fine dining might be a more satisfying experience for an evening, rather than being exposed to a higher risk in attending an après ski party. Sun Valley Resort’s Sanitation Guidelines highlight some changes: pre-set silverware pre-rolled in linen napkins, bread and butter will be provided upon individual guest request since bread baskets are not permitted at this time, salt and pepper will be delivered upon guest request, and ice water will be present with meals and covered with a disposable cup. So, we know more about what to expect regarding the basics. What other changes can you expect this winter? What are some of the commonalities among the resorts regarding protection of guests, employees and the community?

What Else to Expect

You will see sanitizing stations located throughout the resort, in the parking lots, in hotels and restaurants. There will be temperature checks – for employees and guests. EPA approved disinfectant and sanitation products will be used on all commonly used surfaces and cleaned at regular intervals. UV lighting might be used in the sanitizing processes, especially in guest rooms.

In all parts of the resort operation, you will be expected to have a face covering. This includes on the shuttles, in public areas in a lodging facility, when loading and riding on lifts and in gondolas, in all buildings at the resort including the ski rental area, during lessons, and while out and about in the community and entering businesses and stores. While on the mountain and in lodging and community facilities, expect to see plexiglass between you and the employee.

There will be a promotion of physical distancing in all aspects of a resort, and an effort to minimize crowds. You can expect that there will social distancing guidelines on lifts and gondolas. Even though the distance traveled is limited, and everyone is in open air

and wearing masks, caution will be taken to reduce the risk. Only related parties will be able to ride together on a lift. Otherwise, individual skiers, will be appropriately separated on a two, four or six passenger lift. Gondolas will also minimize occupancy. Windows can be pulled down to provide fresh air, but caution will still be a guideline.

Some other amenities you are used to might be available for purchase online only, such as equipment rental and lessons. There might not be space availability, if lessons are conducted, due to social distancing. Day lockers might not be available.

You are probably used to signing a waiver if you rent equipment or take a lesson. Be prepared for a possible COVID-19 waiver when you purchase your season pass or ticket online. If you belong to a ski club, expect to be signing a waiver before the group travels. Trip insurance is also a good idea!

Planning a European Ski Vacation?

It is expected that those planning a European Ski Vacation will take a watch and see approach, and will not be booking as early as in the past. Airlines have been deemed quite safe in preventing the spread of COVID-19, with their HEPA filters and everyone with a face covering. However, as Europe faced another wave of COVID-19 cases in October, the question will be whether the borders will be open to international travel.

Skiers and boarders took advantage of summer skiing at glacier resorts in Europe when they re-opened for the fall season. However, due to a marked increase in corona infections, most of the glacier ski resorts in the Alps have been closed again for at least the month of November. **Jimmy Petterson**, renowned author of “**Skiing Around the World Volumes I & II**”, noted that most European countries and ski resorts have not been following and do not plan to follow the same policy as in the US. People will not have to make a booking in advance. They will be able to walk up to the counter to buy a ticket, as always. However, the number of guests will certainly be impacted due to difficulties involved in travel, fear of the virus and quarantines imposed on people returning to their home countries.

Resorts Are Ready

Peter Plimmer, President and CEO of Big White Ski Resort, expressed for his resort what all resorts probably want you to know. He stated, “*Everyone in our Resort has done a huge amount of work, we have a really strong and amazing winter product, and I want us to convey to our guests that their skiing experience will not be compromised. We are doing our best.*”

Be sure to check your resort’s website for information specific to the resort, and stay flexible, because policies and procedures might change. Stay safe. Stay well. Let’s go skiing and boarding! And, get the chair lifts and gondolas moving again! ▲▲



Let’s get back to the mountains! Make your plans now to head to the reopened slopes. FWSA Ski Week Sun Valley, Idaho. Join us!
photo courtesy of Sun Valley

THE SNOWSPORTS INDUSTRY IS EXAMINING ITS DIVERSITY

In the aftermath of racial unrest following the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police and racial unrest, many industries, including the ski and snowboard industry, are looking more closely at their own diversity and practices. According to preliminary data from the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA), 88.2% of visitors to U.S. ski areas during the 2019-2020 season were white - just 1.8% were Black.

Vail Resorts, Alterra Mountain Company, and the National Ski Areas Association have been in the forefront recently, with statements regarding the lack of diversity, followed by a promise of plans to develop a better ethnic balance in snowsports.

Rob Katz, the longtime CEO of Vail Resorts, stated:

"While I'm sure most everyone in our industry believes they are tolerant and welcoming, we need to acknowledge that there are parts of the culture of our sport that are clearly not inviting," he wrote in a letter to employees, while also calling the situation a personal failing. *"Maybe the image we have created of the mountain lifestyle needs to be more varied. Maybe, as a fairly close-knit and passionate group of skiers and riders, our community carries a deep, implicit bias. It would not be a stretch to call us a clique."*

Vail Resorts hasn't unveiled a definitive action plan as yet, but Vail is already host to nearly 4,500 underserved children at its resorts each year, with plans to expand the program to all 34 of its North American resorts, according to spokeswoman, Marjory Elwell.

Later, Rusty Gregory, CEO of Alterra Mountain Co., wrote his own letter to employees on diversity, stating his commitment to action and asking employees to hold him accountable for following through. *"Merely standing against racism and discrimination does little to create change,"* Gregory wrote. *"Talk and intentions are cheap. So, I choose to act, as an individual and as your CEO."*

Alterra Mountain Company is still working out the details of its action plan to bring more black skiers to its resorts. The plan will include discounts for minorities and active recruitment of black employees. Also, Alterra was slated to begin unconscious-bias training over the past summer. This coming winter it will have a program in place to reach out directly to black communities to invite individuals to Alterra ski areas.

"We've seen very little meaningful change in racial/ethnic demographics of skiing over the past 10 seasons," said NSAA spokeswoman Adrienne Isaacs. *"There is opportunity to make snow sports more accessible and more inclusive. More people should have access to the physical and mental benefits of winter adventure."*

While the NSAA does not have data on black employment in the industry, it is believed that there is a significant lack of diversity there as well.

"Our racial and ethnic diversity in the ski resort industry is extremely low with both employees and guests," said Alterra executive vice president David Perry, who is in charge of building the company's Environmental, Social and Governance Plan.

From within the snowsports industry, a number of reasons have been identified as contributing to the low participation of black people and other minorities in snowsports activities:

Skiing is expensive, making it inaccessible to economically disadvantaged communities.

Being in remote locations, snowsports areas are difficult to access from cities where black communities, and other ethnic minority, communities are located.

Outreach and limited support from the industry are also contributing factors.

Reginald Johnson, east region director and national board member of the National Brotherhood of Skiers, offered some suggestions as to what the industry might do to increase black participation in snowsports:

- Ski resorts need to do a better job of targeting advertising toward minority communities.
- Include people of color in their advertisements and consider hiring minority-owned advertising firms.
- Proactively work to have more forward-facing black employees, including ski instructors.
- Do more in terms of donating to minority youth ski programs.

Along the lines of supporting diversity, and remaining supportive of all ethnic groups, Squaw Valley Alpine Meadows, a popular Lake Tahoe ski resort best known for hosting the 1960 Olympics, is considering changing its name in order to disassociate itself with the racist history of the word "squaw."

While this topic was visited many years ago, Squaw Valley feels it is time to visit it again in light of the growing efforts nationally to remove monuments, names and symbols deemed to have racist pasts. The resort, which is 45 miles southwest of Reno, plans to invite regional Native American leaders and scholars to provide guidance about the potential renaming. ▲

Communication Award Winners - 2020

by Bill King Awards Chair; FWSA (Class/Catagory / Club Name / Council Name / Webmaster or Editor)

COUNCIL

Newsletter - Council

1st Place

BAC

Dennie Warren

2nd Place

NWSCC

Linda McGavin

3rd Place

NBS

Teri Allard &

Todd Hood

Website - Council

1st Place

BAC

Cathy Wilson &

Jenn Wilson

2nd Place

NWSCC

Linda McGavin

3rd Place

SDC

Laura Meldrum &

Alan Godwin

MASTERS

Newsletter - Club

1st Place

Mt. High

Snowsport Club

NWSCC

Emilio Trampuz

2nd Place

Unrecables

LAC

Gordon Cardona

Website - Club

1st Place

Mt. High

Snowsport Club

NWSCC

Emilio Trampuz

2nd Place

Unrecables

Dee Armstrong

ADVANCED

Newsletter - Club

1st Place

US Adaptive

Recreation Center

SDC

Tom Peirce

Website - Club

1st Place

Inskiers Ski &

Snowboard Club

BAC

Bob Burke

NOVICE

Newsletter - Club

1st Place

Don Diego

Ski Club

SDC

Karl Cikste

2nd Place

Castro Valley

Ski Club

BAC

Dennie Warren

HOW SKI RESORTS AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT

Skiers/riders, while loving their sport and recognizing some of the inherent affects it has on the environment, do want resorts to conduct business in an environmentally supportive and positive way. There is appreciation and support for the many ski resort owners that are switching to environmentally friendly practices such as renewable energy, recycling, and composting. Some people feel that these changes are not enough to overcome the overall negative effect of ski areas on the environment, however.

Climate change has reduced the annual snowfall at many ski resorts. This causes resorts to turn to artificial snowmaking in order to keep their resorts open and competitive. Snow making takes lots of water and energy, lowering the water level in nearby streams and rivers. This, in turn, has a negative impact on the surrounding ecosystem. If salt and other products are added to the snowmaking, further damage to the area occurs. As the artificial snow melts, the salt and other additives can have a negative effect on the soil and vegetation in the area. Water usage is also increased due to the development of resort properties to house the visitors and employees of the resort.

With the help of the National Ski Areas Association's Sustainable Slopes program in 2000, outlining environmentally sustainable practices for ski areas, many resorts are focusing on the environmental issues inherent in their businesses. Here are some of the proactive, environmentally supportive practices you might see, or hear about, at your favorite resorts:

- Promoting ride sharing by providing parking incentives
- Electric vehicle charging stations for guests
- Becoming idle free to reduce carbon emissions
- Installing solar arrays or wind turbines or purchasing renewable energy credits
- Installing LED lighting, sensor lights, low flow toilets
- Using stone paper trail maps that will last longer than paper
- Installing water bottle filling stations
- Using all-natural cleaning products
- Composting food waste to keep it out of the landfill
- Lobbying for climate legislation
- Replanting to cover over installation of new lifts
- Tracking wildlife to make sure they have ample habitat space
- Replacing paper and plastic products with reusables instead
- Using reusable or compostable take out containers

As individual snowsports participants, we can do our part, too. Take your water bottle, carpool or take the bus whenever you can, take only the paper products you will absolutely need, and consider getting involved as an advocate for sustainability and climate change. ▲▲

NOVICE

Newsletter - Club
(Continued)

3rd Place

Bogus Basin Ski Club
ISC
Craig Olsen

Website - Club

1st Place

U.S. Adaptive
Recreation Center
SDC

Sara Rosell

2nd Place

Don Diego Ski Club
SDC
Karl Cikste

by Fran Long

Vice President - Public Affairs, FWSA

FAR WEST MEMBER COUNCILS

cover 12 states, with 10 regional councils
and more than 150 Clubs, with a
combined membership of over 55,000
skiers and snowboarders.

SAVVY SNAKE SAYS IT'S TIME TO REVISIT SUN SAFETY



*Slip on your helmet/hat
Slop on some sunscreen
Slither into the shade when possible
Protect your skin...
Be sun-safe on and off the snow*

Did you know:

- High altitudes + prolonged time in the sun = excessive exposure to ultraviolet (UV) light. (Ultraviolet light is what causes sunburns and skin cancer.)
- Reflections off the snow and ice increase that exposure even further.
- Altitudes around 10,000 feet increase UV intensity by 100%, which is more intense than going to the beach.
- UV intensity increases up to 85% from the reflections off the snow, often causing you to be hit by the same rays twice.
- 80-90% of UV rays penetrate haze and clouds, further increasing potential exposure.
- One blistering sunburn in childhood or adolescence more than doubles a person's chance of developing melanoma later in life.
- Combining these facts with prolonged time outside, means snow sports participants are at great risk for sun burn and skin cancer.

And, here are some sun safety tips to keep in mind every time you are on the snow:

- Reduce your exposure to the sun by wearing sun protective clothing, UV protective glasses/goggles, and a helmet or wide brimmed hat.
- Seek shade when possible between 10:00AM and 4:00PM.
- Wear sunscreen/sun block every day, every season... winter, spring, summer, and fall.
- Look for sunscreen/block that is broad spectrum UVA/UVB, has an SPF of 30 or higher, and is geared for sports so it is less likely to irritate the eyes.
- Apply one ounce (a shot glass) of sunscreen, 30 minutes before going outside, anywhere the sun can see...ears, face, neck, etc.
- Don't forget the lip balm.
- Reapply one ounce of sunscreen every two hours while outside.

"An ounce of protection is worth a pound of cure." Benjamin Franklin ▲▲



Get Off Your Rockers Ski Club members Susan Richman, Ellen Williamson, Kathy Knowles volunteer with Wreaths Across America. Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, their mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 2,100 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. Get involved this December! photo provided by Sigrid Noack

FWSA Ski Clubs Continue Generous Donations

by Sigrid Noack

Charities & Our Community Chair, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association, and its ten Ski Councils, are committed to supporting charitable giving and volunteerism. Through donations and volunteer services of our individual members in clubs and councils, we hope to enhance the quality of life within our communities.

We are very proud to have so many caring members in our FWSA family. Our members get involved with a huge variety of charitable organizations. Every year, we recognize our clubs and councils for their generous charity support with the “*Charity and Community Service Recognition*”. By openly recognizing so many groups annually, we hope to encourage others to become more involved with charity activities and donations.

Even without a FWSA Convention this year, we felt that it was important to still recognize clubs and their devoted, hard-working members for their charitable work. Some activities with local charitable organizations have continued, in spite of this pandemic, which, of course, has hampered things tremendously. Clubs that were willing to share their charity efforts with FWSA, were asked to send us their information. The following clubs took the time during these stressful months to send us information about their charitable activities. They will be showcased in our charity video, which will be available on the FWSA website. We only have limited space in this publication, so please check out the video for details. And get involved in your communities!

The Following Clubs Have Been Recognized for Their Outstanding Charity & Community Service in 2020

Monterey Ski and Social Club of San Francisco Bay Area Snow Sports Council was founded in 1995 by **Greg Robinson**, who is still the major force behind this group of phenomenally giving people. Congratulations on 25 years of skiing and traveling and partying and selflessly giving so much of themselves to community organizations by volunteering their time.

SLO Skiers of Central Council of California’s members are very much into supporting small, local (San Luis Obispo County) organizations. They enjoy helping youth and children, veterans, the homeless, impoverished, environment and sports. The club has been actively supporting several charitable organizations this past year.

Skiyente Ski Club of the Northwest Ski Club Council was formed 65 years ago by a group of female skiers, who loved to ski but were also looking for something more in line with their interests and desires. The name Skiyente means “*Snow Maiden*” in Norwegian. The ladies enjoy growing their membership with other women interested in snowsports and their causes.

Bogus Basin Ski Club of Intermountain Council has been serving Southwest Idaho since 1938. This group of enthusiastic skiers helped establish Bogus Basin Ski Re-

sort in 1942. They operated the first rope tow and are an important asset in the community. Bogus Basin Ski Club members believe in giving back to the community by making generous charitable contributions.

Phoenix Ski Club of the Arizona Ski Council enjoys getting involved with local charitable organizations such as Adobt-A-Highway, Toys For Tots, Shoebox Ministries, the Phoenix Rescue Mission and the Salvation Army.

Get Off Your Rockers Ski Club of the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs represents folks over 50 who enjoy staying active. The club offers all types of fun activities for its members and supports several favorite local charities such as the San Diego Food Bank, Wreaths Across America, Rady’s Children’s Hospital and Ronald McDonald House among other charities.

Welcome to Move United

Disabled Sports USA (DSUSA) and **Adaptive Sports USA** have joined together under the name **Move United**. This new organization has been launched in 43 states and will offer 100,000 youths and adults with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in sports and recreation in their community and to compete in more than 50 adaptive sports.

Move United is the pipeline for athletes with disabilities to not only learn adaptive sports but to compete at the highest levels, at the state, regional, national and international levels. Move United is a member of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and will provide a range of nationwide programming, including recreational and competitive adaptive sports and training. The goal is to grow the network to 200-plus community-based adaptive programs and to be available locally to 90% of the US population by 2028, when the Olympics and Paralympics return to Los Angeles.

Both DSUSA and Adaptive Sports USA were originally formed by military veterans during the Korean and Vietnam wars. Move United is now the largest nonprofit provider of adaptive sports to wounded warriors, youth and any adults with a disability. Many mottos are appropriate for this new amazing organization:

“If I can do this, I can do anything!”

“Sport makes us MORE, physically, mentally and socially”

“Our vision is to redefine how society views ability.”

To learn more, check out the website:

<https://www.moveunitedsport.org>

The
Far West Ski
Association
Turns 90





Congratulations to FWSA



Happy 
90th
birthday

The history of the Bay Area Snow Sports Council is just as amazing as what is taking place today. In 1940, the Bay Area Ski Federation was organized "For the welfare of Bay Area Skiers" and voted to join Far West as the Bay Area Council (BAC) Ski Clubs in 1961. To embrace all snow sports activities, the current name of the BAC is "Bay Area Snow Sports Council". During all four seasons our BAC clubs are very active.

Alpineer
Apres Ski Club
Bladerunners Ski & Sports Club
Castro Valley Ski Club
Fire and Ice Ski Club
Golden Gate Top of The Hill Gang
Inskiers Ski And Snowboard Club
Marin Ski Club
Modesto Ski Club

Monterey Ski & Social Club
Nisei Ski Club
Oakland Ski Club
The Olympic Club
Rusty Bindings Ski Club
Snowchasers Ski Club
Snowdrifters Ski & Snowboard Club
Snowglers
SouthBay Ski Club
Sunburst Ski Club



www.skibac.org



Skiers on Penny Hill look east up trail Creek and over Sun Valley Village, during the winter of 1938. Called the "St. Moritz of America", Sun Valley began modern skiing in this country as the first destination ski resort. Sun Valley opened in December, 1936. The development of a ski resort along the Union Pacific rail line was conceived by Board Chairman Averell Harriman to stimulate passenger service during the Great Depression and to encourage winter travel. See more starting on page 66.

*photo courtesy of Center for Regional History
Community Library, Ketchum, ID*

The 90 Year Journey of FWSA

The Far West Ski Association Commemorative "Birthday Book" has been created to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the Far West Ski Association - originally founded as the California Ski Association on October 7, 1930 at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, California.

FOREWARD:

This all started as a birthday celebration for our Association. It was two-fold: a luncheon in the place where our Association was born, as a replication of the founding luncheon on October 7, 1930, and the presentation of a commemorative "birthday book" at that luncheon. We gave ourselves about a year to do this. We had to face the challenges of specifying all the details for our twin objectives, making the birthday affordable, and then assembling all the details under a short schedule. And, then the Covid 19 pandemic struck! Under all these strains, our doughty little committee resolved that the most essential commemoration would be the book – actually a booklet in the format of the Far West Skiers Guide (where we fortunately had experienced professionals – Leigh Gieringer and Jane Wyckoff).

Having resolved to set the course and stay on it, we faced the challenge of our identity. We set our dates by the history of the California Ski Association, which changed its name in 1947 to the Far West Ski Association, to recognize the importance of Nevada in ski racing competition. But, what I call the greater Far West Ski Association, due primarily to the role of ski councils, now extends its network from Alaska to Mexico and Colorado to Hawaii. We are the largest surviving regional ski association, connected by a menu of common interests in sport and healthful recreation, travel, situational awareness of matters that affect our snowports world, bringing achievements to the attention of the public, community service and just keeping track of friends. And, the door remains open to farther horizons and friendships.

90th Anniversary Committee: John Watson, History Chair and FWSA Past President; Linda Westlund, Chair, FWSA Board of Trustees; Fran Long, FWSA VP Public Affairs; Steve Coxen, FWSA Past President; Paul Vlasveld, President, Bay Area Snow Sports Council; Leigh Gieringer, Editor / Publisher, Far West Skier's Guide; and the Directors and Council Presidents called in for special detail and information.

INTRODUCTION:

This gift collection of essays is intended to show the fantastic story of the dynamic century of skiing in Far West and the roles that the Far West Ski Association has played in it. There is no single history that can describe the discovery of an extinct culture of snowshoe skiing as a sport and the organization of racing teams into a league, and then witness an exponential growth in numbers of skiers, a growth seemingly from the Earth, and the events, enterprise and construction that serviced that growth.

This 90th birthday collection can only cover some of the persons and events of this fantasia. Snowshoe (longboard) racing and racing with short skis overlapped in time and were both overshadowed by the awesome spectacle of ski jumping. Ski jumping was a trigger and then a stimulant from 1895 forward to the development of skiing in what we have come to call the Far West.

Businessmen saw the possibilities of money to be made and immediately attempted to capture a Winter Olympics in the late 1920s. That attempt failed, but it installed in the California ski ethos a determination to show the world the skiing in the snows of the Sierra.

The ski world needed persons and organizations that could teach skiing, organize and conduct the spectacles of racing and jumping, pay the upski fares and directly or politically be a sustaining force for growth. This was the California Ski Association's birthright.

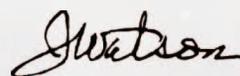
It's not the California Ski Association anymore, so how did we become the Far West Ski Association that now claims at least 12 states as its service area. That is the story of the FWSA of today. To understand that, will require tracing its Spartan beginnings, the interruption of World War II, the resumption of the explosion in skier numbers in the period between 1946 - 1960, the birth of the ski industry and expanded opportunities for skiing and then the televised coverage of the 1960 Winter Olympics (in which California showed the world what a mistake the IOC made in 1928).

In the 1960s, the ability of the ski areas to provide enough skiing opportunity to satisfy the demand did not match the growth in skier numbers and the industry didn't catch up for thirty years. In addition to describing some of the great skiing in FWSA, defining our Association requires descriptions, as well. This will entail some historical insight to make the connections to the moving carpet of skiing. That is the reason for the Association History featured in **Tracks: The 90 Year Journey of the FWSA** starting on page 12 - to show the growth in ski club and member numbers and changes in the program menus.

The current geographic extent is explained by the Role of Councils essay. The rush to be a world ski center and the need for ski areas to satisfy demand is the basis for Unique to FWSA: Area Development. And, to show we're still following the example of the gold camps and doing what comes naturally when skiers get together, we know League Racing very well.

This commemorative history would not be possible without the contributions of many Association volunteers and authors expert on industry history. They are listed under contributors, but I would be remiss if I didn't give special thanks to **Ingrid P. Wicken** of the *California Ski Library* for our many email exchanges. **Jane Wyckoff** is a data resource and I thank her for her editing, advertising sales, verification and information. **Leigh Gieringer** kept all authors on track, providing cost estimates and accepting the tasks of advertising accounting, as well as, coordinating the production of this booklet.

Ski with friends and enjoy the bounty that Nature has provided us.



John Watson, Editor

The 90 Year Journey of FWSA

Published and Produced by **Leigh Gieringer** Publisher and Production Coordinator of the *Far West Skier's Guide* -
John Watson - Editor, FWSF President, FWSA Past President
Jane Wyckoff - Advertising Manager, FWSG Assistant Editor, FWSA Past President

CONTRIBUTORS

Jane Wyckoff - Our Managing Editor and past president. Provided answers and contemporary materials from her own collection and from 32 editions of the *Far West Skier's Guide*, and our many discussions on historic detail regarding many FWSA events and programs. Jane shares the 2019 Western Ski Heritage Award by Steamboat.

Ingrid Wicken - new discoveries and authoritative source material from the California Ski Library, often on a daily basis, and the loan of books, documents and stunning imagery from her special collections. Ingrid is a four time recipient of the Western Ski Heritage Award by Steamboat, as recently as 2018.

Eddy Ancinas - the creation of a ski area in Squaw Valley by Alex Cushing and Wayne Poulsen, which would host the Winter Olympics in 1960 and the nearly concurrent development by John Reily of Alpine Meadows.

Eve Chandler - on the only intentionally nonprofit ski area in the USA - Bogus Basin. Eve was the winner of the 2017 Western Ski Heritage Award by Steamboat.

Steve Coxen and Linda McGavin - for the information on the Portland Area Ski Club Council organization and the years leading up to the 1993 merge with FWSA as the Northwest Ski Club Council.

George Eachus - comprehensive knowledge of the league racing program within FWSA and FW Racing Association; founder of Elske Race League.

Nancy Ellis - for exhaustive records of destinations and dates under the Far West Travel Programs.

Debbie Stewart - for her painstaking work to assemble a comprehensive historic record for publication of the FWSA Travel Programs.

The late **Courtlandt T. Hill** - "Skier's Handbook 1947" published in Los Angeles. Corty Hill was President of the California Ski Association in 1948-49. The book cited a program unique to skiing organizations: Area Development.

Jane Jackson - putting her work "Echoes of the Peaks" into narrative format and her tracking of Jimmie Nunn. Steve Nunn, his son, supplied the picture of Jimmie's last visit to the Arizona Snowbowl and his obituary. Jane was honored with the 2016 Western Ski Heritage Award by Steamboat.

Karen James - provided the biography of her husband John and the record of the founding ten years of the *Far West Ski Week*, and the founding of ROKKA League. John James a recipient of the 2012 Western Ski Heritage Award by Steamboat.

Diane Eagle Kataoka - for her volunteering on short notice to write up the Mammoth story and timeline.

Mike Korologos - for the record of skiing accomplishments in Utah; tasked by **Barbara Yamada** of the Alf Engen Museum, Salt Lake City.

Randy Lew - for his encyclopedic record keeping which provided essential information on names and dates and the track record of the Alpine Scholarship program of FWSA and FWSF, and the formation of the Intermountain Ski Council.

Katherine Kaplanek - for information of the life of her father, Vic Hasher.

The New Mineral King Preservation Society - for sharing information on images from Vic Hasher's field notes written during his two-year stay in Mineral King.

Joe Loader & Doug Ball - for their information on the early days of Sierra League and its change to a council due to the efforts of **Barbara Bryant**.

Ellen Loe - for the events and persona leading to the founding of the Far West Racing Association (FWRA).

John Lundin - with little advance notice, brought his historian and writing skills regarding Sun Valley and Washington skiing to this book to educate the reader on the larger scope of Far West skiing.

Robin Morning - source of detail regarding Dave McCoy and Roma McCoy and their family, and Dave's total dedication to the creation of Mammoth Mountain as a world class ski area. Robin is a three time recipient of the Western Ski Heritage Award by Steamboat for her excellent books that she has researched and written.

Chuck Morse - a senior advisor on any Far West topic you can name; inventor and hands on manager of many Far West Programs, special knowledge of area development principles and personal involvement in many campaigns. Chuck is a FWSA Snowsport Builder.

Dan Campbell Photography - for allowing our use of photos from his archives of Deede Corradini and our athletes who established a place in the Winter Olympics for women's ski jumping.

Steve Reneker - for his pictures of the NSPS mountaineers on San Geronio and San Joaquin Ridge, his expert assistance on making the Ridge reconnaissance a safe and effective one, and his recollections of dates and names. Plus, he has honored us by taking the ashes of his mountaineering teacher and friend, Dave Tollakson, to the top of the world - Mt. Everest - with the FWSA banner.

Stan Mullin and Patricia Jakle for many interesting conversations and assistance with detail from the family archives regarding their father John Stanley Mullin (1907-2000).

Catherine Ohl - for her comprehensive work and leadership on Association history, some examples of which appear herein, with much more at www.fwsa.org.

The late **William McKinley Stensaa**s - Editor, *Western Ski Annual*, 1942, published in Modesto, California.

Emilio Trampuz - took on the job of assembling a history of skiing on Mt Hood, drawing on Lloyd Musser's work and adding his own research. Emilio was the recipient of the 2014 Western Ski Heritage Award by Steamboat.

Bob Warzinski - insights into the Inland League and support with racing under the US Recreational Ski Association (USRSA).

Rolf and Beate Fromm - for sharing their comprehensive historic archive regarding BASF and Bay Area Council. Rolf was honored with the J. Stanley Mullin Award in 1974.

Deniece and Ed McArthur - for sharing their USRSA records on the National Ski Weeks.

Barbara Razo - for her timely essay highlighting the incredible volunteer NSP patrollers who keep us safe and conduct rescues when we aren't. Neither COVID-19 nor surgery nor challenging slope can stay her; she drives Code 3, too.

Debbi Kor - for her diligence in keeping records of the relationships between the association and the snowsport industry, with their participation in the Silent Auction/Travel Expo, and providing them for this 90th history.

Data and verifications from:

Laura Meldrum, Linda Westlund, Arleigh Meiners, Maxine Hanlon, Judith Miller, Fran Long and Joe Harvis, all of whom have been honored for other services to FWSA. We also extend our sincere appreciation to the **many photographers** whose photos have been included in this historic booklet.

The *Far West Skier's Guide* and **FWSA Convention Delegate Books** were also sources of information.

ON THE COVER: During the later decades of the 1800s, ski jumping became very popular, drawing thousands of spectators to watch these exciting events. These events also provided a curiosity for many to experience the thrill of descending a snow-covered slope. Early 20th Century participants sought out accessible snow-covered hills along roadways such as California's Highway 40 and above Placerville, as well as, many of the slopes in the Southern California mountains to which they could travel. They would walk up the slopes for an exhilarating downhill ride. Recreational skiing was becoming a favorite winter pastime for many. One of the reasons a Californian bid to host the 1932 Winter Olympics was turned down in 1929 was that there was no area Ski Association to coordinate the events. Thus, a group of avid skiers took it upon themselves to found the California Ski Association in 1930. This booklet outlines the 90 year journey of the CSA/FWSA. Famous ski jumper and two-time Olympic gold medalist Norwegian Birger Ruud shows his style. (See page 62.) photo provided by John W. Lundin, Museum of History and Industry, Seattle, Washington



Wendell Robie, from a 1928 photo, is a legend in FWSA. At this time, he was a member of the Auburn Ski Club, who had established a skiing area at Cisco Grove for downhill skiing, cross country and ski jumping. This was just a start. He would go on to begin the development of the California Ski Association, prepare facilities for and oversee the 1931 State Championships and then prepare for and manage the 1932 National Championships. These events drew international competitors who had just competed in the 1932 Winter Olympics at Lake Placid. He served terms in the California Ski Association as President and Treasurer. Read more about the California Ski Association beginning on page 12 and see page 44. photos on this page courtesy of Ingrid P. Wicken, California Ski Library

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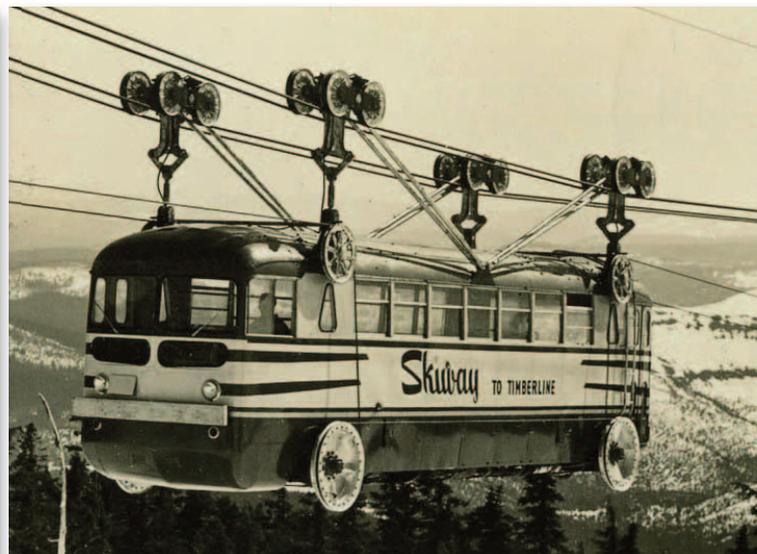
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Badger Pass at Yosemite was California's first ski area. Back in 1935, innovative slope transport such as this sled-tow allowed several ski participants to ride up a slope so they could put their skis on and traverse down the mountain or hillside. See "How California Became a World Class Skier's Paradise" beginning on page 6.



ABOVE: Prior to the early 1900s, the way to ascend a slope was to walk. That was the way miners like these pictured above from 1906 had to travel if they desired to get to higher elevations or to reach the mines. Can you just imagine the effort it would take to load their mules to carry mining equipment or to merely carry their longboards up the mountainside. Once on the slopes, it was much easier to put on some "snowshoes, aka, longboards" to get to the nearest town for supplies. Then, of course, they had to walk back up. Many of the miners wanted to add some excitement to their off hours, so attached their longboards to their feet and challenged each other to see who could get down the hills the quickest. Word got out to the town folks how much fun it was to ride the slopes. But, those people had to walk up the slopes to experience the fun. Clubs and organizations were forming like the California Ski Association so they could gather with other like-minded individuals. The rest - they say - is history! Read through these pages for the highlights on the development of the FWSA. Mammoth Area photo provided by Robin Morning



We've come a long way since the early days of the 1930s when the CSA was founded in terms of ascending a slope. Image climbing on board a Sled Tow, or an early rope tow, a wooden framed single chair lift or even a suspended bus? Those were some of the available options - but they were an improvement over walking up a slope which was common at the turn of the 20th Century!

TOP RIGHT: Mt. Hood had a most unusual transportation system from the town of Government Camp to Timberline Lodge in the early 1950s. It was a modified bus that traveled along stationary cables suspended from towers similar to today's gondola towers. The engine was inside the bus, not at any of the two terminals. The ride was somewhat noisy. The Skiway tram operated only between 1951 and 1953. It couldn't compete against a ground bus that used an improved road to Timberline and charged only 50 cents per ride, while the Skiway tram charged 75 cents - still a bargain by today's prices!!! More on skiing on Mt. Hood and Oregon can be found on pages 58-61. photo provided by Emilio Trampuz

CENTER RIGHT: When Mammoth Mountain originally opened on November 25, 1955, people were lined up to board the rope tow. The Mammoth story begins on page 48.

ABOVE: The first chairlift built in Utah - the Collins Chair, opened at Alta Ski Area for the 1938-39 ski season. Rides were 25 cents and a day pass cost \$1.50 for a complete day of usage. This photo was taken about 1947. Mike Korologos describes Utah's Rich Skiing History beginning on page 70.

Photo: University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library Special Collections

How California Became A World Class Skier's Paradise

by Ingrid P. Wicken
California Ski Library, Director

The discovery of gold in California in 1849 ushered in thousands of fortune seekers to the mountains and foothills of the Sierra Nevada. For the miners who resided there year-round, skis became a necessity for travel and survival, and for Johnsville, LaPorte and other nearby communities, sport. The famous longboard races made front page news in frontier newspapers. Some racers became known for their ski making capabilities, but even more fame came to those whose "dope" (*ski wax*) were on the skis of the winning racers. When gold fever cooled, the longboard races declined.

Skiing continued in California, but primarily only for those who wintered in the mountains and used skis for travel, hunting, and other activities vital for living in mountains in winter. One exception was Truckee. Once the Southern Pacific was completed over Donner Pass, Truckee became California's first winter sports center. Residents of the Bay Area, Sacramento, and Reno now had access to Truckee in the dead of winter and Truckee businesses were more than willing to accommodate this additional source of income. They held the first winter carnival in the west in 1896; and those carnivals continued intermittently until 1950.

After the Sierra Club was founded in 1892, there was widespread interest to explore and mark first ascents in California's mountains. Eventually they wanted to venture into the mountains in winter as well, but most California mountain areas were isolated and inaccessible once winter snows began to fall. By the 1920s, a handful of Sierra Club members began to explore alpine areas on skis and by 1933 the Sierra Crest had already been crossed a number of times in winter. Harold Bradley skied over Echo Summit, down to Lake Tahoe, along the Truckee River to Truckee during winter 1920-21. He traced much of Snowshoe Thompson's historic mail route. Dr. Otto Barkan's group skied about 33 miles from Donner Summit, over the Mt. Lincoln Saddle, to Lake Tahoe in 1927. In 1928-29, Orland Bartholomew spent 14 weeks skiing from Cottonwood Pass to Yosemite Valley. He crossed 13 passes and spent 41 nights above 10,000 feet. On November 30, 1931, Auburn Ski Club member Otto Lirsch and Walter Durfee skied from the Donner Monument to Emigrant Gap, covering about 27 miles in 10½ hours. They followed the historic route taken by the Donner Party. In March 1932, Dennis Jones and Milana Jank skied over Tioga Pass to Yosemite Valley. They covered 130 miles on this trek.

After years of publicity to lure Easterners to the warmth and sunshine of California, Californians were now tasked with overcoming the decades-long hype of the California State Chamber of Commerce. Changing the widespread and longtime perception of California as the land of perpetual sunshine was no easy feat. But by the mid-1920s, residents throughout the state were discovering that, in addition to plentiful sunshine, the high mountains from the San Bernadinos to Mt. Shasta were ideal for winter sports. Much of this realization came about with the arrival of Europeans and Scandinavians who had learned to ski in their homelands and were eager to teach the sport to anyone willing to learn.

By 1928, the chamber had a new attitude toward winter sports. They began to realize the windfall that winter sports could bring to businesses, especially those looking to increase revenue during the winter months. They, and the Sierra Club, formed the state's first winter sport committees in 1929. At the same time, the chamber began an aggressive campaign to formally organize, promote, and support skiing in California.

After the 1932 Summer Olympics were

awarded to Los Angeles, many felt California should also host that year's Winter Games. Big Pines felt they would be a fitting host because of their proximity to Los Angeles and their world class ski jump that had been completed in 1929. In the end, Lake Tahoe and Yosemite were the only California locations that vied for the honor, but decades of publicity touting California's Mediterranean climate proved too difficult to overcome. And, more importantly in the eyes of the International Olympic Committee, California had no experience hosting major ski meets and no formal ski associations or organizations, other than a few ski clubs with the capability to organize ski competitions.

The decision by the International Olympic Committee awarding the games to Lake Placid on April 10, 1929 mobilized California skiers to become organized. At its meeting on February 20, 1930, the California State Chamber of Commerce focused their attention on forming a state ski association so that California skiers would officially be recognized competitors in state and national ski meets. Their mission was now to promote California as "*The Land of the Ski*". These efforts led to the formation of the California Ski Association on October 7, 1930. Shortly thereafter, two major ski tournaments were scheduled on Lake Tahoe's Olympic Hill. In 1929, the Lake Tahoe Ski Club and the Tahoe Tavern brought champion ski jumper Lars Haugen to Tahoe to build the jump. Eventually named Olympic Hill, it was located where Granlibakken is today. Now that California had a ski association, ski authorities were anxious to begin proving that they had the snow and know-how to host major ski events. Their efforts were recognized by Olympic organizers and the National Ski Association of America. California was awarded the California division tryouts for the 1932 Winter Olympics that were held on February 21-22, 1931. Then, in February 1932, Olympic Hill hosted the National Ski Championships.

After the formation of the Sierra Club Snow Sports Committee in 1929, Sierra Club skiers pioneered California ski mountaineering. Members grew proficient in skiing and eventually built a series of ski huts in Northern and Southern California. Clair Tappaan Lodge was built in 1934, followed by the Mount San Antonio ski hut on Mt. Baldy in 1936, and the Keller Peak ski hut near Snow Valley in 1938. These buildings provided essential lodging for these trailblazing ski mountaineers.

Sierra Club skiers and others began to make



LEFT: Once the Southern Pacific Railroad was completed, the residents of Northern California had access to Truckee and the Lake Tahoe area. **RIGHT:** Winter Carnivals were held to bring winter enthusiasts to the Tahoe area. This was a program for the 1932 National Ski Tournament. The National Ski Association ski jumping event was sponsored by the Lake Tahoe Ski Club.

first ski ascents of California mountains. In January 1929, Otto Barkan and his wife Margit spent a week exploring the terrain above Fallen Leaf Lake and spent 15 minutes on top of windy, icy Mount Tallac, likely the first ski ascent. In February 1931, a small group of Sierra Club members and Pomona College students made the first ski ascent of Southern

skiers and fans flocked to the events to watch jumpers launch themselves 100 or more feet into the air. In its heyday, California was home to eight major ski jumps: Olympic Hill, Cisco, Truckee, Mount Shasta, Lassen, Big Bear Lake, Lake Arrowhead, and Big Pines. Big Pines was a regular stop on the professional ski jumping circuit and a number

These were two of California's first ski tows and would soon lead to an historic shift in skiing. By the end of the 1930s, ski tows were installed virtually anywhere there was an open slope and ample snow, leading to the transition from ski jumping to lift served skiing. The advent and proliferation of ski tows ushered in Alpine skiing, while at the same time leading to a decline in the popularity of ski jumping.

But skiing faced a daunting obstacle to further growth - access to ski fields. Roads to the best ski grounds, equipped with nearby hotels and lodges, needed to be kept clear in order for skiing to advance. Snow removal was the key to the progress of winter recreation and commerce. Through the efforts of Wen-



ABOVE: Winter fun became popular in Southern California, as well. In 1931, a small group first ascended the slopes of San Gorgonio - the highest peak in Southern California. **RIGHT:** The Big Pines Ski Jump was a popular stop on the professional ski jumping circuit. Jumping stadiums - like this one above the Los Angeles Coliseum - drew enormous crowds adding to the popularity of skiing to the masses.

California's highest peak, San Gorgonio. These and many other first ski ascents throughout the state can be attributed to Sierra Club ski mountaineers. And, once World War II broke out, many Sierra Club members, because of their mountaineering and skiing expertise, were instrumental in the war effort. They were enlisted to teach 10th Mountain Division recruits the skills they needed for mountain warfare.

In the 1920s, Californian's knew little or nothing about skiing, but a drastic change had taken place by the end of the 1930s. The attention and publicity that resulted from the Lake Placid Olympics, the National Ski Championships at Lake Tahoe, and the many winter carnivals staged throughout the state awakened Californians to the prime winter terrain right in their own backyard. From Mt. Shasta to San Diego skiing surged in popularity.

There were no ski tows in California until 1934, so skiing in the 1930s was centered around ski jumping. It was ski jumping, the featured event of the winter carnivals, that drew throngs of spectators and made front page headlines in local newspapers. Winter carnivals and ski meets were held throughout the winter, drawing national and international jumpers. The carnivals became all the rage and

of record-breaking jumps were made there.

The Mount Shasta Snowmen hosted the California State Ski Championships three times in their heyday. Jumping proved to the masses that California had the climate and potential to be a winter sports mecca. The rosters of 1930s ski clubs were filled with Class A jumpers and some of the clubs hosted special events to attract new fans to the sport. The Lake Arrowhead Ski Club sponsored ski jumping meets at the Los Angeles Coliseum in 1938 and 1939 and the Auburn Ski Club hosted ski jumping meets on the slopes above the University of California, Berkeley in 1934 and 1935. And, they hosted a ski jump on Treasure Island during the 1939 World's Fair in San Francisco. John Elvrum and the Los Angeles Ski Club hosted ski jump meets on slopes at the Hollywood Bowl in 1934 and 1935.

The Yosemite Winter Club was formed in 1928 and under the leadership of Dr. Donald Tresler, became California's first ski area. Its up-ski, a sled tow, was built in 1935. The Auburn Ski Club was founded in 1929 and immediately advanced the growth of skiing and access to ski fields through the efforts of its founder Wendell Robie. They built a sled tow at Cisco in 1934, but it operated intermittently until all of the bugs were worked out in 1935.

ABOVE: Early 20th Century innovation! Boats on snow certainly beats walking up the slopes!!! Auburn Ski Club members ride a sled tow.

photo courtesy of Western Skisport Museum

dell Robie and the Auburn Ski Club, Highway 40 was kept open year-round for the first time in the winter of 1932-33. By 1934, so many ski areas lined Highway 40 from Emigrant Gap to Soda Springs, the area was dubbed "Winter Sports Supreme". Wolfgang Lert once wrote that "Transcontinental Highway 40, with its string of tows, lifts and lodges from Auburn

to the Donner Ski Ranch at the summit of Donner Pass, makes one doubt that anyone could travel through here in winter and not become a skier.”

South Lake Tahoe businessmen Harvey Gross and Norm Celio fought to keep Highway 50 open throughout the winter. Their efforts paid off and Highway 50 became a year-round route during the winter of 1941-42. Once Highway 40 and Highway 50 were kept free of snow year-round, ski areas and skier numbers boomed.

Clear roads were even more critical in Southern California. Without snow removal, skiers could not reach Lake Arrowhead or Big Bear Lake. When roads were finally kept clear into the valley, Big Bear Lake became a winter sports mecca. They hosted the California State Ski Championships in 1933 and Edi Jaun built their first mechanized ski tow in 1938.

Skiing had boomed during the 1930s, prompting *Los Angeles Times* ski writer Ethel Van De-grift to declare California “*Ski Mad*”. But, many were new to the sport and in need of instruction. In the early 1930s, ski technique was rudimentary to non-existent. Ski leaders like Dr. Donald Tressider at Yosemite, Joel Hildebrand with the Sierra Club, Gordon Stangland and Vic West at The Nelborn, to name just a few, brought European ski



Ski instructors from Europe were brought to the US and California to teach new skiers the basics. Walter Mosauer, above, and Otto Steiner taught at Lake Arrowhead and coached the UCLA ski team.

instructors to California to develop ski schools and teach California’s first generation of skiers. Joel Hildebrand brought Bill and Fred Klein to Donner Summit in 1936 and Tressider brought Jules Fritsch, followed by Hannes Schroll, to Yosemite. Walter Mosauer and Otto Steiner arrived in Southern California and began teaching at Movie Slope at Mt Baldy and Lake Arrowhead. Sepp Benedikter left Idaho for Wrightwood and created his ski school that introduced thousands of Southern Californians how to ski. Prior to developing Snow Summit, Tommi Tyndall arrived in Big Bear Lake and formed his Mill Creek Ski School. Hans Georg landed on the Eastern Sierra and set up his ski school at McGee Creek and Mammoth. These Europeans, who had learned from some of the best ski

instructors in their home countries, created some of California’s first ski schools. These experts and others were instrumental in teaching Californians how to navigate on skis.

With improved skill and technique came big down-mountain ski races. The first San Antonio (*Mt. Baldy*) Downhill was staged on March 16, 1935. The first San Geronio Downhill, starting high on the slopes of Southern California’s tallest mountain, was held in April 1940. The Silver Belt, held on the slopes of Sugar Bowl, began in April 1940. And, the Flying Skis Invitational, first held in April 1941, required skiers to climb to the summit of 10,909 foot Carson Peak near June Lake, then descend five miles and 4,000 vertical feet.

Mechanical lifts were now the future of skiing.

California Ski Area - Ski Tow Founding Dates

This list includes lodges that had tows, but may not have been an actual ski area. Some areas had cleared slopes and were attracting skiers prior to the construction of a lift, tow, or ski jump. Dates indicate when the first tows were installed/constructed. Prior to the availability of mechanical tow, skiers would need to walk up the slopes before they could ski down them. *Compiled by Ingrid P. Wicken*

1934-35	Cisco*	1940-41	Eskimo Hill* - State Route 89/44
1935	Badger Pass-Yosemite	1940-41	Cisco-Sitzski Lodge* - Hwy 40/80
1936	Beacon Hill-Soda Springs - Donner Summit	1941	Calaveras Big Trees State Park* - Hwy 4
1937	Snow Valley – Running Springs	1941	Camp Connell* - Hwy 4
1937	Cold Springs* - Tuolumne County	1941	Echo Chalet* - Hwy 50
1938	Lake Mary-Johnny Ellis Tow* - Donner Summit	1941-42	Phillips* - Hwy 50
1938	House of Vanderford’s* - Donner Summit	1942	Strawberry Ski Hut-The Edelweiss* - Hwy 50
1938	Signal Hill Tow-Sierra Club* - Clair Tappan Lodge	1941	Moonridge-Goldmine-Bear Mountain – Big Bear Lake
1938	Laing’s Pioneer Camp* - Highway 40/80	1944	Mt. Baldy – San Gabriel Mountains
1938	Rainbow Tavern* - Highway 40/80	1945	Celio’s Lake Valley Ski Ranch* - Hwy 50
1939	Sugar Bowl - Norden	1945	Table Mountain-Ski Sunrise* - Wrightwood
1939	Mount Waterman – Angeles Crest Highway	1945-46	Green Valley Lake Snow Bowl* - Green Valley Lake
1939-40	Wolverton Ski Bowl* - Sequoia	1945-46	Camp O’Ongo* - San Bernardino Mountains
1939-40	Mt. Abel* - Kern County	1946	Peddler Hill* - Hwy 88
1940	Cooks Station* – Hwy 88	1946-47	Donner Ski Ranch - Norden
1940	Hilltop at Truckee*	1946-47	Sierra Ski Ranch-Sierra at Tahoe – Highway 50
1940	Berry’s Summit* - Humboldt County	1946-47	Blue Ridge-Mountain High West - Wrightwood
1940	Lassen Volcanic National Park*	1946-47	White Hills* - Spooner Summit, Lake Tahoe
1940	Alder Springs* - Glenn County		

Les Salm, Lake Arrowhead Fire Chief, built the first two rope tows in Southern California - one at Fish Camp (*now Snow Valley*) in 1932, the other at Green Valley Lake in 1937. Dennis Jones built a sled tow on Beacon Hill in 1936. John "Jack" Northrop of aeronautical fame, outfitted Fish Camp and McGee Mountain near Mammoth with two uniquely-designed sling lifts. Johnny Ellis installed his Lake Mary tow in 1938; and that same year, the Sierra Club built the Signal Hill ski tow at Clair Tappaan Lodge.

By the end of the 1940-41 season, it was estimated that there were more ski lifts along Highway 40 than any other winter sports area in the United States. And by 1941, the Eastern Sierra had twelve lifts operating, stretching from Lone Pine in the shadow of Mt. Whitney and continuing for 200 miles north to Conway Summit. Hans Georg and Dave McCoy pioneered ski tows and ski instruction in the McGee Creek and Mammoth area, with McCoy building Mammoth Mountain's first chairlift in 1955.

California's first ski boom took place in the 1930s, led by dazzling winter carnivals and fan-favorite ski jumping meets. By the end of 1937, the State Chamber of Commerce reported that many new ski areas were being developed throughout the state. Between 1938 and 1942 more than 40 ski tows and lifts were constructed. A number of California's iconic ski areas were developed at this time. Sugar Bowl led the way with the construction of California's first chairlift in 1939. Lynn Newcomb built California's second chairlift at Mount Waterman in 1942. John Elvrum purchased Snow Valley in 1941, but development of his historic area would have to

wait until after his service in the 10th Mountain Division.

The establishment of ski areas was progressing rapidly, but came to standstill at the advent of World War II. Any chairlifts or other ski area improvements were put off because steel and other resources were needed for the war effort. But once the war was over and life began to return to normal, skiing resumed in earnest and eventually surpassed its pre-war popularity. Skiers returned and so did the growth of the sport. A number of factors played into this growth: automobile travel (no gas rationing, better roads, more car ownership), the Forest Service cooperating with private developers on forest lands, winter roads kept open and free of snow, and the advent of the ski lift. Ski tows and lifts were a relatively new phenomenon in the 1930s, but were no longer a novelty after the war. During the 1946-47 season, there were at least 67 tows and lifts operating in California. Many of the ski area owners who returned from the war picked up where they left off. And others returned to start new areas. The founding of alpine ski areas flourished. More than 15 ski areas went into business between 1945 and 1950.

In Northern California, Donner Ski Ranch and Sierra Ski Ranch were both developed during the 1946-47 season. When Vic West and Gordon Stangland returned from the war, they brought instructor Lutz Aynedter with them. They began clearing slopes in 1947 and The Nebelhorn opened on Hwy 50 at Echo Summit in 1948. (*See page 10*) Wayne Poulsen and Alex Cushing opened Squaw Valley in 1949-50, installing a massive 8,000-foot-long double chair.

In Southern California, Blue Ridge installed California's third chairlift in 1947. John Elvrum resumed his ownership of Snow Valley and installed a single chair in 1949. Sepp Benedikter and John Steinmann built a chairlift and opened Holiday Hill in 1950. Kratka Ridge was developed by the San Geronio Ski Club in 1950 and would endure for more than 50 years until it succumbed to dry winters and lack of snowmaking.

Sugar Bowl Resort holds the honor of having constructed the first chairlift in California which opened in December of 1939. It was several weeks later before there was enough snow to use it.



- 1946-47 Ice Lakes Chalet* - Highway 50
- 1946-47 Peddler Hill* - Highway 88
- 1947 Glacier Lodge* - Big Pine
- 1947 Granlibakken - Tahoe City
- 1947 Mill Creek Ski Bowl* - Big Bear Lake
- 1947-48 The Nebelhorn-Echo Summit* - Highway 50
- 1948 Blue Jay* - San Bernardino Mountains
- 1948 Strawberry Lodge* - Highway 50
- 1948-49 Flagpole Mountain* - Highway 50
- 1948-49 Bijou Park Ski-Way* - South Lake Tahoe
- 1949 Lynn Lift* - Big Bear Lake
- 1949-50 Squaw Valley - Highway 89
- 1949 Forty Niner Ski Tow* - Highway 49
- 1950 Holiday Hill-Mountain High East - Wrightwood
- 1950-51 Dodge Ridge - Highway 108
- 1952 Snow Summit - Big Bear Lake
- 1952-53 Papoose* - Squaw Valley
- 1953 Mammoth Mountain - Mammoth Lakes
- 1954 Kratka Ridge* - Angeles Crest Highway

- 1955 Heavenly Valley - South Lake Tahoe
- 1955 Rebel Ridge* - Big Bear Lake
- 1955 Cisco Tunnel Mountain* - Highway 40/80
- 1956-57 Pla-Vada* - Highway 40/80
- 1957 Powder Bowl-Deer Park* - Highway 89
- 1957-58 China Peak - Highway 168
- 1958 Shasta Ski Bowl* - McCloud
- 1961-62 Alpine Meadows - Highway 89
- 1962-63 Tahoe Ski Bowl - Lake Tahoe West Shore
- 1964-65 Homewood - Lake Tahoe West Shore
- 1965 Boreal - Highway 80
- 1967-68 Mt. Reba-Bear Valley - Highway 4
- 1970-71 Silver Basin** - Highway 88
- 1971-72 Tahoe-Donner - Truckee
- 1972-73 Kirkwood - Highway 88
- 1972-73 Northstar - Highway 267
- 1977-78 Ski Sundown** - Highway 88
- 1983 Iron Mountain** - Highway 88

* Indicates lost ski area ** These three areas were in the same location



Gorden Stangland and Vic West developed The Nebelhorn, later Echo Summit Ski Area, in 1947. The area opened in 1948.



George Cannon, Curly Musso, Rudy Guersick and Chris Kuraisa were instrumental in the development of Heavenly Valley in South Lake Tahoe, the world famous ski resort flanking the California/Nevada border. Kuraisa began operating Bijou Park Ski-Way in 1954, but the hills towering above his small rope tow area led him to develop Heavenly Valley.

By the end of 1949, skiing had fully recovered from the effects of World War II. The United States Forest Service reported that California led all other regions in 1948-49 with 580,000 skier visits to ski areas located in national forests. This growth continued throughout the 1950s and at the end of the decade the Forest Service estimated that skiing experienced 300% growth from 1950 to 1960. Some of California's most popular and enduring areas were developed during this time.

In 1952, Tommi Tyndall began work on Snow Summit with the installation of a double chair. In 1955, Chris Kuraisa and his three partners - George Cannon, Curly Musso and Rudy Gueric - would transform his small area, Bijou Park Ski-Way, into Heavenly Valley.

Major ski area development peaked in the 1960s and 1970s. Ski area owners invested millions of dollars in an effort to keep pace with soaring skier numbers. Ten ski areas opened during this time: Alpine Meadows, Tahoe Ski Bowl, Home-wood, Boreal, Bear Valley, Silver Basin, Tahoe-Donner, Kirkwood, Northstar, and Ski Sundown. Eight of those areas are still in business today.

Over the 80 years of lift served skiing in California, the state cemented its standing as a skier's mecca. Ski area owners and operators were tasked with overcoming countless obstacles: lack of winter road access, war restrictions, Forest Service and environmental regulations, and drought, as well as the recent major health pandemic.

California currently is home to 29 ski areas.

Mother Nature has challenged the resorts over the years, and the lack of capital to expand or to supplement natural snow with snowmaking often led to their demise. Many of California's pioneer ski areas were founded by skiers to provide a place for people as passionate about the sport as they were. Very few family owned ski areas remain in California today, most having long ago been taken over by corporations and conglomerates. The small, rustic vibe of those old ski areas is a thing of the past, but the skiers and snowboarders who frequent today's areas still approach the sport with the same enthusiasm and joy that skiers who rode their first rope tow did more than 80 years ago. ■



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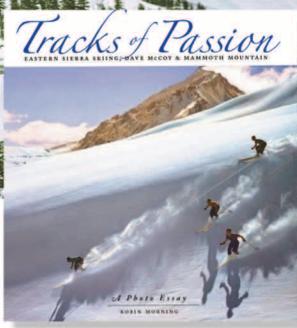
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About the Author:

Ingrid P. Wicken is the leading authority on the history of skiing in Southern California and has written four books: *Pray for Snow: The History of Skiing in Southern California* (2002) and *Skiing in Southern California* (2007), *Lost Ski Areas of Southern California* (2012), and *50 Years of Flight: Ski Jumping in California 1900-1950* (2017).

In 2004, she founded the California Ski Library, one of the finest collections of books, historic photographs, magazines, annuals, brochures, catalogs, programs, newsletters, and other ephemera in the United States. She has won multiple awards for her work preserving and documenting skiing history. She was awarded the Far West Ski Association's Western Ski Heritage Award in 2002, 2005, 2013, and 2018 and the Western Snowsports Builder Award in 2018 for the founding of the Ski Library. The International Ski History Association has also recognized her published work, awarding her the Skade Award in 2003, 2008, 2015, and 2018.

She is a professor emerita of Kinesiology at Moreno Valley College.



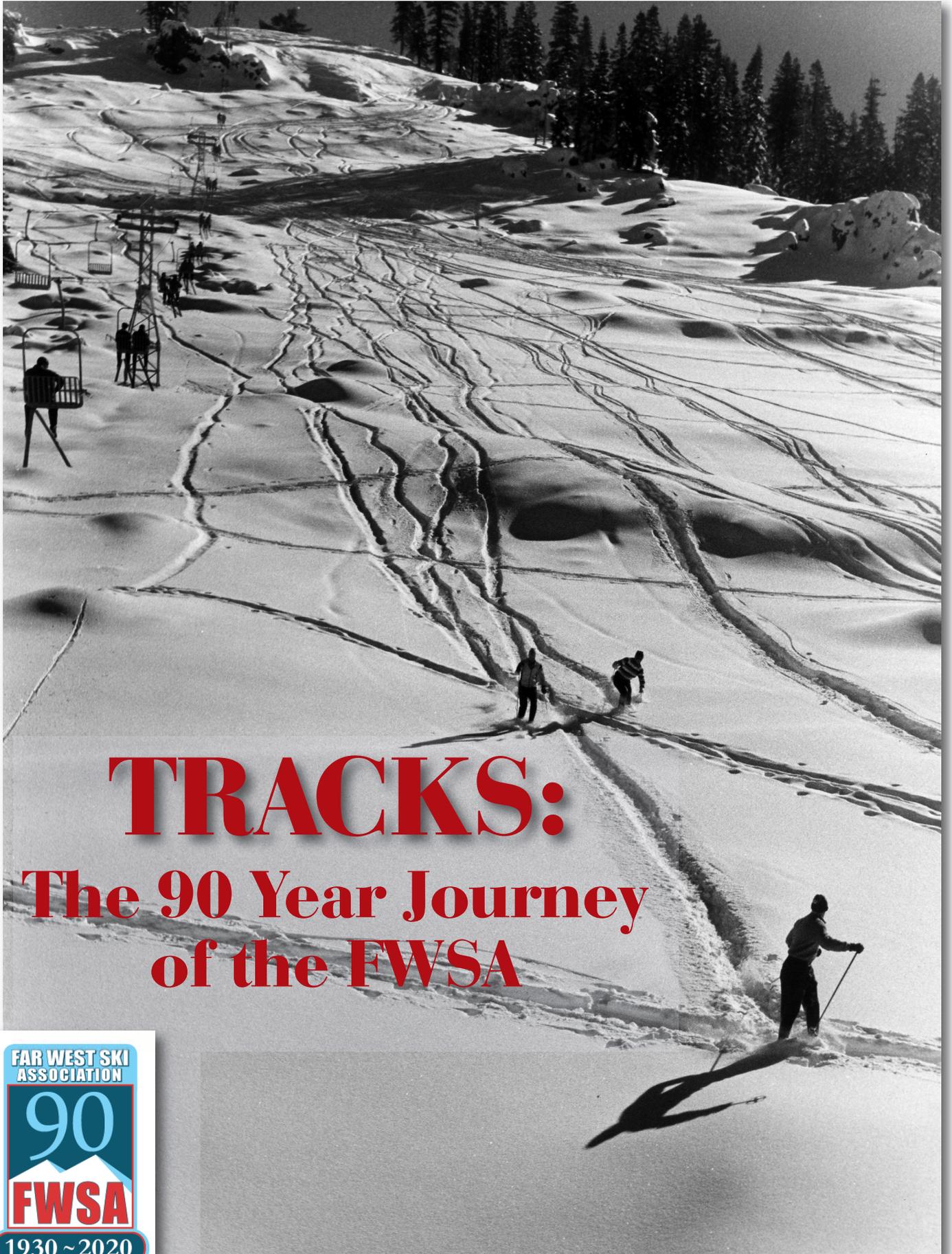
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Congratulations!

Steamboat would like to congratulate the Far West Ski Association and their role in developing skiing in the Western United States for 90 years. Thank you for being great partners with Steamboat and the snow sports industry. Here's to 90 more years!



TRACKS: The 90 Year Journey of the FWSA



Early skiing in Dodge Ridge Ski Area, California circa 1960. photo courtesy of Ingrid P. Wicken, California Ski Library - 1960s

The 90 Year Journey of the Far West Ski Association (FWSA)

by John Watson
History Chair, FWSA; President, FWSF

The origin of Far West Ski Association (FWSA) lies principally in the founding of the California Ski Association (CSA) on October 7, 1930. But well before that time, longboard skiing had been practiced - since 1852. And, there was growing interest in skiing from 1895 onward in the Lake Tahoe Region. The name was changed to Far West Ski Association in 1947 to recognize the role of Nevada skiing in important competitions. The National Ski Association founded on February 21, 1905 in Ishpeming, Michigan, had aligned Nevada with CSA from 1930. The development of councils in FWSA accounts for the current boundaries of its service area. FWSA has grown to 10 councils in 12 states from the beginning four within the original three states. Membership includes over 150 clubs, plus direct members. Behind that simple chronology, there lies 90+ years of amazing achievements by its clubs and members and hard work by many thousands of volunteers devoting millions of hours to organization and growth, and broadcasting the merits of skiing for fitness and outdoor recreation for the entire family. It's a 100 year story full of good times, some strife and hundreds of adventurous friends.

GOLD RUSH PRELUDE

We must start with six decades of longboard snow-shoeing (DH racing) and jumping that occurred in the gold mining camps in the six decades after the rush to find gold in the Feather River streams. This extensive history is documented by William Banks ("Bill") Berry and Chapman Wentworth in the book *The Lost Sierra*. But several notable milestone dates and activities occurred in California that are "firsts" and may have preceded similar activities in Scandinavia. Skiing evolved in these gold camps from its utilitarian purposes for mobility in the snows to skiing as a SPORT in the 1850s. The first ski club - the Alturas Snow-Shoe Club - was established in 1860 located in what is now La Porte, California. Teams in the neighboring camps were organized and races conducted between teams and individuals, sometimes for a gold purse, but always for beer. Alturas conducted the first formally scheduled race meet in 1867; Harold Grinden, then Historian of the USSA, said that racing occurred 12 years before the first scheduled meet. You could actually say that Alturas was also the first racing league, 100 years before ROKKA League was formed in 1964 in Southern California.

But even after a succession of three mining techniques, the cost of extraction exceeded the going rate for gold. Racing slowly declined as mining diminished, but the periodic meets continued into the 1900s and races celebrating longboard (*snow-shoe*) history races occurred. In one such event in 1964, Jerry Burelle on his longboards, defeated Billy Kidd on his modern racing skis. A young Olympian from Los Angeles named Sally Neidlinger also raced. She is known today as Sally Hudson, a 1952 Olympian.

SNOWSHOE (LONG BOARD) RACES

In 1904, "Colonel" James F. Mullen of La Porte wrote to National Ski Association in Ishpeming, the city where NSA was born, to get information on a big 1905 event, and he offered to bring a team of jumpers from the old fields. They would compete with champion athletes, drawing heavily on jumpers from Norway and Americans, many also of Norwegian ethnicity. The letter was published in the *Marquette Mining Journal* but it was never answered. The host committee balked at the cost of bringing these jumpers from California and they felt the field was adequate without them. Bill Berry disclosed this to Mullen and showed him the Grinden article in the *American Ski Annual*. Harold Grinden had found this letter in 1936 and then wrote a letter in 1938 indicating his apology for the inaction of the early NSA Secretary. But, it also brought to light the earliest dates for clubs and racing and the extensive record of a half century of longboard racing. An international longboard championship is still scheduled every March.

WORLD WAR I

World War I diverted attention from the remote longboard racing hills. New skis could be bought from catalogs; ski jumping at readily accessible sites attracted more attention. But, skiing



Johnny Redstreak, the snow-shoe champion of an infamous 1938 Race, pictured in 1973. In 1928 major snow storms hit the Lost Sierra. In the Plumas and Sierra county high country, the food supply became monotonous and the liquor supply ran out. For entertainment, a challenge was issued by modern-day ski racers to race the snowbound oldtime snow-shoers at Jamison Ridge. The race would be on a 1,600 foot race track, topped by a steep starting schuss and steep run. Not a single rider from the outside skiing world, which featured some of the National Ski Association's finest ski race champions, won a heat against the oldtimers on 12-foot snow-shoes primed for speed with lightning dope (wax). Johnny, a 30 year-old mailman from Quincy, split the prize money with his dopemaker, as was the old tradition of the snow-shoe fraternity. (From Lost Sierra, by William B. Berry) Photo by David Hiser in Lost Sierra

Western Ski Resort Founding Dates

Ski Area	State	Year Opened
Howelsen Hill Ski Area	CO	1915
Granlibakken Tahoe	CA	1927
Mt. Hood Skibowl	OR	1927
Lookout Pass Ski Area	ID	1935
Brighton Ski Resort	UT	1936
Showdown Montana	MT	1936
Sleeping Giant Ski Area	WY	1936
Sun Valley Resort	ID	1936
Loveland Ski Area	CO	1937
Mountain High Resort	CA	1937
Snow Valley Mountain Resort	CA	1937
Stevens Pass	WA	1937
The Summit At Snoqualmie	WA	1937
Timberline Lodge & Ski Area	OR	1937
Alta Ski Area	UT	1938
Arizona Snowbowl	AZ	1938
Hoodoo Ski Area	OR	1938
Lost Trail Ski Area, Inc.	MT	1938
Mt. Spokane Ski & Snowboard Park	WA	1938
Monarch Mountain	CO	1939
Snow King Mountain Resort	WY	1939
Sugar Bowl Resort	CA	1939
White Pine Ski Area	WY	1939
Wolf Creek Ski Area	CO	1939
Snowbasin Resort Co.	UT	1940
Winter Park Resort	CO	1940
Willamette Pass Resort	OR	1941
Bogus Basin Mountain Recreation Area	ID	1942
Ski Cooper	CO	1942
Pajarito Mountain Ski Area	NM	1944
Mt. Lemmon Ski Valley	AZ	1945
Sky Tavern	NV	1945
Arapahoe Basin Ski Area	CO	1946
Bear Mountain Resort	CA	1946
Aspen Mountain	CO	1947
Ski Santa Fe	NM	1947
Whitefish Mountain Resort	MT	1947
Soldier Mountain Ski Area	ID	1948
Pebble Creek Ski Area	ID	1949
Squaw Valley / Alpine Meadows	CA	1949
Dodge Ridge Ski Area	CA	1950
Mt. Baldy Ski Lifts, Inc.	CA	1952
Sipapu Ski & Summer Resort	NM	1952
Snow Summit Mountain Resort	CA	1952
White Pass Ski Area	WA	1952
Mammoth Mountain	CA	1953
Bridger Bowl Ski Area	MT	1955
Cooper Spur Mountain Resort	OR	1955
Heavenly Mountain Resort	NV	1955
Taos Ski Valley, Inc.	NM	1955
Solitude Mountain Resort	UT	1957
Aspen Highlands	CO	1958
Buttermilk	CO	1958
China Peak Mountain Resort	CA	1958
Hurricane Ridge Ski Area	WA	1958
Loup Loup Ski Bowl	WA	1958
Mt. Bachelor LLC	OR	1958
Alyeska Resort	AK	1959
Red River Ski & Summer Area	NM	1959
Rotarun Ski Club, Inc.	ID	1959
Snowy Range Ski & Recreation Area	WY	1959
Red Lodge Mountain Resort	MT	1960
Breckenridge Ski Resort	CO	1961
Hogadon Ski Area	WY	1961
Ski Apache Resort	NM	1961
Anthony Lakes	OR	1962
Crested Butte Mountain Resort	CO	1962
Crystal Mountain, Inc.	WA	1962
Eldora Mountain Resort	CO	1962

had captured the attention of an increasing number of outdoor enthusiasts. After World War I and especially after 1920, there were many intrepid skiers seen on slopes adjacent to the road between Auburn and Emigrant Gap, and in the mountains of Southern California. Skiers vacationed at Lake Arrowhead and instruction was available after 1923. By 1928, there were probably 10 -15 ski clubs in operation in California, with a roughly equal number in the state of Washington (*Cle Elum in 1921*). The Yosemite Winter Club and the Cascade Ski Club were both founded in 1928.

ROBUST BIRTH OF SKIING AS RECREATION AND AN INDUSTRY

The 1930 founding of CSA was actually a waypoint on the burgeoning popularity of skiing and the establishing of places to ski that may have had some form of uphill transport. (*See the list on pages 8-9*) It was estimated that the founding four clubs of CSA had 2,000 skier members. The first Winter Carnival was held in Truckee in 1895. Little places and some with ambition were cropping up where there was available snow. There was a robust surge of industry and interest in snowsport in the early thirties, with a pause after 1933 in the depth of the Depression.

The surge resumed later in the decade. The first tasks of CSA were organization, finance and scheduling. A set of Articles of Incorporation were drafted and agreed upon. Officers were elected and the CSA was initially divided into four districts, with an intent to add others, with a director for each. The districts were Southern, Northern, Central and Eastern with counties assigned to each. By 1946, the bylaws rearranged the district array of counties as Northern, Central, San Joaquin, Southern, Bay and Eastern with the possibility that members could rearrange these districts. District councils were also recognized as organizations which could further the purposes and activities of the Association. The 1938 Board meeting included directors representing 33 areas, with presumably each having at least one club. (*See photo on the next page.*)

In two areas, organizations sprang up that were not anticipated by CSA. The Bay Area Ski Federation was founded in 1940 in Oakland with 12 ski clubs. The final founding session with elections was held December 23, 1940 in San Francisco. Skiers from the Federated Ski Clubs of Southern California were helping Lynn Newcomb clear runs at Mt. Waterman (1940-41). The pace of technology rolled on, with better personal gear and apparel and more accessibility to ski areas with uphill capability.

WORLD WAR II

The United States started preparing for the possibility of war with increased shipbuilding of combatant vessels in the mid-thirties. As war seemed more likely, President Roosevelt started calling up the National Guard in 1940. Leaders in CSA practiced snow patrols outfitted in white gear. Resolution #1 of the 1940 CSA Annual Meeting requested the establishment of a ski troop service of the US Army... and that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commanding Officer, Ninth Corps Area, to the Adjutant General of the US Army and to the Adjutant General of the California National Guard.

Patriotic spirits were high; one estimate had 100 ski clubs in CSA. But skiers were off to war or preparing for it, and the CSA couldn't operate without them. CSA President, Frank G. Howard froze all officers in their elected posts, reserved for the holder's return, and forgave or paid dues for clubs and canceled all events for the duration. Skiing took a time out in 1942.

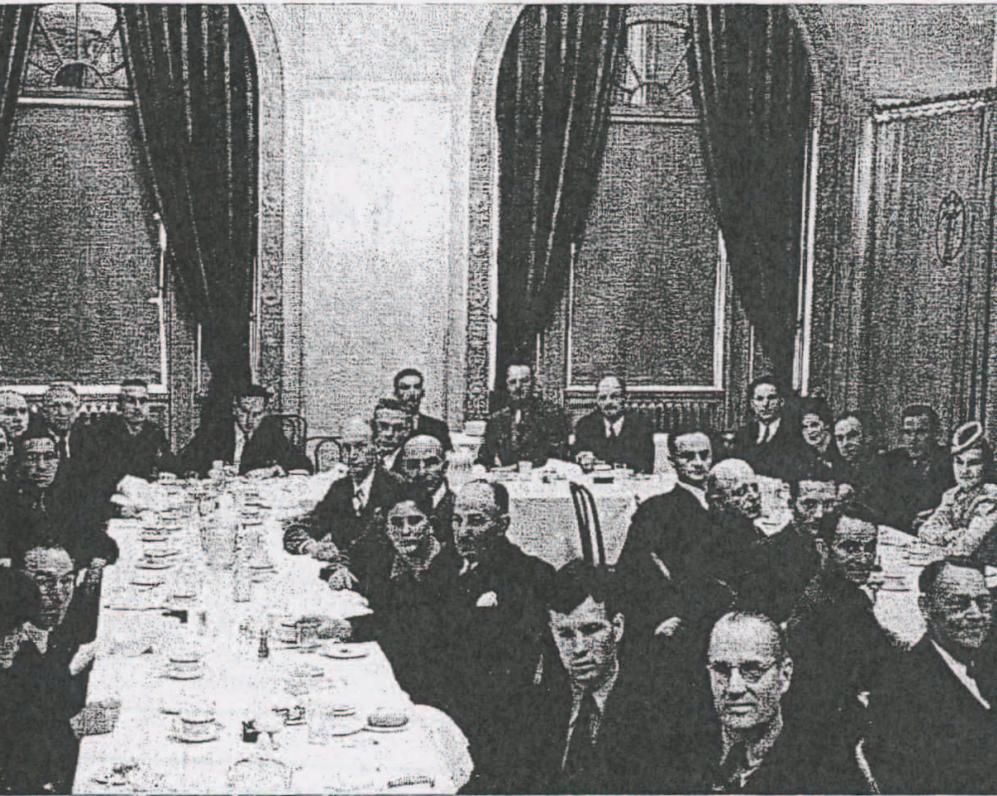
POST WAR: VETERANS START SKI AREAS FOR EXPANDING SKIER NUMBERS

Returning veterans of the Tenth Mountain Division are said to have been at least partly responsible for starting over 100 ski areas (CSA report). There was a lot of Army surplus equipment for sale, including skis. The wave of interest in skiing and surge in construction resumed with even greater vigor than the thirties. CSA refreshed its documents and rules and regulations, set up scheduling procedures, revised the districts, recognized the possibility of ski councils, and established an area development committee. Much of the documentation focused on competitions, which was a focus of Association attention since its beginnings.

Skiing was a sport and recreation which served as a platform for competitions in downhill, jumping and Nordic. Ski tows were estimated to total 67 in nine National Forests in 1946. Within the years 1946 and 1947, dues paying clubs in California totaled 37, then grew to 41. Individual members were welcomed.

Interest in and enthusiasm for skiing continued to bloom. New ski areas were launched and ear-

Directors California Ski Association



1938 Board of Directors: Left to right taken in their positions around the table: OUTSIDE OF TABLE: Unidentified; Unidentified; George Deibert, Eastern Sierra; Carl Tellefson, Viking; Ralph Gilbertson, Viking; Roy Mikkelsen, Auburn; Dave Johnson, Viking; Bob Sturuble, Los Angeles; Bill Hersey, Los Angeles (Treasurer); James F. Connell, Yosemite (President); C. Edmunds, Truckee; Harlow Dormer, Big Pines; Ralph A. Jones, Sonora; Lois Jones, Sonora; Henry Fine, Sonora; Frank Wallace, Stockton; Yvonne Blossom, Stockton; Dick Mitchell, Reno. INSIDE OF TABLE: Lloyd Henley, Fresno; John White, Sierra; W.A. McCandless, Merced; Don Du Pertis, Merced; Roger Hines, Mt. Shasta; Fred Meckel, Sierra; W.H. Carr, Yosemite; O. Kehrlein, Sierra; Ben Tarnutzer, Yosemite; William McK. Stensaas, Modesto (Secretary); Tom Gallery, (Promoter); Jack Hanson, Arrowhead. source unknown

lier sites improved with upski capability. FWSA's Competition Committees were busy scheduling and planning events and qualifying and selecting officials. Competition was a primary focus of the organization from its beginning. It provided sanctioned events for aspiring racers and attracted more attention to skiing. The main objective of competition programs, its officials and coaches, was and is to prepare racers for regional, national and international races.

Far West worked to standardize ski instruction and certification of instructors. Membership grew well past 80 clubs. A professional staff was authorized by the delegates to the 1946 annual meeting. Dues paying clubs in the Far West Ski Association (FWSA) (the name was changed in 1947 from CSA) grew to 80 by 1956.

The Association got deeply involved in its area development mission. It was the only regional association with area development as an integral part of its organization. Ski area development necessarily involved the use of public lands in California and that meant a partnership with the US Forest Service. Owing in large part to the position of FWSA and its members, the Forest Service accepted concepts for skiing on San Geronio; at least three plans were put forward from the 1930s until it went into Wilderness classification in 1964. In 1949, the US Forest Service solicited ideas for the development of Mineral King. Mineral King had been cited by many who had explored it as having great potential for skiing. One of those explorers was the future Executive Director of the Sierra Club. The proposal by Disney for Mineral King was submitted to the US Forest Service in 1965.

Ski Area	State	Year Opened
Homewood Mountain Resort	CA	1962
Vail Mountain	CO	1962
June Mountain	CA	1963
Lee Canyon	NV	1963
Meadowlark Ski Lodge	WY	1963
Park City Mountain Resort	UT	1963
Pomerelle Mountain Resort	ID	1963
Schweitzer Mountain Resort	ID	1963
Ski Cloudcroft	NM	1963
Steamboat Ski & Resort	CO	1963
Boreal Mountain Resort	CA	1964
Mt. Ashland	OR	1964
Mt. Rose - Ski Tahoe	NV	1964
Brian Head Resort	UT	1965
Lake City Ski Hill	CO	1965
Purgatory Resort	CO	1965
Test Ski Area	CO	1965
Angel Fire Resort	NM	1966
Diamond Peak Ski Resort	NV	1966
Great Bear Ski Valley	SD	1966
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort	WY	1966
Mission Ridge Ski & Board Resort	WA	1966
Powderhorn Mountain Resort	CO	1966
Sunlight Mountain Resort	CO	1966
Bear Valley Mountain	CA	1967
Snowmass	CO	1967
Mt. Hood Meadows	OR	1968
Sierra-at-Tahoe LLC	CA	1968
Silver Mountain Ski and Year Round Waterpark Resort	ID	1968
Grand Targhee Resort	WY	1969
Sundance	UT	1969
Keystone Resort	CO	1970
Nordic Valley	UT	1970
Royal Gorge Cross Country Ski Resort	CA	1971
Snowbird Ski & Summer Resort	UT	1971
Copper Mountain Resort	CO	1972
Kirkwood Mountain Resort	CA	1972
Northstar California	CA	1972
Powder Mountain	UT	1972
Sunrise Park Resort	AZ	1972
Tahoe Donner Ski Area	CA	1972
Telluride Ski & Golf Resort	CO	1972
Big Sky Resort	MT	1973
Discovery Ski Area	MT	1973
Eaglecrest Ski Area	AK	1975
Ski Bluewood	WA	1979
Beaver Creek Resort	CO	1980
Deer Valley Resort Company	UT	1981
Ski Granby Ranch	CO	1982
Hilltop Ski Area	AK	1983
Mt. Shasta Ski Park	CA	1985
Yellowstone Mountain Club	MT	1997
Deer Crest Home Owners Association Private Trails	UT	2000
Silverton Mountain	CO	2001
Tamarack Resort	ID	2004
Echo Mountain Resort	CO	2005
Frisco Adventure Park	CO	2011
Cherry Peak Resort	UT	2015

All of the dates NSAA have listed are given to them by the resort or ski area. Every season during membership renewal, they ask the ski area applicant to update their information, which includes their "founding" date. Western Ski Resorts from National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) list of resort founding years - used with NSAA permission.



The onset of WWII brought out patriotic spirits in 1942 and skiers looked for ways to use their skiing skills for military training purposes. Auburn Ski Club members demonstrate military ski patrol tactics equipped as ski troopers. Shown is the Military Ski Patrol, 184th Infantry, G.N.G. Lt. J.G Mackey, Sgt. William Harvey, Sgt. Elmer Vanderbilt, Pvt. Clyde Rugroden, Wendell Robie, Ray Dorer, Sam Burks and Leader, Harry Rosenberry. They trained in white garb as a preparation for camouflage being on snow covered terrain - therefore, blending into the surrounding snow-covered slopes.
Western Ski Annual 1942; Photo by Banbrook Studio

Fully equipped for Mountain Warfare, Bruce Campbell in ski trooper white - 1944, is ready for Tenth Mountain Division deployment to Italy.



Bruce learns to handle the mules assigned to the Tenth Mountain Division at Camp Hale, Colorado, 1943.



Historic Ski Clubs & Councils

Historic Club	Location - Council	Founded
Cascade	Portland, OR Northwest	1928
Fresno	Fresno, CA Central	1934
Longview	Longview, WA Northwest	1935
San Diego	San Diego, CA San Diego	1935
Sequoia	Visalia, CA Sierra	1935
Modesto	Modesto, CA Bay Area	1936
Mt. Hood Ski Patrol	Mt. Hood, OR Northwest	1937
Bogus Basin	Boise, ID Intermountain	1937
Marin	Marin County, CA Bay Area	1938
Long Beach	Long Beach, CA Los Angeles	1938
Bay Area Council	San Francisco, CA Bay Area	1940
Los Angeles Council	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1940
Schnee Vogeli	Portland, OR Northwest	1942
Idaho Falls	Idaho Falls, ID Intmtn	1947
Phoenix	Phoenix, AZ Arizona	1948
Grindelwald	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1949
Vand Bakke	West Covina, CA Orange	1950
Desert	Richland, WA Northwest	1953
Hawaii	Aiea, Hawaii Northwest	1953
Balboa	Newport Beach, CA Orange	1955
Skiyente	Portland, OR Northwest	1955
Wailers	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1957
Nisei	San Francisco, CA Bay Area	1958
Cheyenne	Cheyenne, WY Intmtn	1959
Single *	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1960
Torrey Pines	San Diego, CA San Diego	1961
Snowbounders	Anaheim, CA Orange	1962
San Diego Council	San Diego, CA San Diego	1963
Orange County	Fountain Valley, CA Orange	1964
Bergfreunde	Portland, OR Northwest	1967
4 Seasons West	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1967



FWSA TRAVEL PROGRAM

The Association, under the leadership of Sutter Kunkel (*a Grindelwald Ski Club member*), initiated a Flight Program in 1958 to provide charter flights, initially to Switzerland for the Grindelwald Ski Club. Tapping into a large demand, the Flight Program grew to ten flights per year to three European nations in 1964, later expanded to South America for summer skiing and even domestic ski sites. The flight program was an indicator of demand by experienced skiers not then satisfied by California's ski areas, and it was a major impetus for membership increase. The flight program had its own administrator, Martha Perez, in a Los Angeles office which was also available to Southern Council for its development. The office in San Francisco focused on competition matters and was managed by Mary Lou Bearden (*Oakland Ski Club*). The Flight Program produced two management innovations, the first being the Far World Ski Club for travelers which grew to several hundred members. The Century Club was a membership category given preference in seating; the cost was \$100 and it included a life-time membership in FWSA. The treasury was accounted for by the Travel Administrator for the Association and amounted to roughly \$5,000 by 1980. These funds went with FWSA when it merged with USSA as USSA-Sports, as part of the now national organization's assets. (*See destinations on pages 72 and 72.*)

THE 1960 WINTER OLYMPICS

The greatest impact on the popularity of snowsport in the USA was the televised 1960 Winter Olympics. The long-awaited Olympics had no shortage of Far West members who volunteered to help. Colonel Fraser West found Marines to boot pack the slopes. The Patrol was all-volunteer and included Jimmie Nunn* and his future wife Jerry, who later was inducted into the Ski Hall of Fame for her work in avalanche control methods. Many prominent ski reporters from across the nation launched their reputations reporting on the Olympics. J. Stanley Mullin was the FIS official at the Olympics and it was here that he developed the case for the "cheating" by the Russians. These Olympics were the inflection point in making skiing a recreation for all.

The Olympics' impact on FWSA was to increase the popularity of ski clubs which offered help in learning to ski and advice on selection of equipment, as well as, a social life. There were big demographic changes in California because of the demand for skilled engineers and technicians within the aerospace and defense industries. Technologies initiated in the late 1950s provided a basis for high tech industries and the recruiting necessary to exploit these technologies well into the 1970s. These jobs paid well, and there was free time to engage in sports. Disposable consumer income was up and climbing. Skiing and FWSA were on a roll. In 1972, dues-paying members totaled 33,100 and grew to 48,000 by 1980. Skier days in California totaled several hundred thousand. The ski industry was struggling to supply services to the explosively increasing number of skiers.

THE TURBULENT 1970s and Early 1980s

The 1970s were a time of turbulence for FWSA. Always a matter of budget, the split of general funds between competition and recreation (*everything else*) led to competition's decisions to go its own way. At the 1976 FWSA Convention in Oakland competition spun off to pursue racing under the Far West Division of USSA (*now Far West Skiing*). FWSA continued to expand and augment programs of Public Affairs (*including Area Development*), Domestic Travel with our contractor Marianna Georgantas, intramural racing (*later renamed Recreational Racing*) for league races and council championships, the new USSA Ski Weeks (*1969*), and the new Far West Ski Week (*1973*). The very popular Far West Ski Week (*both Domestic and International*) are still annual events.

Operating without a Competition program but still a division of USSA, some directors now questioned the benefit of shipping off \$30,000 per year to USSA in dues. USSA had no programs comparable to the full sports-travel-social menu of activities in FWSA. In fact, FWSA essentially brought that menu to USSA, with its metro council representation for the USSA committee structure. The merits of belonging to a national organization was being debated when Dick Goetzman proposed in 1980 a merge of FWSA into a new USSA entity called USSA-Sports (*the rest of USSA was USSA-Competition*). So instead of withdrawing, FWSA was now leading a national organization. But, the Amateur Athletic Act of 1978 – which few had even heard of - had to be satisfied. It required that to send athletes to the Olympics, a national governing body had to be made up of athletes from disciplines it trained for the Olympics. Far West was not a governing body for any discipline and was offered a Committee in the 1984 USSA, now reorganizing. It rejected a proposal by the Far West Ski Association to be the national recreation organization recognized by the USSA. Far West withdrew from USSA, disappointed that "the showcase of recreational skiing" would be relegated to a committee swimming among a host of National Governing Bodies.



Bicentennial flag displayed at Frozen Falls in Yellowstone National Park, April 1976. FWSA, under the leadership of Bill Berry, conducted in January 1976 the first Bicentennial event in the nation with Far West skiers skiing the route of Snowshoe Thompson from a small post office east of Placerville ("Hangtown") where first day covers were prepared. Skiers assembled at the Sierra Summit, skied through Hope Valley and on to Genoa, Nevada (Snowshoe's grave). Senator Warner, Chairman of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, was there to participate in the flag's arrival. The same flag was carried to the Far West Spring Fest at Big Sky. Skiers traveled by Snowcat to the Frozen Falls.



Chuck Morse, Owner of World Ski Events, was the recipient of the FWSA Bill Mackey Award for his On Campus Learn-To-Ski Program at the 1983 FWSA Annual Convention in San Diego. The Award was presented by Jane Wyckoff, FWSA President and John Watson, FWSA Past President. The program featured "Mogul Mike, America's Safe Ski Buddy", created by Bob Settineri and Ron Roesch. Bob Autry of the Mammoth Mountain Video Department, developed the "Ski Sense and Safety Series" films. The program was promoted in high schools, colleges and throughout the FWSA to the clubs and councils. It was the precursor to the Association's "First With Safety Awareness" program.



FWSA Convention 1972 held in Fresno, CA. Board of Director and committee chair persons following the elections.

STANDING L TO R: Ed McArthur, Dick Goetzman, Bill Johnson, Don Simpson, unknown, unknown, Mel Stazoff, Gar Bering Paul Meyerho, Dave Brobeck, Carl Grover, unknown, unknown, Bruce Bell, and Ed Gehle.

SITTING L TO R: Dick Croft, unknown, unknown, John Watson reelected President, unknown, Judy Fjeld, John Hon, Bob Youngblood, Dave Garretson, Executive Director. John Watson's personal collection

The USSA refused to endorse the formation of a new recreational ski association composed of the former USSA-Sports. Following the unsettling 1983 USSA Convention in Boston, the US Recreational Ski Association (USRSA) was formed. It would be dependent on commercial sponsorships, travel, dues and an intramural racing program to survive.

Back in California, sufficient traditional Far West members decided that a revived FWSA independent of national affiliation was their preferred way to continue as an association. In late 1984, a new set of bylaws were proposed by the Bylaws Committee, and approved at the 53rd Annual Far West Convention held at the Oakland Airport Hilton, May 17-19, 1985.

Led by Janie Hansen, she produced a new set of Articles of Incorporation in 1985 that mirrored the earlier 1935 Articles. This independent structure is the Far West Ski Association of today. The new Far West would have no dues, would be based on clubs and councils and would be reliant on program sponsorships and interacting with the ski industry, primarily in travel scheduling and promotion. It was a brave new world for FWSA.

A REVAMPED FWSA

Building on Hansen's initiative, FWSA would now be competing with USRSA while reconstructing the traditional FWSA. Ski clubs could choose to join as dues paying members as a 100% membership club of USSA or USRSA. But, loyalties ran deep for FWSA. Commencing the reconstruction after five years would require hard work and a funding source to replace dues. Jane Wyckoff brought her experience to bear and immediately launched a Silent Auction, and then a Travel Carousel Program to bring ski and travel industry representatives to the annual meeting. Delegates sent from their member clubs were present to elect new Association officers. The Silent Auction and Travel Expo (*formerly Travel Carousel*) are still being conducted at the Annual Conventions. The Convention and Annual Meeting expanded to four days with added informative, social and sports events. Awards for service to the Association and to skiing were presented in an Honors Banquet.

FWSA developed a menu of industry partnership programs, in promotion of their mutual aims and goals. In addition to participation in the Silent Auction/Travel Expo at the Annual Convention, the industry was provided sponsorship opportunities, participation in the membership discount program, and advertising in the *Far West Skier's Guide* annual magazine and other council publications.

Area Development matters were part of the Public Affairs family of activities. The Public Lands Advisory Board was revived. Teams reviewed the lands issue with onsite inspection by skier teams. Committee persons maintained a watch on statistics, ski area developments and government affairs. The Safety Program was energized by Richard Lubin's distribution of thermometers to areas for their principal lift loading areas. The Flight Program rapidly expanded from one domestic destination and one international ski trip to the current menu of two domestic, and two international trips plus adventure trips, a cruise and an annual dive trip, as well. The cruise and adventure events are not only educational, but also very enjoyable.



The FWSA Scholarship Program

Lila Lapanja was born in Truckee California in 1994 and has lived her entire life in Incline Village, Nevada, just minutes away from the northeast shores of Lake Tahoe. She is 5-time recipient of the Far West Ski Association's Athletic Scholarship Program, crafting her racing skills at Diamond Peak Ski Resort. She skied for one year on the Sugar Bowl Race Team before joining the ranks of the U.S. Ski Team in 2011. She now skis on the World Cup Circuit for Team Clif Bar.

photo provided by David Krupp



Far West Ski Association Presidents

Compiled by Catherine Ohl

2018 -	Gloria Raminha
2015-2018	Steve Coxen
2013-2015	Linda Scott
2006-2013	Randy Lew
2003-2006	Mike Sanford
2000-2003	Steve Coxen
1996-2000	Harry Davis
1993-1996	Norm Cullen
1991-1993	Paul Arrigo
1988-1991	Mike Favia
1987-1988	Howard Wickersham
1985-1987	Janie "Frankie" Hansen
1981-1985	Jane Wyckoff
1976-1981	Ed Gehle
1973-1976	Dick Croft
1971-1973	John Watson
1969-1971	Richard Goetzman
1968-1969	Carl F. Grover
1966-1968	Stanley V. Walton, Jr.
1963-1966	Leonard Speicher
1962-1963	Sutter E. Kunkel
1959-1962	Byron Nishkian
1957-1959	Edward J. Johnson
1955-1957	Wesley B. Hadden
1954-1955	Robert J. Schenck
1952-1954	Paul H. Smith
1951-1952	Frank Ferguson
1950-1951	Arthur H. Van De Kamp
1949-1950	B. M. "Milt" Zimmerman
1948-1949	Cortlandt T. Hill
1947-1948	J. C. "Criss" Schwarzenbach
1945-1947	Albert E. Sigal
1941-1945	Frank H. Howard
1937-1941	James F. Connell
1934-1937	Arnold Weber
1932-1934	Cecil Edmunds
1930-1932	Wendell Robie



2007 BoD - FRONT ROW: (KNEELING L-R): Dennis Heffley, Eileen Sanford, Steve Coxen, Arleigh Meiners, Norm Azevedo, Mary Azevedo, Sigrid Noack, Richard Lubin. ROW 2 (KNEELING L-R): Fran Long, Gloria Raminha, Connie Marshall (Alta Ski Resort), Don Anderson, Judith Miller, Jane Wyckoff, Linda Coxen, Sheri Parshall, Maria Day (Snowbird). ROW 3 (STANDING L-R): Alta Staff Member, Randy Lew, Kaitlin Ye (Salt Lake City CVB), George Stewart, Debbie Stewart, Robb Margrave, Diane Stearley, Bob Stearley, Claudia Watson, Scott Bowker, John Watson, Mike Sanford, Ken Calkins, Linda Westlund, Scott Appleman (Snowbird), Judy Chapel, Bob Ellis, Nancy Ellis, Leigh Gieringer, Joe Coles (Davis County CVB), Donn Bryant, Barbara Bryant, Alta Staff Member, and Pavil Bosin.

THE 2000s - The Scholarship Program

In 2004, FWSA resumed its involvement with sanctioned competition with the initiative launched by Tucker Hoffman of providing some support for a junior racer. It started with two racers. With this modest beginning, the Association and its sister Far West Ski Foundation has awarded 199 athletic scholarships to 117 different athletes for a total of \$165,000. Four scholarship recipients have World Cup starts: Lila Lapanja (Diamond Peak/US Ski Team), AJ Hurt (Squaw Valley/US Ski Team), Foreste Peterson (Squaw Valley/US Ski Team), and Garrett Driller (Squaw Valley). Several other scholarship recipients have made the US Ski Team, but had no World Cup starts.

THE 2000s - The Far West Ski Foundation

Four FWSA members completed the management transfer in 2009 of the Far West Ski Foundation to serve as the fund raising sister organization focused primarily on the Scholarships program of the Association. The original four - Alan Christian, John Reinhardt, Richard Shawkey, and John Watson - have been joined by others and the roster is open for new individuals who support the four missions of the Foundation: scholarships for junior racers, support to schools providing on snow rehabilitation, preservation and education and from time to time support to international competition. The latter mission is the original purpose of the Foundation when it was established in 1964.



WHAT'S NEXT?

The Association faces a challenging future in 2020 because of the rapid evolution and consolidation of the ski industry. The consolidation movement impacted participation by individual resorts in the FWSA's industry partnership programs. The current Pandemic forced an early closure of the ski season, and brought changes to resort summer programs. But, if history has taught us anything, the Far West Ski Association and the snowsports industry will continue to adjust to challenges and emerge even stronger in an ever changing sport. ■

Turn to pages 72 - 73 for the FWSA Travel Program History

The Far West Ski Association would like to give thanks to all who have contributed to make our Organization so successful throughout the past 90 Years!!!!



The Bay Area Ski Federation Board of Directors held an executive meeting in 1959. The presiding officer is Carson White.

The Role of Council Development in FWSA

by John Watson

History Chair, FWSA: President, FWSF

In its most general case, a snowsports council is an organization composed of clubs and individuals who have continuing interests and objectives in common. The interests may include race scheduling, fund raising, social events, off-season sports, travel, government affairs and communication, both internal and with other entities. It is normally centered on population centers because the travel distances required for monthly meeting attendance is lessened. Historically, councils operated independently of national or regional organizations.

Today, FWSA has ten councils and they collectively make up the region that it calls its service area, extending from Alaska to the southern border and from the Colorado border to Hawaii. Far

West's councils collectively represent the only regional organization, now expanded, remaining of the former US Ski Association. New councils may be added at the discretion of the FWSA Board of Directors if the candidate council can be effectively served.

The dynamic councils activity in FWSA in 1971 had ripple effects throughout USSA, resulting in committees established to facilitate councils coordination nationwide. Ultimately, the effects included an annual USSA National Ski Week, a standardized recreational ski racing handbook and citizen racing, awards and medals system, a Miss USSA, promotion of a USSA Magazine and increased communication between councils across the

USA. It was a glimpse of a new world for the traditional USSA – skiing now a nationwide mass recreation.

In 1969, John Watson, just elected as Southern Council President, out of curiosity, had started a collection of information on all the councils or council-like organizations in the USA. He collected bylaws, brochures and other descriptive material from the Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, New York Metro Councils and Pennsylvania Ski Federation, and other entities and communicated with their officers. These council connections were the initial basis for the success of USSA National Ski Week for the next decade. That week was first thought up by Packard Anderson, USSA Executive Director, and Ferris Boothe, Portland, as a less expensive ski trip to Vail and which occurred in December, 1969 with 69 attendees, many from Southern California. Bruce Bell (*Wailers Ski Club, Los Angeles*) went knocking on condo doors to stimulate participation in the new Alpine Councils Challenge Cup, for which Anderson had obtained a sponsor (*United Airlines*) for an impressive silver trophy. The first ACC had not many council racers, but it set the stage for much larger numbers in the annual ski weeks to come. The potential for Ski Week was developed over the next year by John Watson, Ed McArthur, Bruce Bell and John Lindstrom with great help from the Sun Valley staff led by Crissy Harrison. It was expanded with the addition of cross country, Miss USSA, auctioning off teams of five racers in a Calcutta for cash and donated equipment, a consumer show by suppliers, Skier of the Week, on hill lunches and a

SAN DIEGO COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS

Celebrates FWSA 90th Anniversary!



- *Action Ski Club*Don Diego Ski Club*North Island Snowdrifters*
- *San Diego Ski Club*Torrey Pines Ski Club*Get Off Your Rockers*
- *Pacific Rim Alliance*

big final racing awards banquet. These preparations for USSA Ski Week in Sun Valley paid off with 800 participants in 1971. The chairmanship of the week was rotated through councils and its location changed annually through western resorts able to handle the numbers and events. The structure and format produced in 1971 was a template for USSA Ski Week for more than a decade. It created a nationwide council network.

Because of the success of Southern Council (*now Los Angeles Council*) in the 1960s and the prospect of expanding membership, the FWSA changed the job description of its First VP to include a special initiative to develop councils in areas underserved by communication with FWSA. At that time, FWSA had four councils: Bay Area - Lou Polaski presiding; Central - actually the old Central District of CSA, Ed McArthur of the Fresno Ski Club leading; San Diego - led by the incomparable Joe Harris; and Southern - John Watson presiding.

The Original Four!

Bay Area Council

The Federation opted to join FWSA in 1966 as the Bay Area Council, changed its name to Bay Area Council of Ski Clubs, and most recently in 2005, to the Bay Area Snow Sports Council. The major goal of BAC since its founding, was to serve as an umbrella organization for its member clubs in providing services and activities that were best accomplished by the clubs acting as a group. Due to the council's proximity to the Lake Tahoe ski resorts, the council became most noteworthy for its involvement in: developing discount lift tickets and benefits programs for the member clubs; support of legislative action related to skiing; support for funding junior racers; and support for disabled skiing programs. BAC is a FWSA Historic Ski Council.

Southern Council (Los Angeles)

The Southern Council emerged as a part of the California Ski Association (*Far West Ski Association*) not later than 1940 as the Federated Ski Clubs of Southern California. It was first known as a District of the California Ski Association and in 1946 it was organized as the Southern California Council (*later just Southern Council*). Prior to the 1970's, the Southern Council extended from June Mountain to San Diego. With a large number of member clubs (*63 clubs by 1972*), the council had volunteer support to offer a wide array of council activities and programs. Some clubs required FWSA membership and made that a part of their dues, especially those that hosted junior racing programs. Many clubs made FWSA membership optional. Articles of Incorporation were filed as Southern Council, FWSA, Inc. on August 11, 1971. Even though the council was normally referred to as Los Angeles Council from 1974, the name was not officially changed until 1999.

The council's first Sno-Ball is believed to have been held in 1949. Back then, it was a fashion show of the latest in ski apparel. During the 1960's the Sno-Ball was changed to a Costume Party since the event usually coincided with Halloween. There was a theme to the party, and clubs performed skits and wore costumes; and won lots of prizes. In 1969, there were more than 1,000 attendees at the Sno-Ball at the Hollywood Palladium.

The LAC currently conducts an Annual Snow Gala as a kick-off to the ski season and to select its Council Man and Woman of the Year. Members actively participate in Far West Ski Weeks and travel opportunities. LA Council is a FWSA Historic Ski Council.

Central Council

Central Council originated as one of the four original districts of the California Ski Association (*name later changed to Far West Ski Association*). In 2000, the council's name was changed to the Central Council of California. Its area currently extends from the Sierra Mountains to the sea, and from Salinas to Santa Barbara. Being such a large area, Central Council was challenged in securing a meeting location for all representatives to easily attend. So, activity planning was mainly left to the clubs. Also, Central Council did not want to compete with its clubs with numerous council activities. The council historically has been a strong supporter of

FWSA, communicating information about the Association and participating in FWSA programs, especially the travel programs.

San Diego Council

When the Far West Ski Association Board of Directors scheduled its summer meeting at the Town and Country Hotel in San Diego in 1963, Lee Klein, Executive Director of FWSA, requested Joe Harris of Convair Ski Club, to arrange an informal, social get-together with the presidents of the San Diego ski clubs. These clubs included Convair, Don Diego, San Diego, Torrey Pines, Astronautics, Solar, Aztecs, and Trolls of Oceanside. On September 9, 1963, Len Speicher, FWSA president, notified Joe that the San Diego Council was officially declared a part of FWSA. Joe was welcomed as the head of the new council and was given a position on the FWSA board. San Diego Council was incorporated as a non-profit organization through the pro bono efforts of Tom Becca (*lawyer and Torrey Pines member*) with established articles and by-laws.

This was an historical event for the San Diego ski community. But the stepping stones and building blocks leading up to this momentous occurrence were based on Joe's initiative and energy that bonded the various activities of the clubs, such as: (1) Encouraged (*i.e., strongly persuaded*) each club he helped in its formation (*and there were many*) to be 100% FWSA members; (2) Formalized the ski



CONGRATULATIONS
to Far West Ski Association
on its 90th year!
Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs
appreciates all the hard work and dedication
from the many, many volunteers
over these 90 years that have given
their time and dedication to make FWSA
the vital ski industry leader that it has been
in the past and still is today.

AEA Ski Club
Asian Skiing and Board Club of LA
Auslich Ski Club
Beach Cities Ski Club
Buckhorn Ski Club
Century City Ski and Sports Club
Conejo Ski & Sports Club
Edelweiss Ski and Sports Club
Executive Board Snowboard Association
Four Seasons West Ski and
Snowboard Club
Grindelwald Ski Club
Inland Empire Ski & Sports Club

Kronenstadt Ski Club
Long Beach Ski Club
Los Padres Ski Club
On The Hill Gang
Pacific Rim Alliance Snow Sports
Saga Ski Club
Santa Barbara Ski & Sports Club
Snowbusters Ski Club
Space Park Ski and Snowboard Club
Unrecables Ski Club
Wailers Ski Snowboard & Social Club
Westwood Ski Club
Winter Fox Ski & Snowboard Association

Again, LAC offers Far West Ski Association
our well earned and greatly deserved
CONGRATULATIONS!
Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

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Orange Council of Ski Clubs

www.orangecouncil.org

President: **Sheila Van Guilder**

714-656-6032

svanguil@yahoo.com

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Auslich Ski & Sports Club

Belmont Shore/Long Beach

President: **Joe Vanderhoof**

sailorjv13@aol.com

Balboa Ski and Sports Club

www.balboaskiandsportsclub.com

President: **Connie Peacock**

949-645-6086

sailingpeacock@yahoo.com

Flatlands Ski Club

President: **Dan Crawford**

816-805-0384

macrci@aol.com

Fountain Valley Ski Club

www.fountainvalleyskiclub.org

President: **Jim Wisenbaker**

714-841-7814

president@fountainvalleyskiclub.org

Huntington Beach Ski Club

www.hbskiclub.com

President: **Eric Lang**

hbskiclub@yahoo.com

Orange County Ski Club

www.ocskiclub.org

President: **Anne Bareneson**

pres@ocskiclub.com

Snowbounders Ski Club

www.snowbounders.org

President: **Roger Philips**

949-258-3491

enrapt@gmail.com

Snowfliners Ski Club

President: **Jim Hughes**

562-593-9905

James.hughes@boeing.com

United States Adaptive Recreational Center

www.usarc.org

Program Coordinator: **Sara Rosell**

909-584-0269

sara@usarc.org

club's individual swap meets into a single giant swap called the Ski Trade Night; (3) Established a Sno-Ball (*now Annual Gala*), with all the ski clubs participating, where the club princesses were judged and a queen was crowned; and (4) Promoted racing by having the two strongest clubs at that time, Convair and San Diego, each host an open race so other clubs could participate. Joe was able to accomplish most of these activities with the assistance of San Diego Club members Bob Dean and Jim Wehsener. Racing participation grew due to the formation of the Intramural racing program which is now the Alpine League. San Diego racers compete in Far West races. (*Information from Helen Harris*)

San Diego Ski Club Council is a FWSA Historic Ski Council.

The Council Development Initiative

The council development initiative started in 1970 aimed principally at Sacramento, Reno-Tahoe and Arizona. We found a willing chairman for Sacramento – Don Adey in Lodi, Dr. Fred Wilts of Reno and Marlene Steinmeyer of Incline (1972-73) for two of these chairmanships. Although the arrangements didn't last more than three years, the template was set and future probabilities were good.

Ironically, the greatest success in council development lay in spinning off two councils from the 63 clubs in Southern Council in 1972. Thus was born Orange and Inland Councils. FWSA still has no council in Sacramento.

Orange Council

The Orange Council of Ski Clubs' official founding was on May 5, 1971. Since that time, the council has been addressing the issues of skiers in and around the Orange County and Southern California. The council originated from the Southern Council in order to better serve the high concentration of skiers and snowboarders in their area, and a motto was established - "*Toward Better Skiing*".

Orange Council started an Annual "President's Dinner" in the early 1980's for club presidents to share ideas, and hear presentations from invited guests from Far West Ski Association, resorts or travel industry. Due to its proximity to the Newport Back Bay and ocean, the council and member clubs of snowsport enthusiasts have always been able to take advantage of a myriad of water sports and beach volleyball. Orange Council will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 2021.

Inland Council

The Inland Council was founded as a result of the spinoff from Southern Council in 1971. The objective of the founders was to enhance skiing opportunities for all skiers and member clubs in the Inland Empire and the Las Vegas area. When Robert Jimenez, Council President from 1977-1990, came into office there were three clubs – Vand



John Watson, Southern Council President, conducts a "swearing in" of Snuffy Smith, a Dartmouth man, as new FWSA Executive Director in Los Angeles, 1970. Watson worked to establish an integration of the council with FWSA. In 1969, he invented and launched the publication of Councilman, treating matters of common concern to members and other councils. He personally researched the presence of councils nationwide and how they operated and what their objectives were. That research led to the inauguration of USSA Ski Weeks.

Photo by Elmar Baxter.

Bakke, Tyroleans and Sitzmarkers (*later two providing an intense rivalry*). Rolf Christopherson from Vand Bakke Ski Club requested Robert pick up four sets of timing equipment for ski racing at Mount Baldy. With Snow Forest Ski Area as a sponsor, they began building race courses, a race team, and learn to ski program for the clubs and Inland Council. By 1992, there were 19 clubs. Support was received in the 1990s from Bear Mountain Ski Resort and Mountain High Ski Resort. They were fortunate in having these resorts in their own back yard. Working with resorts, several sponsors, and dedicated ski club members, they were able to produce excellent prizes and incentives for races. One of their clubs, the Blitzsnell Ski Club, was located at Bear Mountain, and Inland was part of the Blitzsnell Race Series and Training Program, a comprehensive alpine racing program. They also conducted races at Mammoth Mountain.

Arizona & NWSCC Councils

Twenty years later, two councils were added due to the sustained diplomatic efforts of Norm Cullen to bring in Arizona (*the "Zonies"*) as a council in 1993, a FWSA objective from 1970. That same year, visionaries, Linda Braudy (*BAC*) and Steve Coxen brought Portland Area Ski Club Council (*PASCC*) into Far West as the Northwest Ski Club Council (*NWSCC*). These were the first, but not last FWSA mergers with an entity outside the original bounds of CSA.

Arizona Council

The Arizona Ski Council (ASC), was formed in 1991 in order to promote skiing and friendship among clubs, safety on the slopes and general education of the skiing community while experiencing camaraderie of fellow skiers and adventurers. The council's founder and first president was Steve "ZIO" Ziomek. The council members are fortunate to have two ski areas in close proximity to their homes: Arizona Snowbowl (*Flagstaff*), and Sunrise Resort (*White Mountains*).

Arizona Council has run an annual ski season Arizona Days trip to Telluride since its founding, originally held in December and now in early January. For many years, the council has supported the Arizona Special Olympics. In 1994, Ray Palmer was the council secretary, and also the Special



Jimmie Nunn, on his 91st birthday, visits the Arizona Snowbowl one last time with his son Steve. Jimmie started racing in 1935 at age 12. He was part of the all-volunteer Ski Patrol for the 1960 Winter Olympics, where he met his future wife, Jerry. Jimmie was at one time the Director of the Far West National Ski Patrol. He was also named a FWSA Snowsports Builder in 2016.

Olympics Alpine Director. He was able to garner overwhelming volunteer support by clubs members to make it possible for ASC to be a sponsor of the Alpine Venue and provide lodging for the volunteers and transportation for the athletes up and down the mountain at Snowbowl. Arizona Ski Council and its member clubs continue to provide charitable and volunteer support for several causes.

Northwest Ski Club Council

The NWSCC was the result of the efforts of



From the Sierra to the Sea, from Santa Barbara to Salinas, Central Council has a fun-filled club in your area just waiting for you to join.

For a list of clubs, check out our MeetUp site: Central Council Ski Clubs, home base - Paso Robles, CA

Congratulations

Far West Ski Association

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1930-2020

The Sierra League & Council congratulates the Far West Ski Association on its 90th Anniversary.



Arizona Ski Council Congratulates FWSA on 90 Years of Snow Sports for Western Skiers!



<https://arizona-ski-council.org>



Congratulations Far West Ski Association from the Northwest Ski Club Council

www.nwskiers.org

Bob Carter, President of the Pacific Northwest Ski Association (PNSA) and Pat Fuller (*Cascade Ski Club*) who invited representatives of all the known ski clubs in existence in Portland to the annual meeting of the PNSA. This resulted in the organization in 1979 of the Portland Area Ski Club Council (*PASCC*). The group decided to become the “*voice of the skiers*” to provide a united front to public issues. In 1982, the council established its status with the Internal Revenue Service as a nonprofit association incorporated under the laws of the state of Oregon. Due to the continuing expansion of PASCC with clubs from the state of Washington, the name was changed to Northwest Ski Club Council in 1998 to better represent the true nature of its membership and influence. NWSCC has grown to 25 ski and snowboard clubs, and has a unique charitable associate program with 13 associate members. The objectives of NWSCC remain those of PASCC:

- Providing a means of communication among all of the ski community
- Facilitating the resolution of political issues of concern to skiers
- Maintaining a resource of information concerning club operations, political issues, ski education, etc.
- Providing economic benefits to its member clubs

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FROM
GRINDELWALD
SKI CLUB**

*Founded in 1949,
we share the pin Insignia
of the Swiss Grindelwald
Ski Club founded in 1902.*



With a vision of international skiing, the club in the 1950s started chartering flights to Europe for its members and future Olympians. These were precursors to FWSA’s early charter flights. Celebrate skiers all over the world as one family.



The Central Council Board, pictured above at their October meeting in San Luis Obispo, vote to contribute \$500 for FWSA Public Affairs work. Members shown are (Back) Angelo Granaroli (Santa Barbara), Bob Darling (Camber), Pamela Dugan (Fresno), Jack Templeton (San Luis Obispo), Tammi Naslund (Camber), and Howard Arquette (Sequoia). Front Row: Lauren Nagle (FWSA Central Council, San Luis Obispo), Gloria Raminha (Central Council President), Cheryl McAlpine (San Luis Obispo), Carola Gaylord (Fresno) and Liz Darling (Camber). Photo provided by John Watson

- Providing information to the public on its member clubs and related ski organizations
- Promoting ski fellowship

Sierra Council

The Sierra Council has a long history dating back to the early 1970s. But, it has its beginning as another organization: Sierra Ski Racing League and it was initiated by an import from Southern Council – Dan Halcomb from the Wailers Ski Club in Los Angeles. He started his long sequence of actions in 1981-82, founding the Reno Ski and Recreation Club (*later changed to the Fagowees*) and the Sierra Racing League. Then, Halcomb went west to Sacramento to found a Fagowees there. Today, the League exists concurrently with the FWSA Sierra Council, accepted as a council in 2002.

Barbara Bryant led the way to becoming a council, an original FWSA objective since 1970.

Intermountain Ski Council

The idea of a ski council in the Utah area was hatched in the fall of 2006 when Randy Lew (*FWSA President*) and Mike Sanford (*FWSA Past President*), met with representatives of Idaho Falls Ski Club, Pocatello Ski Association, and Hill AFB Ski Club at the National Ski Council Federation (*NSCF*) meeting in Layton, Utah. They were told that while FWSA would help them, it was up to them to do the work.

Joe Coles with the Layton Convention & Visitors Bureau, set up the first organizational meeting chaired by Randy Lew in March 2007 at the Hilton Garden Suites in Layton, Utah. Present were representatives from Idaho Falls Ski Club, Pocatello Ski Association, Hill AFB Ski Club, Weber State Ski Club, and Park City Mountain Sports Club. Randy presented examples of council by-laws, and legal forms for Utah and Idaho, then led the clubs through discussions of their similar interests which they could use to develop the new council.

The second organizational meeting was held in

June, 2007. Mark Larsen (*Idaho Falls Ski Club*) ran the meeting and led the efforts to develop all the legal documents (*to which the group unanimously agreed*). Mark was elected President of the new organization and then led the efforts to get all the legal documents filed and new by-laws adopted by the organizing committee.

The Intermountain Ski Council (ISC) was incorporated in the State of Idaho. On December 1, 2007 Intermountain Ski Council was accepted by the FWSA Board of Directors, at the Cliff Lodge in Snowbird, Utah, as the then 11th council of FWSA (*New Mexico then inactive*) with five (5) organizing clubs in Idaho and Utah.

National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region

The National Brotherhood of Skiers – Western Region, was accepted as the 10th ski council of FWSA in 2018, has had clubs in California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and Arizona. The National Brotherhood of Skiers, a non-profit organization, is also one of the largest ski organizations in the country.

The NBS was formed in 1974 by 13 ski clubs across the country and now boasts a membership of over 50 clubs representing nearly 50 cities with a membership of over 3,000 skiers, snowboarders, and non-skiers. One of the organization's primary goals has been to get more African Americans outdoors and participating in winter sports, and to support youth with goals of becoming a member of the US Ski and Olympic Ski Teams. The Western Region's mission is to ensure the survival and growth of member clubs and to promote unity and harmony through fun and education. In addition, the NBS Western Region seeks to increase the “*Level*” of Welcome” at all levels of the snowsports industry on and off the slopes.

The four founding ski clubs were: All Seasons (*Oakland*), Four Seasons West (*Los Angeles*), Four Seasons Northwest (*Seattle*), and Ujama (*Los Angeles*).

NBS elections were held in 1975 and in the following year, 1976, George Phillips of All Seasons Ski Club was elected the first Western Region Vice President. The two Directors were Ben Finley of Four Seasons West and Joe Jones of Four Seasons Northwest.

The NBS Western Region is proud to support youth and adult outreach programs conducted by its member clubs, and to directly host two youth programs. Thus, the Western Region has implemented two unique programs: Building Essential Skills and Talents (*BEST*) is for youth development; and Operations Improvement Seminar (*OIS*). The later program concerns management of club operations. Paul Ray, President of Black Gold, introduced these successful regional programs, OIS and BEST, to the NBS national level in 1989.

Annually, the NBS Western Region hosts youth and families at its Urban Winterfest at a different mountain resort during King Holiday Weekend. In addition to exposing the youth to snowsports, the weekend includes teambuilding activities culminating in the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Breakfast. The goal here is to introduce youth to each other and have them work together to deliver a presentation to breakfast attendees.



"We are a club for all seasons where families, single adults, couples, and youth can socialize, network, and have fun through various activities. and are celebrating our 54th year."

"We are truly proud to be a part of FWSA. Congratulations on your longevity and may you last many more!"

Contact info:

Clifford Sims, President;
biochemcliff@sbcglobal.net

949-874-4768



The National Brotherhood of Skiers' pledge is: "To identify, develop and support athletes of color who will WIN international and Olympic winter sports competitions representing the United States and to increase participation in winter sports." The Snowbusters Ski Club of the National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region holds an annual YOUTH Snow Day LEARN to Ski event to introduce the love of skiing to the younger generations in 2017. photo provided by Todd Hood

The NBS Western Region joined forces with the state of California Dept. of Parks to host our B.E.S.T./OYC Youth Leadership Camps. Since 2018, the leadership camps have taken nearly 100 youth from urban living to a weekend of campsite living with the goal of stretching their vision to the great outdoors.

As founders of the NBS, Ben Finley and Art Clay, are the first Black inductees into the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. NBS Western Region leaders like Ben Finley and Haymon Jahi have also served as NBS national president. Unfortunately, Haymon passed away earlier this year. He will be missed! ■

Turn to page 76 for a list of the Past and Present Council Presidents.




**The Western Region of the National Brotherhood of Skiers
 Congratulates Far West Ski Association
 for 90 Years in Snowsports
 in the West and Nationwide**

Western Region Clubs

<p>All Seasons Ski Club Oakland, CA</p> <p>Blade Runners Ski Club Pasadena, CA</p> <p>Camellia City Ski Club No. Highlands, CA</p> <p>Ebony Ski & Racquet Club W. Sacramento, CA</p> <p><i>* Probationary Club</i></p>	<p>Executive Board Snowboard Association Los Angeles, CA</p> <p>Fire & Ice Ski Club San Jose, CA</p> <p>Four Seasons West Ski & Snowboard Club Los Angeles, CA</p> <p>Inland Empire Ski & Sports Club Riverside, CA</p> <p>Winter Fox Ski & Snowboard Association Los Angeles, CA</p>	<p>Mountain View Ski Club San Diego, CA</p> <p>Sierra Snow Gliders, Inc. Las Vegas, NV</p> <p>SnowBusters Ski Club Pasadena, CA</p> <p>U 2 Can Ski Club Stockton, CA</p> <p>* Snow Pros Service Club Pasadena, CA</p>
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FWSA Councils Work Together

The clubs and ski councils are the grassroots organizations of the Far West Ski Association. Located throughout 12 western states, the 10 regional councils are provided with many opportunities to come together for their mutual benefit.

The VP of Council Services conducts quarterly meetings in conjunction with the Far West Ski Association Board Meeting of the presidents of the councils, who also sit on the Board. This group is responsible for a variety of FWSA Programs: the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year, Club and



Skiers from the San Diego Council at the 2008 Ski Week held at Whistler/Blackcomb were winners in the popular council challenge costume race.



nisei ski club

Bay Area Ski Council (BAC)

www.niseiskiclub.org

The NSC membership congratulates FWSA on their 90th Anniversary and their outstanding contributions to the sport of skiing.

Established in 1958

The Far West Ski Association is appreciative of the outstanding support provided by its regional councils throughout its history!

Founded in 1934 and incorporated in 1937, the Fresno Ski Club is one of the nation's oldest incorporated ski clubs. The Club has reinvented itself, evolving with the ski industry and the changing demographics of skiing and snowboarding, transforming into a vibrant, active social and recreational organization during nine decades of our existence.

Our memberships is predominately from the central San Joaquin Valley, but extends north to Sacramento and North Lake Tahoe, over to the central coast, and into Southern California. In addition, membership has grown outside of California to encompass members in Ohio, Georgia, Texas, Colorado, and in Utah.



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Council Communications and Outstanding Club Awards, Charities & Our Community Service Recognition, and the Family and Youth Program. FWSA's mission is to sustain and grow the sport of snow skiing by attracting and building upon the family and youth market. With a focus on short and long-range planning for family and youth involvement, the objective is to develop programs and services that will welcome families and youth into our ski organizations. FWSA recognizes outstanding achievement by the councils in program development for the benefit of snowsports, and annually presents monetary grants to the councils to support their programs.

The councils come together to participate in the annual Far West Ski Week, both domestic and international. The Council Challenge Cup at the North American Ski Week is a great activity with costumes and fun rivalry. It also provides an opportunity for councils to open their trips to other council members. The FWSA travel programs allow the councils and clubs to add a benefit of discounted travel programs to their membership.

In recent years councils have come together to host the annual Far West Ski Association Convention. It provides a larger volunteer base to host Convention activities and provide for a financially successful event. ■

The Unrecables celebrates its 40th Anniversary, 1980-2020

Congratulations to FWSA for 90 wonderful years of snow sports for the Western states!



The Unrecables is a club in FWSA, L.A. Council, & Move United. Providing snow skiing for people with disabilities in So. California. unrecables.org • info@unrecables.org



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Congratulations to FWSA on it's 90th Anniversary!

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FWSA Annual Meeting Locations
Compiled by Ingrid P. Wicken and Jane Wyckoff

1932	Tahoe City
1933	Unknown
1934	Unknown
1935	Dutch Flat
1936	Sacramento
1937	Yosemite
1938	Fresno
1939	San Francisco
1940	Yosemite
1941	Yosemite
1942	Not held
1943	Pasadena
1944	Not held
1945	Pasadena
1946	Santa Cruz
1947	Yosemite
1948	Pasadena
1949	Reno
1950	Yosemite
1951	Bakersfield
1952	Lake Tahoe
1953	San Mateo
1954	Pasadena
1955	Squaw Valley
1956	Pasadena
1957	San Francisco
1958	Fresno
1959	South Lake Tahoe
1960	Reno
1961	Long Beach
1962	Berkeley
1963	Yosemite
1964	Santa Monica
1965	Palo Alto
1966	Las Vegas
1967	South Lake Tahoe
1968	Newport Beach
1969	Phoenix

87 Annual Meetings / Conventions

by Jane Wyckoff

Past Convention Chair, FWSA; Past President, FWSA

During its 90 years of existence, the Far West Ski Association has conducted 87 Annual Meetings/Conventions. Two were not held during World War II (1942 and 1944) and the third was in 2020 in Portland, cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. After all the planning by the Northwest Ski Club Council, Debbi Kor, Convention Chairperson, negotiated extending the contract with the Red Lion Hotel on the River-Jantzen Beach, to 2022.

The Far West Ski Association used to be a division of the United States Ski Association (USSA) – Sports Division. This changed in 1985, at the Oakland Annual Meeting/Convention, when the delegates voted to reanimate the FWSA as an independent, non-profit, totally volunteer organization. Members of ski clubs who belonged to a regional council, were automatically members of the FWSA. The clubs could choose if they wanted to be dues paying members of the USSA or the new United States Recreational Ski Association (USRSA). FWSA no longer had access to an office, full time staff members and there would be no dues.

The Association turned to a club and/or council to host the Convention, and provided a remuneration agreement for payment for its Convention volunteer work as a fund raising opportunity. The host club or council provided a Host Council Convention Coordinator, and the FWSA had a designated Convention Chairperson to oversee the event.

The Silent Auction began in 1986, when the Balboa Ski Club of Orange Council, host for the 54th Annual Convention, organized a Friday evening Silent Auction with a Mike Murphy Concert, as a fund raiser to offset Convention costs and support program development. The ski and sports industries donated over \$10,000 in lift tickets, ski trips, and ski equipment. BSC and FWSA split the proceeds of the event. After that first year, the FWSA solely managed the Silent Auction with an appointed chairperson. In the past 34 years, there has only been four chairpersons – Jane Wyckoff, Barbara Razo, Mary Ohlhausen and Jeanmine Davis. A Mike Murphy Concert was also part of the Friday night event in 1987 but after that, it was customary to have a “DJ” for musical entertainment in conjunction with the Silent Auction.

By 2001, the 17th Annual Silent Auction in Reno hosted by Bay Area Council, had a record-setting \$118,000 in donations. Over 140 companies were represented at the event. For the past 34 years,

the Silent Auction has served as one of the two major revenue streams providing funds to support FWSA programs, with the other one being the FWSA Travel Program.

Even in this age of technology, with the ease and convenience of going on-line to search for a winter vacation, nothing can truly replace the opportunity to meet “one-on-one” with industry representatives to plan your next family or group trip. A Travel Carousel was added to the Convention in 1987. The industry representatives would leave their booths up overnight, and on Saturday the delegates would visit the booths, and after a designated number of industry representative signatures on their card, would be entered in a drawing to win a trip to the next Far West Ski Week and additional prizes.

In 2003, the Travel Carousel was changed to the Travel Expo under the leadership of Catherine Ohl. The industry representatives would remove their booths after the Silent Auction on Friday evening, and had assigned tables for the Travel Expo on Saturday. Delegates set up appointments with the industry representatives on Friday evening or Saturday morning before the event started. They would move from table to table for a designated time period (*a bell would be rung to move to the next table*) and would have their “Passports” signed for prize drawings. Written instructions were given to both the ski industry representatives and the delegates, so that the productivity of these sessions for our industry partners would be maximized. These programs greatly strengthened FWSA’s industry partnership programs. With the participation of the industry, a Convention sponsorship program was offered, which was instrumental in helping to offset Convention costs. This enabled FWSA to keep the registration fee at a reasonable rate, attracting greater volunteer participation. In addition, North American and International FWSA Ski Week bids could be presented to the Travel Ski Week Bid Selection Committee at the Convention for future ski weeks, since the industry representatives were already in attendance.

In perspective, the annual meetings, with convention-like activity, went on for over 40 years before the travel world began to reshape them, with charter flights and ski weeks. The final separation from USSA and the restart of FWSA was a decisive event in the changes to the Conventions. The absence of dues made the search for start-up funding imperative. The convention content was



The Skier magazine cover shows FWSA volunteers preparing club placards for the 1956 Annual Meeting in Pasadena. At least 55 clubs were registered.
image courtesy Ingrid P. Wicken, California Ski Library



Industry partners participate in the 34th Annual Silent Auction at the Hyatt Regency Indian Wells on June 14, 2019. Aspen Skiing Company has been a participant for 31 years. Mary Manning, Sr. National Sales Manager, converses with attendees at her booth. Aspen has been a sponsor of the Safety Person of the Year Recognition Program and is the current sponsor of the Environment Award Recognition Program. The resort has also been a sponsor of many other events. Ski.Com has been a participant of the FWSA Silent Auction program for 25 years. Gloria Saiya-Woods, Group Sales Manager, has also hosted a variety of optional events as a sponsor, and is the tour operator for both the 2021 Mini Ski Week to Utah and the 2022 Ski Week to Aspen. Eric Van Pelt Photography

evolved rapidly to attract more members and industry attendees, and recognized a partnership role between FWSA and the ski industry.

Conventions used to be conducted Friday to Sunday. That changed in 1997 in Portland when Sheri Parshall, Host Council Convention Coordinator, planned a “Pub Crawl” at Portland Microbreweries on Thursday evening. She felt this would give the industry representatives that came in early something to do. There were 70 participants and the event was a huge success. Since then, the Pub Crawl is an annual tradition, with a long time sponsorship of the Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation. One of the most memorable Pub Crawls in convention history was held on the historic USS Midway Aircraft Carrier in San Diego in 2015, with over 200 attendees.

The high quality of the properties selected for our annual event enticed participants to make a vacation out of the annual conclave and many arrived early and stayed late. Since so many participants started arriving on Thursday, Delegate Registration started on Thursday afternoon beginning in 2001. At the 2017 Convention in Boise, hosted by the Intermountain Ski Council, the convention actually kicked off on Wednesday evening with a rooftop dinner downtown.

In 1992, the 1st Annual Golf Tournament was added with an early start time on Friday morning, at Northstar-at-Tahoe. In 2007, the name was changed to the Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament in honor of a long time FWSA and San Diego Council volunteer who was an avid golfer. Additional optional events were added on Friday to give convention attendees a choice of outings and events to enjoy what the local area had to offer. They have included: spa days, wine tours, museum tours, a seal tour, bike tours, celebrity home

tour and shopping, tennis tournaments, river rafting, skiing on Mt. Hood and much more.

Panel sessions on Saturday have been a mainstay of FWSA Conventions. Impressive bound booklets were produced and distributed to the panel attendees, in addition to the Delegate Book given to all the delegates. Topics have included: club services, club presidents, insurance, racing, travel, athletics, finances, communication, web design, social media and leadership. The Public Affairs Panels feature special guest experts and snowsport celebrities. It was traditional to invite a representative from the local US Forest Service Area, and attendees from the 10th Mountain Division were exceptionally well received. Leaders from the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA), Snowsports Industries America (SIA) and the US Ski Team were very informative. A wide variety of topics were discussed, depending on the panelists attending. They have included: area development and expansion, ski safety, ski history, volunteer liabilities, transportation, taxation, environment, consumer advocacy, junior racing and ski fashion.

The Snowsports Leadership Academy was introduced in 2008 as an FWSA education program designed to provide FWSA members training and tools to enhance and expand ski clubs and be recognized industry wide as having a measure of standards and consistency. All attendees of the Snowsports Leadership Academy sessions received a certificate of attendance. The coordinator of the program was Diane Stearley, President of the New Mexico Council. The first two modules were: “I’m Elected, Now What?” and “Now You Have Them, How Do You Keep Them?” To date, 27 Leadership Modules have been presented at the Annual Conventions. One of the most popular presenters has been Todd Hood, Vice President of the National Broth-

FWSA Annual Meeting Locations

1970	Sacramento
1971	San Diego
1972	Fresno
1973	Long Beach
1974	Palm Springs
1975	Las Vegas
1976	San Francisco
1977	San Diego
1978	Los Angeles
1979	Irvine
1980	Oakland
1981	Universal City
1982	Fresno
1983	San Diego
1984	Las Vegas
1985	Oakland
1986	Irvine
1987	Los Angeles
1988	San Diego
1989	San Francisco
1990	Irvine
1991	Long Beach
1992	Olympic Valley
1993	San Diego
1994	Scottsdale
1995	Newport Beach
1996	Santa Clara
1997	Portland
1998	San Diego
1999	Manhattan Beach
2000	Phoenix
2001	Reno
2002	Portland
2003	Rancho Mirage
2004	Reno
2005	Long Beach
2006	Chandler
2007	Santa Clara
2008	Bellevue
2009	Reno
2010	Indian Wells
2011	City of Industry
2012	Ogden
2013	Reno
2014	Bend
2015	San Diego
2016	Scottsdale
2017	Boise
2018	Reno
2019	Indian Wells
2020	(Portland) cancelled
2021	San Diego
2022	Portland

Billy Kidd, Keynote Speaker for the FWSA's 2018 Convention in Reno, is presented with a special FWSA Flag by Steve Coxen, President. It was signed by the Association's officers, in appreciation for his outstanding support over the years. The Olympic Silver Medalist in the 1964 Olympics, and first American male to win an Olympic medal in Alpine Skiing,



There have been 27 modules in the Snowsports Leadership Academy since the program's inception in 2008. Todd Hood, Vice President of the National Brotherhood of Skiers, has



attended his first FWSA Convention in 1970 in Sacramento, when he was presented with the FWSA Association's Hans Georg Award. Billy is the Director of Skiing at Steamboat Ski Resort, which has sponsored the FWSA Western Ski Heritage Prize since 2000. He has attended many FWSA Conventions, and is truly a friend of FWSA.

L. R. Peck Photo

Welcome Aboard! Eileen Sanford, the 2015 San Diego Host Council Convention Coordinator and Mike Sanford, FWSA VP - Public Affairs, welcomed over 200 attendees to the Sunset Dine Out and Tour aboard the USS Midway in San Diego. Mike is wearing his US Navy jacket worn during his service on the USS Midway. We were privileged to hear Mike talk about the design and building of the ship, and stories during his time of service. This outstanding event was organized by Catherine and Gene Fulkerson and sponsored by Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation. photo provided by Eileen Sanford



presented a number of the modules, including "Knock, Knock, Who's There to Take Over: Successful Succession Planning". He is the current FWSA Succession Planning Chair.

L. R. Peck Photography



Go to page 74 for the list of Industry Participants:
Silent Auction | Travel Expo

The first time the FWSA Convention was held in Boise was in 2017, co-hosted by Bogus Basin Ski Club and Intermountain Ski Council. The Host Council Convention Committee invited Far West club members to the 85th Annual FWSA Convention with this stunning view of downtown Boise, with the state capitol in the center and the mountains in the distance. LEFT TO RIGHT: Lisa Edens -Boise Convention & Visitors Bureau, Mark Barnard, Vicki Kuebler, Paul Markowitz, Doug Baker, Rosie Roscoe, Michael Bouton, Sue Baker, and Kim Hovren. photo provided by Michael Bouton

erhood of Skiers – Western Region, a skilled speaker in engaging audience participation. His presentations have centered on current issues with ski clubs, with developing leaders, and succession planning.

Beginning in the late 1990's FWSA Conventions began to feature special guests and keynote speakers. Mike Sanford, Randy Lew, Steve Coxen, and John Watson, all Past Presidents, were particularly adept at inviting and securing Olympic, World Cup and US Ski Team athletes to attend. Billy Kidd, Olympic Silver Medalist in 1964, attended the 1970 FWSA Convention, as the recipient of the Hans Georg Award. Since that time, he has attended numerous FWSA Conventions to meet and greet attendees and sign posters at the Steamboat booth, speak at the Luncheon or Awards Banquet, and present the FWSA Safety Award that Steamboat has sponsored since 2000. His teammate Jimmie Heuga, Bronze Medalist at the 1964 Olympics, also attended several FWSA Conventions and is the namesake of the Jimmie Heuga Award for outstanding service to adaptive skiing programs. Other notable athletes included: Phil Mahre, AJ Kitt, Debbie Armstrong, Bill Johnson, Chris Klug, Chris Davenport, Glen Plake, Bob Salerno, Sarah Hendrickson, Jessica Jerome, Lindsey Van, Wayne Wong, Candace Cable, Reggie Christ, and Curtis Fong. Of special interest to attendees were junior racers that were recipients of the FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program,

such as Lila Lapanja, Kayleigh MacGregor and Jordan Schweitzer. We have also been honored with such esteemed guests as: Dave McCoy, Founder of Mammoth Mountain; Richard Kun, President, Snow Summit Ski Corporation; and Deedee Corradini, President, Women's Ski Jumping USA.

The primary purpose of the FWSA Annual Meeting/Convention, has always been to conduct Association business and hold elections. It has provided an opportunity to present panel sessions, educate current and future leaders on "how to" conduct primary functions in running a ski club or council programs. It also served a higher purpose, to conduct the FWSA Conventions in various locations to introduce local members to the Association to learn more about the organization and create an interest in becoming involved.

It changed since the beginning from just a meeting to conduct business and choose officers, to also be a showcase of FWSA programs. The Awards Banquet provided the opportunity to honor and award volunteers and industry partners. The Councils' Man and Woman of the Year program recognizes outstanding council volunteers, and has been sponsored by Big White Ski Resort since 2001. The Western Ski Heritage Award was started in 2000 and has been sponsored by Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation since the program began, to recognize excellence in preserving snowsports history.

Telluride and Mountain Lodge Telluride have sponsored the Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award from 2015-19. Mammoth Mountain Ski Area is the new sponsor. Aspen / Snowmass, The Gant and Crestwood Condominiums have sponsored the Environment Award since 2015, recognizing efforts to protect our environment. The outstanding club and council, club and council communication, and charities programs provide many opportunities to recognize club and council excellence in programs. Most important, it has always provided an opportunity for snowsport enthusiasts to share ideas, be educated about their sport, and to have a voice in the protection and promotion of it.

The current FWSA Convention model requires a large volunteer staff from the host council and FWSA. In recent years, smaller councils have been able to host conventions by combining with another council to co-host, or been provided volunteer support by another council. Some of our members have attended numerous conventions and show up every year and volunteer their services. The convention has evolved over the years as needed, and will continue to do so in the years ahead. And, we will continue to look forward to each and every convention to see friends from across the Far West on an annual basis, make new friends, have fun and have stories to share. We'll look forward to seeing you in San Diego next June! ■

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Stu Heller, Charlene Heller, Dave Olson, Bob Warzynski, Debbie Matson, Debbie Warzynski, Jorge Vazquez, Teresa Moore, and Jim ?. We're not holding the Inland trophy up. It's sitting on the ground!

League Racing

by John Watson

History Chair, FWSA, President, FWSF

League racing started in the California gold fields in 1867 with the founding of the Alturas Snowshoe Club in what is now La Porte, California. The popularity of snowshoe (longboard) racing between gold camps had made scheduling a matter to be addressed. The Alturas Snowshoe club became the first racing league in North America if not the world. The historic record contains ample team names and as photography came into use, images from the late 1890s.

The early years of the California Ski Association were devoted to the scheduling and conduct of racing to establish winners who would then go on to more demanding championships. It was a single class race program with exceptions made initially for a Novice class to gain new racing participation, especially from women.

There were many club and multiclub races in Washington from 1933-1941. One of those leagues included the ROKKA Ski Club. Some members were interned, a few went to the US Army, including intelligence functions. The leagues were restored after the war and the Rokka and Fuji clubs were racing again. Wailers, Hollywood and Edelweiss clubs raced in a three club league starting in 1956.

In the early 1960s, FWSA established an Intramurals racing template in its portfolio of recreational programs. This program ran concurrently with sanctioned racing requiring a license to race and using an FIS point system metric to establish racer performance. The Intramurals races were within skill classes, with skills determined by a handicapping system. It was designed to attract the new skier or one who wants to try his skills against other racers.

In 1970, FWSA had two leagues, both formed in 1964 – ROKKA composed of six urban clubs in the Los Angeles area, and Southeast which was centered in Orange County. The 1970 list of two leagues was the situation faced by Bruce Bell, at that time the Intramurals Chairman for Southern Council. He was tasked to find racers who could organize leagues in areas not served by them. The result of this was the founding of Schusski by Dr. Gerry Resch in Orange County and Elske in South Bay Los Angeles.

Later, Chamonix and Elske leagues combined in 2002 to create ULLR League. Bay Area Council's club racing started in late 1946 under the Bay Area Ski Federation and by 1980 had developed two racing leagues – Open and then Singles. Central Council had a racing club. San Diego had Alpine league and Northwest had its PACRAT league well before its merger with FWSA in 1993.

ROKKA conducted four races in January-April 1965 at Mammoth, Moonridge, June Mountain and Mammoth respectively. There were dominations by first Wailers, then Westwood, resulting in a league innovation. Westwood Ski Club had won eight races in a row in the 1971 and 1972 season. John James, as Beach Cities Race Chairman, came up with the idea of "Learn to Ski and Race Camp" at Mammoth in an effort to topple Westwood and win ROKKA.

Race Camp was five days of six hour lessons with technique and gates, broken into classes with the same skiers and the same instructor. It paid off. Beach Cities beat Westwood with a 1973 season total of 427½ to 418½. Beach Cities went on to win the 1973-1974 season by a greater margin. As ROKKA League Chairman, John opened Race Camp to all Rokka clubs in 1974. - **Karen James**

Race Camp was so successful that a second race camp was set up on the ROKKA model. Led by Karyn Tablada, it had 80 students in its first year.

The "standard" FWSA council deployed a number of programs for members and to the public for recruiting purposes. One of the programs offered was often racing for the club in a league. The FWSA was unsuccessful in developing a standard council in 1972 in a broad area composed of San Bernardino, Riverside, and eastern parts of Los Angeles counties. But, enthusiastic racers in that area decided that they should conduct races among themselves in a league but calling themselves a council if needed. They came to call it the Inland League and it became the core program of an FWSA Inland Council. The enthusiasm for racing and intense long standing rivalries between Sitzmarkers and Tyroleans carried the Inland League well into the 1990s



Nancy Ellis, Sierra League, races at the 2020 FWSA Ski Week held at Big Sky Mountain Resort, Montana. photo provided by Nancy Ellis

and it was the core of the successful racing program of USRSA in its Nations Weeks. Alan Christian was the first racing coordinator for the United States Recreational Ski Association (USRSA), followed by Bob Warzinski and wife Debbie. In one USRSA Ski Week in the 1990s, from among 1,300 registrants, there were 400 racers on the hill on four different courses.

“The ten leagues currently represented in the Far West Race Leagues were founded over a period of time ranging from 1964 to 1978. While the individual leaguers presently operate as autonomous organizations, there is great commonality in the reasons for their organizations and in their basic structures. Each league is the result of ski club interest in developing competitive programs. Representatives of geographically related clubs affiliated with one another to form an association to promote competitive skiing opportunities. Through the years, each league has changed somewhat as new clubs join the group and others drop out. However, the general size of the league is monitored by its affiliated clubs in order to insure a manageable and competitive environment. Thus, there are a number of race leagues in the larger geographic area while only one league represents a wide area of central California.

The oldest league in the Far West Race leagues is ROKKA League, which was started in 1964 by a group of representatives from five ski clubs in the Los Angeles area. In 1965, a sixth club joined the group and they adopted the name Rokka a variation of the Japanese word for six; roku. The Asian language from which the name is derived has yet to be precisely identified. Through the years the league has grown in participation, although not in the number of clubs affiliated, and now actively promotes competitive programs in softball, tennis, volleyball, and bowling, as well as, cross country and alpine ski racing. The size of the programs organized by the league is now large and complex enough to require a computer to track race history and handicap information. Other Far West Race leagues boast similar histories in that each was an organization formed at a grass roots level to promote competition. It should be noted that the leagues were not created as sub-bodies of a larger group such as regional ski councils or national ski organizations, but rather, they are local concerns.” - George Eachus

The Intramurals program, which later changed its name to Recreational Racing in 1972,

was racing within skill classes that were populated using a handicapping system (which achieved further stepwise sophistication over the years).

“The current racer handicapping system was created around 1981 by John Rosenkranz. I was part of the group developing the system. I am an original Pacesetter and still am a Pacesetter. I have maintained the Pacesetter Ratings from the beginning

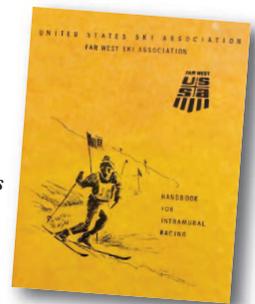
Prior to the current system, handicaps were calculated using a formula that incorporated FIS points. We would get one of the junior mountain racers to run our course to establish a “zero” par. It was getting harder to get consistent juniors. That led John to create our own system of zeroing courses.

Starting with only five classes (Novice, Intermediate,

Advance, Expert, Elite), around 1983 Vet Classes were added for those over 35. We then created a new racer classification system. The new classes were Elite, A thru E. In 1986, the

This handbook was prepared by the Intramurals Handbook Committee, Joe Harris, Chairman, 1972. The Forward was by Bruce Bell, Director - Intramurals Activities, FWSA and Chairman - Recreational Racing Committee, USSA.

from Jane Wyckoff Collection




Far West Racing Association (FWRA) is a skiing, snowboarding, and recreational ski and snowboard racing organization operating in the Western United States. It has eight racing leagues offering races at various resorts with racing categories for children through older adults and from beginner to expert skiing/riding skill levels.

FWRA extends its congratulations to the Far West Ski Association on their 90th Anniversary. We appreciate your continued support of Snowsports in California and the Far West.

Contact Bob Ellis, FWRA President, rellis9681@aol.com for more information about FWRA.




The ROKKA LEAGUE congratulates FWSA on it's 90th year and thanks them for supporting FWRA and all our racers.

The ROKKA LEAGUE organizes race competitions for the Southern California clubs' skiers throughout the winter. We enthusiastically join other Far West ski clubs' racers for a Championship Race at the end of the ski season.



Elite class was split into E1 and E2. Next, we added Super Vet, I think it was around 50 years old. Since then, the age splits have been raised. By 2000, the classes were again changed to the "Skill Level" system. The classes are S0 thru S10 with Vet and Super Vet in each. Recently, we added Legions (75 years or older). There is just one Legion's class, no handicap range." - **George Eachus**

There is one event in Far West league racing which warrants further detail. ROKKA league in the early 1980s was successful and looking to expand using sponsorship money.

Until 1983 the Far West Ski Association/ USSA-Sports had a staff that secured sponsorships for programs, including the leagues. At the Annual Convention, a chairman was elected to run the Far West Championships. Rokka had a sponsor, but no one was very happy with the arrangement, including the league and the sponsor. The sponsor wanted a new arrangement that could include ten racing groups in cities in California and Nevada. His bottom line: *give yourself a name and we can go with it.*

Karen Tablada and Ellen Loe, representing ROKKA, immediately drew up a sponsorship agreement in a cash and in kind supplies over a several year period. This was negotiation of a scale and skill never seen by ROKKA (or any league). The beer sponsor signed off on the new sponsorship agreement. Racing news travels fast. Rokka and other leagues became the Far West Racing Association, with Tablada and Loe the "founding mothers".

Race chairmen gathered in Los Angeles on Memorial Day of 1983, and decided that they were the Far West Racing Association, made Ellen Loe the President and started the Far West Racing Association. Each league is still independent with each President being the voting members of FWRA.

"FWRA and FWSA remained independent until 1995. I worked with FWSA to arrange an agreement to help both our mutual interest. FWRA was given a seat on the FWSA Board of Directors, with the President joining the board in 2003. The FWRA agreed to have its Racer Awards at the FWSA Convention. FWRA also agreed to sanction FWSA Ski Week races if they followed FWRA rules for handicapping. At the same time, FWRA also sanctioned USRSA Ski Week races." - George Eachus

Today, demographics and competing interests within the people expert in conducting races have taken their toll on league racing. Race chairmen now can conduct races involving multiple leagues. League racing had great years in the three decades after 1964. It probably reached its zenith in the 1990s but it served a great purpose in the history of recreational skiing. Any club member could participate in racing among friends and it's relatively inexpensive. Its scheduling required only an arrangement between the league and the host ski area. It has used dual and other different racing courses. Today it has sophisticated timing and data support and it remains an uncomplicated attraction for the weekend club skier. ■



AJ Hurt, a FWSA Scholarship recipient through Sierra League and Council, is from Carnelian Bay, California and skis for the U.S. Ski Team. racing photo of Amelia Josephine Hurt provided by David Krupp

FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program

by **Randy Lew**
Past President, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Program was approved by the Board of Trustees and Board of Directors in 2003 and took roots under the leadership of Robb Margrave, growing from an initial \$1,000 and 2 scholarship recipients in 2004 to \$13,750 and 16 scholarship recipients in 2019. The total awarded since the program's inception is now \$165,000 to 116 different athletes.

The FWSA Athletic Scholarship program has had three very dedicated team leaders since its inception: Robb Margrave the program founder from 2004 to 2008; Dick Shawkey who grew the program through community visibility and club/council partnerships from 2008 to 2014; and David Krupp, who continued to expand the program through the Far West Ski Foundation from 2014 to 2020. Debbi Kor, FWSA VP of Marketing, has also been instrumental in the growth of the program through increasing the number of program specific sponsors who have contributed auction/raffle items or cash.

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) in the U16 through U21 age brackets and must participate in racing programs in states where FWSA has regional councils or influence. These include Alaska, Arizona, California,

Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. The Athletic Scholarship Committee evaluates applications based on financial need, athletic performance, academic achievement, and community service and recommends scholarship grants based on objective judging.

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 15 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.



Dalton Swallow is a 4-time FWSA Scholarship recipient from the McCall Winter Sports Club. He is a member of the Park City Ski Team.

photo provided by Randy Lew

Our recipients include current or former US Ski Team members Garret Driller, AJ Hurt, Lila Lipanja, and Foreste Peterson. AJ Hurt was nominated to the US B Team for this coming season.

The funding of the scholarships come 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), a year round winter and summer resort; Averill Hospitality Group, a premier choice in mountain resort accommodations; Schure Sports, Inc. (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. FWSA also appreciates past sponsors Barbados Tourism, Canadian Mountain Holidays, Grouse Mountain Lodge in Whitefish Montana, and the Vern Sprock family for their generosity in supporting this program.

The Club/Council Partnerships started in 2009 with Skiyente Ski Club's Erin Nicole Scholarship joining the FWSA program after the Northwest Ski Club Council program folded. Other current or past program partners include: Bergfruede Ski Club, Castro Valley Ski Club, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs, Mountain High Snowsports Club, Northwest Ski Club Council, San Diego Council of Ski Clubs, and Sierra Council's Frank App Memorial Scholarship.

In addition, the Far West Ski Foundation (www.farwestski.org), a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, is a valuable resource for encouraging tax-exempt donations. ■

**Go to page 73 for FWRA Officers.
Turn to page 75 for the list of FWSA
Scholarship Program recipients.**

Far West Ski Association Cross Tracks with the Far West Division of the National Ski Patrol

by **Barbara Razo**

NSP, 2016 National Ski Patroller of the Year



National Ski Patroller Trissa Ayala refining sled skills on Rips Run and Upper Park Run at Bear Mountain Resort, California in January, 2019. photo provided by Barbara Razo

The National Ski Patrol (NSP) was founded in 1938 in Stowe, Vermont, by the president of the National Ski Association, Roger Langley. Roger convinced Charles Minot Dole, "Minnie", as he was known, that a "service and safety" organization was in order after Minnie was seriously hurt skiing. Minnie had trouble evacuating himself from the slope. When NSP was founded, it consisted entirely of unpaid patrollers. Minnie became NSP's First Chairman. The current numbers and statistics are significant as one of the largest volunteer organizations ever formed.

One of the few federally chartered not-for-profit organizations in the U.S., the NSP has since become the world's largest winter rescue organization. The NSP's paid and volunteer members serve on over 600 patrols. Roughly 70% of all NSP members are comprised of volunteers and 97% of ski areas incorporate NSP Volunteer Patrollers in their mountain operations. There are approximately 30,000 members with 27,700 of those members being volunteers. In the last thirty years, numbers have increased slightly with the growth derived from paid professional patrollers joining NSP as well as some unaffiliated ski areas coming into the fold.

The NSP patrols are organized into 12 different geographical divisions worldwide plus a single division for all paid patrollers. One of the largest and strongest divisions is the Far West Division which is made up of five regions with 42 Patrols located in the Western States of America. Members are recognized on the slopes by the jackets they wear marked by a white cross on the chest and a larger one on the back.

The levels of the National Ski Patrol are **1. Patroller 2. Alpine Patroller 3. Senior 4. Certified**. Patrollers with exemplary contributions are given a National Appointment Number. There are also levels of personal achievement given to a Ski Patroller who goes beyond the call of duty. They can be awarded the Blue, Yellow, Silver or Gold Merit Star. The highest Honor of the National Ski Patrol is the Purple Merit Star, which is awarded for saving a life. National Ski Patrol has an ongoing education system which



TOP: Jerry Colburn Nunn, Jimmie Nunn's wife
LOWER PHOTO: Jimmie Nunn - skiing at age 9.

Jimmie Nunn's 93 year journey was full of achievement, adventure and service. You will see his picture in several places in this history and you will understand why. His family came to Flagstaff from Sweetwater, Texas in 1934 and was skiing on mail order skis two years before the first rope tow on what was to become a part of the Arizona Snowbowl. He was a star basketball player and skier for his high school. He was an unofficial Junior National Ski Patroller in 1944. He served in the Navy in World War II; and then commenced his university education, earning two degrees, the last a Master's degree in architectural engineering from the University of Colorado. He remained active with NSPS and started the Phoenix Ski Patrol in 1952. Jimmie worked his way through NSP ranks, occupying every position from Patrol Leader to Far West Division Director and Assistant National Director (1971-74). Injury prevented his further advance in the National Ski Patrol (NSP).

As a member of the all-volunteer 1960 Squaw Valley Winter Olympics Ski Patrol, he was part of Andrea Mead's honor escort as she skied the Olympic torch into the arena. There, he met fellow patroller, Jerry Colburn, who became his second wife 15 years later in 1975. Jimmie had a long career in architecture in the Phoenix area ▶

includes OEC classes and OEC Refreshers. OEC stands for Outdoor Emergency Care, and is the foundation of the NSP education program. Over the course of its history, the NSP has helped to develop similar patrol organizations in Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Argentina, Chile, Israel, Turkey and Korea.

The Joint Statement of Understanding (*JSOU*) made with the National Ski Areas Association (*NSAA*) outlines the relationship between the NSP Patrollers and the ski areas. NSP volunteers act as agents of their ski areas and take their direction from the ski area management. NSP does not manage the patrols, NSP provides the training and certifications to its members who become "unpaid" employees of the mountain. These "unpaid" employees look and act just like the "paid" Pro-Patrollers. Both work under the protocols, operations, and standards of care established by area management. NSP sets the standard of education and certification. Many ski areas including Big Bear Mountain Resorts, Big Bear Lake, CA are holding their Pro-Patrollers to be trained in NPS Outdoor Emergency Care (*OEC*). Paid and volunteer patrollers all work in unison, shoulder to shoulder, and are equally educated and deliver the same level of first responder first aid. As intended, it is opaque to the resort guests, as to who is a volunteer and who is not. On every winter weekend an extra 20-30+ volunteer patrollers arrive to their "mountain home-away-from-home" dwellings late on Friday nights, in the dark, rain, fog and snow for their Saturday and Sunday duty days. They are welcomed with open arms and relief in the eyes of the paid patrol staff. The personal contributions and sacrifices scream dedication. NSP Members buy all their own uniforms, equipment, pay for their own lodging, meals and accept loss of income from weekend paying jobs to be in their boots and gear in the early morning hours. Patrollers are the first to ride the chairlifts and begin their 10+ hour shifts with hill set-up, equipment placement, digging out tower pads, making the lift line mazes with bamboo sticks and banner tape, all before the resorts are opened to the general public.

Each and every NSP volunteer patroller has a unique and personal story. They come from extremely diversified walks of life. This group of computer technicians, lawyers, chefs, construction workers, street-strippers, sales men and women, teachers, doctors, nurses, financial planners, firefighters, landscape artists, musicians and more, all share common values and beliefs. All have a passion to serve their community and help individuals who could potentially be facing life threatening injuries or are cold or scared, or have become separated from their friends and family, or potentially are lost beyond the resort boundaries. All have a common goal to ensure their patrons have the best guest experience possible with safety as the main motivator. Each NSP Patroller loves being an ambassador for their ski areas and take pride in providing high-level first responder services and care to resort guests. "Vollies" are a unique group of individuals, their patrol family is held in high regard, and their experiences are life changing.

Over the years, the Far West Ski Association has had many opportunities to cross collaborate and embrace the membership of the National Ski Patrol.

Let's start with Gertrude "Jerry" Colburn Nunn, a true ski pioneer. Nunn was born March 12, 1922 and grew up in Sacramento, CA. At the age of 14 years old, Jerry was introduced to skiing by a girlfriend. Jerry was an athlete, and the first time she strapped on skis was at Soda Springs Ski Resort at Donner Pass in the Sierra Nevada. Although she fell repeatedly, like so many new skiers, she loved it! She got up again, just to fall again, and she never stopped until the very end of the day.

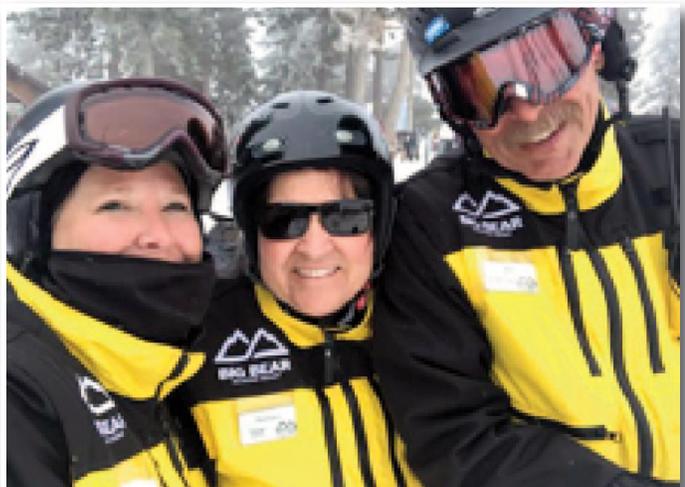
Now, although women were skiing back in the 30's and earlier, it was a man's world. And, as Jerry's interest, skill, and involvement grew, so did the adversity she encountered and she persisted, nonetheless. At just 18 years old, she began her upward trajectory as assistant to the ski patrol physician at Sugar Bowl. She joined that National Ski Patrol System as a Patroller in 1944. In 1949, she joined the ski patrol at Sugar Bowl. But her true contribution and change would begin at Squaw Valley when she was accepted to the Ski Patrol System in 1954.

Jerry and her colleagues at the time were tasked with creating avalanches to make the ski areas safe for patrons. They used the weight and force of their bodies or used dynamite. This was an extremely dangerous job. In December 1959, she was featured in a cover story of *Skiing Magazine*. After becoming a mother, Jerry applied to become certified as the first female Forest Service Snow Ranger and she was hired as a Patroller for the 1960 U.S. Olympic Ski Patrol Team.

Jerry teamed up with avalanche control expert, Monty Atwater, to develop a new, safer avalanche prevention technology: The Avalauncher. Atwater had developed an avalanche gun, that would allow patrollers to create preventative avalanches from a greater distance, making the process safer and much more efficient. Jerry and Monty hit the road to sell the avalanche gun, and after Monty could no longer contribute, Jerry continued on alone. The technology was often referred to as Jerry's Gun and a more modern rendition of it is still in use by ski resorts around the world today.

Ski Patrollers
Alysa Vos,
Barbara Razo and
Nat Cohen are
part of the BBSP
(Big Bear Ski Patrol)
NSP Hill Safety
Patrol

photos provided by
Barbara Razo



It was during the 1960 U.S. Ski Patrol tenure that Jerry met Jimmie Nunn. As much of a Flagstaff local as anyone, Jimmie came to Flagstaff with his family in 1934 and he took up skiing within just a couple years of his arrival. Jimmie was a member of the Flagstaff High School Ski Team.

When Jimmie and Jerry met, they were both married but became fast and long friends. After Jimmie was widowed and Jerry divorced, they married in 1975. After Jimmie's retirement in 1985, the Nunns settled into a peaceful life in Flagstaff. They built a big barn on their Fort Valley property for housing all of the equipment from both their ski careers. They founded The Arizona Ski Museum, with a collection that includes more than 500 pairs of skis, vintage ski outfits, colorful posters, group and celebrity ski photos, snowsport badges and even a chair lift. The Nunns hosted events in the barn, including fashion shows to raise money for local charities.

Longtime supporters of the Arizona Snowbowl and the Flagstaff Ski Team, Jerry established the Old Timers Race and the Ladies' Day program. She also received a lifetime achievement award from Snowbowl. Among the many great things Jerry Nunn accomplished and the many accolades she received, the apex of her journey came in 2004 when she was first Arizonan to be inducted into the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame. In 2006, she won the Carson White Golden Quill Award from the North American Snowsports Journalists Association (NASJA).

In 2009, Jerry passed away after a long and full life on the slopes at the age of 87. Jimmie over the years has rightfully received his own fair share of awards and accolades including the Snowsports Builder Award from the Far West Ski Association. Jimmie was Chairman of the Far West NSP Division and was headed for a position at the NSP National Level. Jimmie was injured while skiing and had to pull back from patrolling. Sadly, Jimmie passed earlier this year. The artifacts from the Nunn's Barn are now housed at Arizona Snowbowl.

With the progression and growth of the Far West Ski Association into the 21st Century, the FWSA has invited various members of the National Ski Patrol to participate in their annual meetings and education programs.

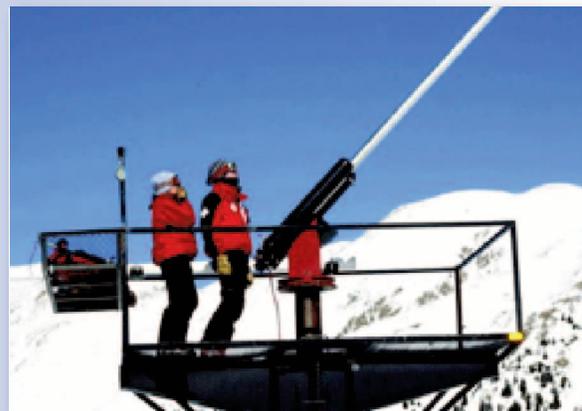
Ron Anderson, who earned the designation as a Lifetime Member of the Big Bear Ski Patrol after dedicating 25 service years as a volunteer patroller, held a position on the FWSA Board of Directors from 1996 to 2001. Ron brought a wealth of information updating the FWSA Membership on the safety and education programs of the National Ski Patrol. In 1996, Ron was awarded the Far West J. Stanley Mullen Award for making decisive contributions to skiing while participating in both the FWSA and NSP organizations.

Barbara Razo, who still is an active NSP Volunteer Patroller for Big Bear Ski Patrol, has been associated with FWSA for over 20 years. Barbara has held FWSA Board Positions and has been the FWSA Silent Auction Chair and volunteer at many of the annual membership conventions held every June. She has also participated in the FWSA Safety Panel Discussion as a Key Presenter. Barbara is a passionate, fiercely dedicated, volunteer who exudes joy as an ambassador for both the NSP Far West Division and the Far West Ski Association.

The definition of "collaboration" is the process of two or more people or organizations working together to complete a task or achieve a common goal. The combined works performed by the membership of the FWSA and the National Ski Patrol will continue on in history forever. These are two of the strongest volunteer groups ever formed. Their collaborations will continue to enhance the member experiences of both organizations as well as the snow (and summer) sports communities worldwide for decades to come. ■

The National Ski Patrol is the World's Largest Winter Rescue Organization.

**Two of their Goals are
Service & Safety!**



The Avalauncher - a gun designed to prevent avalanches was developed by Monte Atwater and Jerry Colburn Nunn. Prior to this piece of equipment, it was necessary for Ski Patrollers to ascend the slopes to set off avalanche prone areas as a safety precaution so skiers on those slopes would not trigger them resulting in injuries or death from the rapidly tumbling snows.

Jimmie Nunn (continued from page 36)

and he had a role in the design of the four ski areas in Arizona. He designed the current Agassiz Lodge at Arizona Snowbowl. The Arizona Ski Museum, consisting of Jimmie's collection of memorabilia dating back to 1894 and is currently housed in the "barn" Jimmie designed for it in Flagstaff. It has been donated to the Arizona Snowbowl.

Jimmie was a founding member and long-time Director of ISHA (the International Skiing History Association) from its inception, in 1991. He received the National Ski Patrol Distinguished Service Award in 2001 and in 2016 received the Far West Ski Association Snowsports Builder Award. Jimmie is a FWSA Hero listed on page 45 in this booklet. He is also mentioned on page 23.

About the Author:

Barbara Razo - NSP# 210399 ~
brazo@bigbearskipatrol.com

2020 NSP Southern California Region ~
Administrative Patroller of the Year
2016 NSP Gold Merit Star ~
National Patroller of the Year
2007 NSP Silver Merit Star ~
Runner Up for National Patroller of the Year

Unique to FWSA: Area Development

by John Watson

History Chair, FWSA: President, FWSF

Tourism and development in California in the 1920s was based on sun and surf, but businessmen saw an additional tourism attraction in the snows of its mountains. Ski jumping had been attracting large crowds. The business development of skiing needed big events to develop enthusiasm in the public. Businessmen knew that Lake Placid was preparing a bid for the Winter Olympics so they commenced their campaign around the idea of the Olympics. Los Angeles had already been awarded the summer Games in 1925. The Chamber of Commerce had organized a Winter Sports Committee to promote enthusiasm to get a local organization to put a bid together. Two areas prepared a bid to host the Olympics – Yosemite and Tahoe, with Big Pines fronted by the Los Angeles 10th Olympiad committee. But the Winter Olympics were no longer awarded to the Summer host automatically. California was thought to be the land of sunshine and deficient in ski areas of adequate scale and reputation. Lake Placid was awarded the 1932 Winter Olympics in April, 1929. But, California needed to get on the scoreboard for skiing. So Wendell Robie of Auburn Ski Club and Lake Tahoe Ski Club went into a maximum effort to get approval from the National Ski Association for a national championship in 1932 which would draw international competitors from the just-completed Olympics. US competitors for Lake Placid were selected in contests in 1931 on the Olympic Hill sites selected for the National Championships. Wendell Robie organized and directed the 1931 events and provided his expertise to the 1932 events as well.

This early experience with the inadequacy of California's ski facilities made an impression on the Chamber of Commerce and the founders of CSA. The CSA 1939 Articles of Incorporation have two general statements and its bylaws name a unique committee to carry out area development. This initiative was unique among the divisions of the National Ski Association.

Article 2 (b) To take an active civic interest in and to encourage, develop and maintain the sport of skiing as a healthful outdoor recreation.

Article 2 (f) to cooperate, if requested with any governmental or other agency engaged in activities affecting the sport of skiing and winter sports, to the end that the public at large may obtain the fullest appropriate use and enjoyment of areas particularly adapted to wintertime use and recreation.

More directly, **Resolution 11** from the 1940 CSA Annual Convention states: *“That the CSA urge that the Director of the Budget include in the annual budget for the United States Forest Service adequate funds for the development of winter and summer recreational facilities and activities and that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Budget, the Chief of the Forest Service, the Regional Forester of Region 5, USFS, the California Representatives in the Congress of the United States, and to the President of the National Ski Association of America.”*

And further, from **Article 2** of the FWSA 1983 restated Articles: *...to cooperate with, assist and actively promote public and governmental recognition of the inherent values of the sport of skiing to the end that the public at large obtains the greatest appropriate use and enjoyment of public lands particularly adapted to winter recreational sports.*

The reason for this area development flavor in CSA documents lay in the recognition that in order for California to be recognized as an international center for skiing required more lift-served facilities to serve the rapidly expanding skier population, an objective shared by both skiers and developers. There were tourism dollars to be made, the roads into the ski sites were being cleared in winter with more being built and personal equipment and technology was becoming increasingly available. There were ski clubs being formed as early as 1923. Skiing was in its first big expansion. But, the potential sites for ski area development were either on public lands or at least partly so. The CSA/FWSA area development program was to be greatly challenged in the years to come.

Terrains and sites adapted for skiing were being explored by a number of investigators in the years 1920-1940, including Mt. San Geronio, Mineral King, and many other sites in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. In 1973, FWSA's Public Lands Committee, chaired by Royall Brown, researched the files of the USFS, did map studies and estimated that there were probably over 25 areas in California alone having some merit for skiing. These reports were used as a basis for further assessment of the feasibility, desirability and environmental impact of ski development of many sites. More detailed assessments by FWSA often included on site or helicopter skier reconnaissance to augment that of the USFS and industry interests.

Skiing's modern growth proceeded rapidly and skiers in various parts of California, Nevada and the Pacific Northwest began to look at expanding skiing to some impressive new sites. This growth, interrupted by WW II, resumed after the

war with even greater enthusiasm, fueled by the activities of returning 10th Mountain Division troopers and the westward population waves arriving in California. The demand for skiing climbed for 50 years fueling a huge ski industry. Skiing as mass recreation on a national scale had arrived. When the annual increases in skier days leveled off, only then did skiing opportunities began to be satisfied by availability.

For the skiers of the 50s and 60s, the ski areas were never big or numerous enough. So the pressure from 1930, and that in the later decades, changed from inadequacy to even greater inadequacy for comfortable recreational skiing. And, as the population exploded, it then became partly a matter of on-hill safety from overcrowding. Refer to the data on ski club and membership growth, as well as, development of ski areas in the *“How California Became a World Class Skier's Paradise”* and *“Tracks: The 90 Year Journey of the FWSA”* essays.

Out west, ski areas were established more with public land, mainly Forest Service administered, than with private land. And, ski areas needed to clear timber for downhill ski runs on public land, they needed treatment facilities, were aesthetically challenged in their construction phases and sometimes even when complete, disturbed the animals who lived there and brought people to remote places in increasing numbers.

The Sierra Club and the Mountaineers in Washington provided outings and exploration of the wild places and developed memberships based on appreciation of Nature. This included skiing. The Sierra Club still conducts its Outings program. But early on it began to push back on activity which they thought affronted Nature. Their political move in opposition to the Hetch-Hetchy Reservoir (1903-13) was a first display of the Sierra Club's intent to take political positions which supported their philosophy. They backed these up with political influence and money. Later, litigation became their most effective tool to press their views.

So the stage was set for conflict between environment, ecology, membership appeal and philosophy on the one hand and the allure of winter tourism business, the aspiration of becoming recognized internationally for skiing, need for vastly improved opportunities for lift-served skiing, and finally, servicing an explosive growth in skier numbers while skiing safely on the slopes. The focus of many of the disputes lay in the use and management of public lands. There came more than four decades of battles over land use - in the press and

media, community debates, hearings, and court filings - and a roiling menu of peripheral issues as well. Ironically, many environmentalists were devoted skiers and many skiers thought of themselves as protective of the environment. While these conflicts were occurring, environmental organizations proliferated and evolved, but ski interests were led by commercial or trade organizations, and organized skiing - FWSA. As far as proposed area development was concerned, skiing mostly lost.

The experience of the FWSA in area development (considered part of Public Affairs from the early 1970s) came in overlapping sequences: San Gorgonio (1964), Mineral King (1965-78), identification of sites suitable for skiing, RARE and RARE II assessments (1970-79), expansions of existing areas, Moses-Maggie/Peppermint (1980-90), and Sherwin-San Joaquin (1982-1991). FWSA was copied on or responded to all Draft Environmental Impact Statements involving ski facility development or expansion until after 2000.

San Gorgonio

Mt. San Gorgonio is the highest peak in Southern California (11,502 feet). It has two north-facing bowls and was referred to by many early skiers as highly desirable as a ski area convenient to the Southern California metro areas. The first recorded ski ascent was made in February, 1931. A rudimentary cabin (*Edelweiss*) was built near South Fork Meadows in 1934. Several proposals by local skiers were made to build a ski area on San G started as early as 1937. Development was looked upon unfavorably by some foresters and locals, whether environmentalist or not. The new Wilderness Act was passed in 1964, and its hearings began to decide what areas should go into Wilderness. Hearings were held locally, chaired by a Congressman from an Eastern state, and differing positions regarding the future for San G soon became obvious. San G was recommended for Wilderness classification and was later voted so. That action was and is one of the biggest hits against lift-served skiing in California.

For years, the Southern Council, on the initiative of Dick Goetzman, kept a San G fund to serve as seed money for a campaign if the Wilderness classification had some chance of reversal. FWSA had by then been trained in mobilization of its membership and the public at large. You can still ski the deep snows and scenic beauty of San G's ski slopes but it requires hiking in and then you need to make a substantial climb in the snow.

Up until 1968, there was an annual San G DH race. It was last run in 1977 or 1978, won by Dave Tollakson with Steve Reneker second.

Mineral King

As far back as the 1930s, experienced skiers who skied Mineral King thought it had world class



LEFT: Surveyors stop to analyze the terrain near the cornice of Mt. San Gorgonio. a Mosauer Photo
RIGHT: Mineral King's Visalia Peak, overlooks Christianna Bowl and the Mineral King Valley.

photo courtesy of Ingrid P. Wicken, California Ski Library



skiing potential to serve Southern California. David Brower, future Executive Director of the Sierra Club and the founder of the environmental movement, wrote favorably about the prospects of skiing Mineral King.

Vic and Bea Hasher spent two seasons in Mineral King in 1949-51. Their visitors brought out glowing reports. These and other reports convinced the US Forest Service to issue a prospectus in 1965 for a ski resort in Mineral King. That same year, David Brower was presented with a court decision that environmental groups could have standing to sue on behalf of the environment. He was to wield this new weapon with vigor. The USFS had awarded development of its winter sports contract to the Disney Corporation; the design was unveiled in 1967 and it drew environmental fury from the Sierra Club. FWSA responded with mobilization of its membership and the public it could reach with letters, appearances, debates on the merits of Mineral King and its image as a savior for skiers in

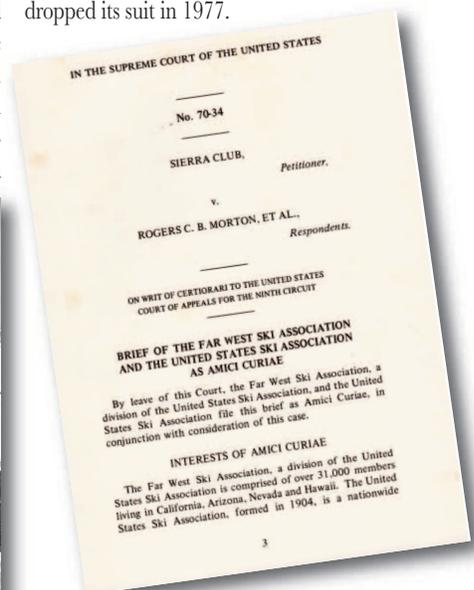
Southern California. Disney's concept was dazzling, a huge village concept requiring a long road in and monorail access, and with 20,000 skiers on the slopes at peak. FWSA mobilized to fight the Sierra Club's standing to sue issue along with the US Government and a host of Amicus briefs pro and con. FWSA filed its own amicus curiae brief and sided with the government to defeat the Sierra Club in 1972.

The war was not over. Sierra Club amended its complaint and arguments continued. The Sierra Club fought every aspect of the 1974 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (*DEIS*) by Disney. When the USFS and Disney reduced the scale of the resort design to 8,000 skiers, the Sierra Club dropped its suit in 1977.



Vic and Bea Hasher surveyed Mineral King. Sawtooth Peak is in the distance. They spent two ski seasons in the valley collecting information on the possibilities for skiing. They hosted visitors who could also evaluate the possibility for a ski resort here. Their 1947-1949 experiences were circulated widely and were used by the USFS to publish a request for proposals for a ski resort.

photo courtesy of Ingrid P. Wicken, California Ski Library



An FWSA amicus curiae brief was filed on behalf of the development of Mineral King.

photo courtesy of John Watson Collection

The Mineral King story lasted until 1978 when the resort area was folded into the Sequoia National Park by an Act of Congress, eliminating any possibility of a ski resort under current law. The Mineral King issue dominated FWSA's area development activity for over 13 years.

FWSA sent Nancy Ingalsbee to Washington as an advocate for Mineral King and the use of public lands. Sending an advocate to Washington is still a first for a volunteer ski association. Jane Wyckoff brought assorted stationery to meetings to be used for members' letters to Congressmen and media. Jerry Garrett (*Single Ski Club of LA*) developed the "**Save our Skiing**" fund raising campaign. Chuck Morse founded the Skisport Legal Defense Fund. A Mineral King Ski Club was founded. FWSA flexed its muscles, but one of its Senators - Alan Cranston- backed out of negotiated support for skiing in Mineral King and voted instead for park inclusion, splitting the California vote. The other Senator was Sam Hayakawa.



The public fight over the use of public lands for Mineral King skiing really started in Balboa Ski Club in 1974. Balboa was the home club of Dick Goetzman and he had the club well informed as to the status of Mineral King. Nancy Ingalsbee (pictured) took the lead in the fight and decided that she would send the world's longest telegram to the US Forest Service. Their litigation with the Sierra Club, was to convince them of Far West's determination. The initial signings for the telegram started and continued through many meetings with other clubs and through two major ski shows. Balboa members collected sufficient money to send Nancy to Washington to deliver the telegram. It was nearly a foot in diameter. The success of that mission led to Nancy being dispatched to Washington as a representative for Far West and the USSA (the amicus briefing official holder). Nancy stayed on in Washington as the members' representative to watch over other ski related causes after the loss in 1978 when Mineral King went into the Sequoia National Park. She remains the only Washington rep sent by the Association, serving into the 1980s. Nancy is the 2017 FWSA Snowsport Builder.

The task of remaining informed and involved in area development for skiing was carried out by the Public Affairs committee and task teams of skiers chaired by an FWSA official and working with local persons on site. This included dialog with operators and prospective developers and a commitment where possible to conduct on-site inspections of the area or facility being expanded and for which a DEIS may be required. In addition, the Association provided input to the two RARE exercises by the USFS.

During the era of RARE (*Roadless Area Review and Evaluation*) and RARE 2, Royall Brown tracked all the areas identified in RARE and identified 27 candidate areas having potential as a ski site. The



Public Lands Advisory Board Chairman, Royall Keith Brown (1936-2018). *photo provided by the Upper San Gabriel Metropolitan Water District*

Public Lands Advisory Panel, chaired by him, used a set of five metrics to make this determination. FWSA then got agreement with the USFS that the sites that met the key metrics would be documented for consideration for winter sports and excluded from Wilderness. Some sites were deemed unsuitable for winter sports.

Peppermint Mountain

A new area development concept evaluated by FWSA was a proposed site in the Sierra Nevada. The Peppermint Area in the Sequoia Forest is feasible for future development as a major destination downhill skiing area according to initial studies completed through a Forest Service special use permit issued in August 1980 to Art Buckley of Porterville. The area lies about 40 miles east of Porterville via California 190 and the Western Divide Highway. This highway borders the area on its north and east

sides while the Slate Mountain Crest at 9,302 feet bounds the area on its west side.

The preliminary study showed that Peppermint has desirable qualities including the variety of slopes, needed for all ranges of skiing ability. It has sufficient snow for operations from December through March and adequate land for parking and other development facilities at the base. Nearby areas are also available for other winter sports including cross country skiing and snowmobiles. The uses and facilities could be incorporated in the total development.

An Association team was assembled and charged with evaluating the possibilities and then to exercise a support campaign should the evaluation be positive. The team was charged with reporting on the steps taken by the Forest Service and the permittee and along Far West procedures to make on site observations. The project kicked off in 1981 lasted over eight years. The project team operated at a time of organizational turbulence under USSA-Sports and from 1984 the involvement of like-minded volunteers from a new ski organization – the US Recreational Ski Association (*USRSA, then chiefly populated by Far West members*).

The team reviewed The Peppermint Mountain Resort Feasibility Study document prepared by Alpine Development of Boulder, CO and the Conceptual Plan and Preliminary Economic Analysis 1980. Far West was informed of a special use permit to an Art Buckley by the USFS for an area 40 miles east of Porterville – which came to be known



Far West Ski Association Officers Sports Division) gather wearing their Peppermint T-Shirts at the 50th Annual Convention at the Fresno Hilton Hotel on April 24, 1982. FRONT ROW L-R: John James - Board of Governors, John Rosenfeld - VP Public Affairs, Nancy Ingalsbee - USSA/Sports Director of Government Relations, Unknown, Unknown. BACK ROW L-R: Janie "Frankie" Hansen - Chief Financial Officer, Unknown, Jane Wyckoff - President, Woody Hogan - Central Council Public Affairs Chair, Bobbie Moreno - USSA/Sports Program Consultant, Unknown. photo provided by Jane Wyckoff



On January 6, 1987 a "standing room only" crowd of roughly 275 skiers attended an Area Development program at Balboa Ski Club, Orange Council. Shown in the picture are: **Left to Right (Kneeling):** Bill Donahue, President of Showbounders; Maxine Braun, Director of Public Affairs - Orange Council; Janie "Frankie" Hansen, President of FWSA; Jane Wyckoff, Past President of FWSA; Terry Mayle, President - Orange Council; Sue Emery, President of Balboa Ski Club; Carol McCracken, Past President of Orange Council; Jeff Drawbridge, VP of Snowfliers; **STANDING:** Art Pressel, VP of Orange Council; Cloyde Howard, Trustee of FWSA; Dan Collins, VP of Councils - FWSA; Ed McArthur, Executive Director of USRSA; Allan O'Connor, A.I.A., Recreation Architect Planner; John Rosenfeld, Director of Public Affairs - USSA; Louis Buhler, Director of Public Affairs - LA Council.

Snow Job! BSC Newsletter, February, 1987



The FWSA Public Affairs office created skier reconnaissance teams for onsite evaluations of threatened expansion of skiing. The Tahoe Task Force received a briefing from Sugar Bowl staff on environmental matters, including an issue associated with Mt. Lincoln. **Standing Left to Right:** Dick Fores, (Consulting Forester), Sue Kane (FWSA Public Affairs), Morris Schmucker (BAC Powderhounds), Ted Abbott (President, Sunburst Ski Club), Pat Venturino (BAC Public Affairs), Karen Kimball (FWSA Secretary, Chair, Tahoe Task Force), Randy Lew (BAC Open League Racing, Modesto Ski Club), and Joanne Roubique (District Ranger, Truckee). **Front Row:** Rick Maddalena (Recreation Officer, Truckee), John Chong, Gretchen Sustachek (BAC Powderhounds), and Rob Kautz (President, Sugar Bowl). *SkıWatch, February, 1990*

as Peppermint. The Association organized a team to follow the progress with the Forest Service, evaluate for Ski Area Development of the Peppermint Mountain site, USFS Region V, by Ted Farwell and Associates.

Late in 1981, members from local ski clubs hiked the site. In February 1982, the site was hiked and heli skied by five FWSA team members. The DEIS was completed in May, 1984 and a supplemental EIS was completed in 1985 when two condors were found near the area. Other environment objections emerged in 1984. Skiers commenced a letter - writing campaign in support for the area after an appeal from Nancy Ingalsbee. Sequoia and San Luis Obispo wrote letters and The FWSA VP-Public Affairs, Kermit Wagner, pleaded in 1985 for Fresno, Avalanche (*Bakersfield*) and Santa Barbara to write letters because they would benefit from such a nearby area.

In a historic rally for ski area development, Balboa Ski Club hosted in January 1987 a "standing room only" of 275 skiers to hear an array of speakers on a menu of active area development topics. These included Louie Buhler, who reported that the decision of Zane Smith, Regional Forester, had upheld the decision for development of Peppermint. Allan O'Connor, Recreational Architect Planner and developer of the Mammoth Mountain Master Plan reported on Snowcreek. In 1989, both FWSA and USRSA continued to track Peppermint's litigation history. But, the 1989 decision indicated a need for the ski area and the Forest Service issued a prospectus for the "private sector to complete the planning and environmental study phase of the project".

In 1990, FWSA Public Affairs reported that no responses to the prospectus had been filed with the Forest Service.

FWSA maintained support from the 1960s onward for ski area expansions and use of public lands for skiing. Far West instituted on site skier reconnaissance to support its policy decisions. This involved the Southern Council, the Tahoe Task Force and the Eastern Sierra Task Force. *Done!*

The Tahoe Task Force examined the DEIS for the Mt Lincoln expansion of Sugar Bowl and did on-site inspection. FWSA passed resolutions favoring Mt Lincoln expansion at Sugar Bowl and the Stockton Flats expansion of Mt Baldy, approved in 1991, but still not done! DEIS review was conducted for Sierra Ski Ranch, Galena and Shasta issues. Independence Lake was inspected as a possible new ski area.

Sherwin Mountain & the San Joaquin Ridge

The Eastern Sierra Task Force conducted on-site meetings with Mammoth Mountain Ski Area and Dempsey Construction and deployed site survey teams in summer and winter - using helicopters for on snow reconnaissance in 1990. The sites involved were Sherwin Mountain and the San Joaquin Ridge



Ed Cornell directs landing of the helicopter bringing skiers/surveyors, and their gear, to the initial point of their assigned routes. photo by Claudia Watson

which “connects” the Mammoth Mountain Inn area with Mt. San Joaquin and the valley below June Mountain’s southerly flank. This was the biggest onsite evaluation ever made by FWSA. Organized by John Watson, it involved a Southern California NSPS mountaineering section of four experienced patrollers – Ron Anderson, Dave Tollakson, Steve Reneker, and Jerry Lambert, two professional patrollers from Mammoth – Ed Cornell and Doug Jastrab, and a number of experienced patrollers selected from an appreciable number of applicants who responded to the FWSA solicitation. Topographic maps and aerial photographs were used in the planning process. Avalanche and safety briefings were required of participants. The surveyors made several detailed observations regarding suitability for skiing at five sites along the ridge.

The San Joaquin “bowl” at the north end of the ridge was found to have inadequate snow depth and was windblown. There was excellent skiing on the northern part of the ridge in two bowls amidst spectacular scenery with rock “gendarmes” emergent from the undisturbed snow. Ed Cornell discovered a site that was a natural halfpipe. Confirmed again were the costly possibilities of connecting the ridge with June Mountain – multiple lifts in and out of

the valley or a gondola system connecting ridge to peak.

Historically, experienced skiers had made many runs down the face of Sherwin. In 1990-91, in addition to San Joaquin, multiple summer and winter evaluations of Sherwin Mountain were made with helicopter support for reconnaissance and skiing on the upper slopes. Sherwin overlooks the Snowcreek site. Sherwin was to serve as the ski mountain amenity for Snowcreek Ski and Golf, being built by Tom Dempsey. FWSA attended a number of meetings with the USFS and opponents represented by Friends of the Inyo. The Snowcreek perspective of ski runs was designed to provide an aesthetically pleasing sight by an expert brought in from Moab, using sophisticated modern modeling tools. Snowcreek was ultimately issued a permit by the USFS. Unfortunately, the project was never really started due to the death of Tom Dempsey (and his chief assistant Jim Ognisty, as well). Snowcreek’s base village of condominium housing, now expanded, remains.

The same helicopter was utilized to look at the upper slopes of Sherwin Mountain which looks over the Snowcreek site. The upper slopes were very good intermediate skiing. Some members who



Notes were recorded into notebooks while survey teams were on their site assignments. Dave Tollakson sketched the San Joaquin Ridge area, while team members tested the slopes. photos by Claudia Watson (mountain) and John Watson (booklet)

were present in Mammoth at the time got an advance look at the top of Sherwin, also.

The list on the next page includes names of most of the workers in the FWSA Area Development Program from 1965 to the recent years. The program had one in kind sponsor - Atari Computers, on scene financial support from Mammoth Mountain and other contributors in support services. They were officials or committee persons or simply motivated skiers. ■

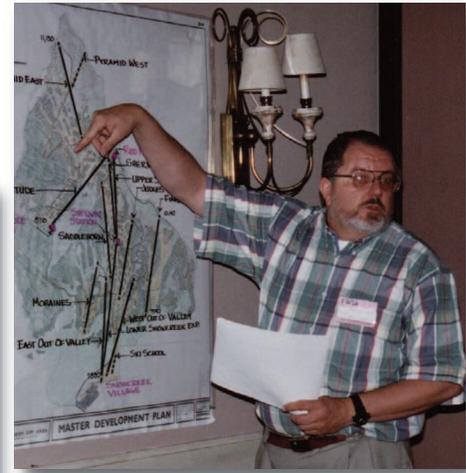


ABOVE: Members of the Eastern Sierra Site Survey Team. L-R: Ron Anderson, Steve Reneker, Jerry Lambert, and Dave Tollakson. The survey was conducted to develop an Association information base about San Joaquin Ridge and the proposed Sherwin Ski Area. photo provided by Ron Anderson



ABOVE: Surveyors pause to plan their routes down a challenging section of bowl #2 on Mt. San Joaquin. photo by Steve Reneker

BELOW RIGHT: Dean Kerklung, lifts and trails consultant for the proposed Snowcreek Ski Area, explains the layout of lifts at full completion. He also used computer modeling to lay out trails that maximize aesthetic values in views from the valley floor. Snowcreek actually obtained a permit to start work, but all was stopped with the untimely death of Tom Dempsey, the man who conceived Snowcreek. photo by Dempsey Company



FWSA and Mammoth Mountain staff at a Public Affairs briefing: BACK ROW FROM LEFT: Rusty Gregory and Evan Russell, MMSA; Kermit Wagner; Dina and Louis Buhler, Task Force Chairman; Dave McCoy and Gary McCoy, MMSA. FRONT: Michael Favia, John Watson, Claudia Rossbach, Shelly and Grady Smith, Mel Stazoff, Royall Brown and Paul Arrigo. photo provided by Ski Watch

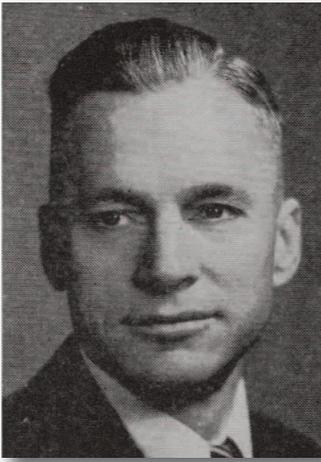
Eastern Sierra Site Survey Teams

Team	Leader/Data Safety	Hometowns	Affiliation	Skills
1	Dave Tollakson Jim Farkas Ed Cornell	Studio City El Segundo Mammoth Lakes	NSPS — —	International mountaineer International mountaineer Professional patroller; heliskiing operations
2	Steve Rensker Paul Laudenschlager Mike Stoner	Riverside Citrus Heights ex-Mammoth Lakes	Mt. High NSPS Fagowee S.C. —	Computer science Civil engineer; teleskier; racer Documentary video
3	Jerry Lambert Norm Cullen Dave Ellis	Costa Mesa San Diego Chula Vista	Mt. High NSPS Pres., S.D. Council San Diego S.C.	Computer systems RE development Documentary video; teleskier; industrial engineer
4	Ron Anderson Rob Deyerberg Loris Buhler	Rancho Santa Margarita Hathaway Pines South Pasadena	Bear Mt. NSPS Bear Valley NSPS Grindelwald S.C.	Computer software Recreation specialist/analyst 20 year's patrol at Mt. Baldy
5	Doug Jastrab Gene Fulkerson Ron Werner	Mammoth Lakes San Diego Manhattan Beach	— Single Ski Club South Bay S.C.	Professional patroller; heliskiing operations Bear Mt. NSPS; paramedic RE broker; Kratka Ridge NSPS
6	This team was made up of individuals available on an irregular basis who were used as fillers on teams 1-5 as each occasion demanded.			

40 Year Roster of FWSA Area Development Committee

- Dick Goetzman, FWSA Past President
- Don Simpson VP-Recreation 1969-1971
- John Watson, FWSA Past President and later VP-Public Affairs, Snowsport Builder 2018
- Ed McArthur, VP-Recreation 1971-1972
- Royall Brown, Chair PLAB, VP-Public Affairs 1973-1974
- Chuck Morse, FWSA Executive Director, Snowsport Builder 2015
- Bob Jordan, FWSA Professional Staff
- Nancy Ingalsbee, Washington Representative for FWSA 1976-78, Snowsport Builder 2017
- Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Past President
- Pam Rake, Mammoth Official
- Dave McCoy, Mammoth Ski Area, Snowsport Builder 2011
- Claudia Watson, Photography
- Karen Kimball, *Tahoe Task Force
- Howard Buchberger *
- Dave Brobeck 1971-1972*
- Bill Johnson *1972-1974
- Roy Cleghorn *1968-70
- Ed Oppenheim *1974-1979
- John Rosenfeld*
- Kermit Wagner*
- Sue Kane*
- Maxine Hanlon, Balboa Ski Club Public Affairs Chair

* VP PA of Public Affairs



Wendell Robie

(1895-1984)

Wendell Towle Robie of Auburn, CA from 1928 devoted his life to skisport for five decades and also created the hundred miles in a day race for horses and riders in 1955. The race starts at Tahoe City and ends in Auburn. He was President of the Auburn Ski Club during which it created the ski and jumping park at Cisco Grove alongside Highway 40, moved it when the highway changed its route and ultimately bought Boreal Ridge for a permanent home. Robie organized the 1931 Olympic tryouts on Olympic Hill and the following year oversaw the National Championships. Robie directed the FIS Jumping Championships on Treasure Island in 1939, one week after directing FIS downhill and slalom races at Auburn facilities. He was the first President of the California Ski Association, later its Treasurer, and in 1935 was elected Vice President of the National Ski Association. Both he and his wife, Inez, were graduates of the University of Arizona and two Robie medals are awarded annually to outstanding undergraduates. Robie was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and was elected to the National Ski Hall of Fame in 1964. *photo courtesy of Western Ski Annual, 1941*

Bill Berry

(1903-1999)

William Banks "Bill" Berry, author of *The Lost Sierra* with Chapman Wentworth, displays the size of the snowshoes used for sport in the gold fields of California. Racing started as early as 1852 in the hills around LaPorte and it continued until World War I.

Berry came to Reno in 1928 as a linotype operator, but his real interest was in reporting on secret divorces and skiing. He was a ski jumper and had skied since 1909.



Royall Brown

(1936-2018)

Royall Keith Brown was the first and only Chairman of the FWSA Public Lands Advisory Board. The PLAB was set up to focus information and develop actions concerning the use of public lands for skiing, an issue unique to Far West and the resolution of which is basic to California as an international ski center. PLAB was formed in 1972 and continued through the era of the RARE processes conducted by the US Forest Service. Brown evaluated all the possible ski sites in California based on five criteria, using map study and information provided by the USFS and identified those suitable and accessible. Those suitable were referred to the USFS for the RARE decisions about exclusion from wilderness classification. Brown had an extensive career in water engineering and was widely regarded for his expertise on water quality issues and his steadfast involvement in the protection of groundwater supplies. He was honored for his leadership in supporting conservation programs, innovative water project designs and environmental protections. He will be remembered for his dedicated public service and achievements in the water industry. *photo | Upper San Gabriel Valley Metropolitan Water District*

Bill Berry succeeded Harold Grinden as the Historian of the USSA in 1965 and served through 1972, revived the Ski Hall of Fame committee in 1966 and served as its chairman until 1974.

His journalism was self-taught. He wrote up curling results of the Canadian Bonspiel in 1915 as a cub reporter; and in 1922 he reported on ski jumping for the Ottawa Journal. Berry reported for the San Francisco Examiner, New York Herald-

Pantheon of FWSA Builders of our Legacy

by John Watson

History Chair, FWSA; President, FWSF



Dave & Roma McCoy Mammoth Mountain

Taken about 1956, this picture of Dave and Roma has a radiance that glows off the page. Their all-consuming Mammoth Mountain project was starting its rise to become a world class ski center. The development of Mammoth is replete with challenges overcome by the single-minded determination of Dave. For nearly seven decades, he ploughed profits back into new structures, equipment and lifts. And Roma, the Independence bank clerk who encouraged the bank to give him his first loan in 1938 is a great part of that story. He got the loan for \$85 to start a rope tow on McGee Mountain. And within a year, he got the beautiful bank clerk for his wife. They had six children. After many improvements in the McGee location, he (and Hans Georg, as well) began to set up rope tows at several trial locations, but Mammoth had the most reliable snow. The family moved to the 12X24 warming hut at Mammoth in 1953. Dave continued with management of Mammoth and June Mountain until his retirement after 68 years. His life work was sold in a deal valued at \$365 million, a substantial return on the \$135,000 loan in 1953 for his first lift. Dave was awarded the FWSA's Hans Georg medal for service in 1960. He is the 2011 FWSA Snowsport Builder honoree and was inducted into the National Ski Hall of Fame in 1967. Dave passed in February of this year at the age of 104. Roma remains at their home in Bishop, California. *photo /Robin Morning*

Tribune, New York Daily News, Reno Journal, Sacramento Union, all the major wire services and many other periodicals with an international circulation, beginning in the 1920s. He became a diligent reporter of the Tahoe area weekend race results to the Sacramento Bee and the Nevada State Journal, covering as many as eight events per weekend.

Berry was behind the establishment in 1969 by the Auburn Ski Club of its Western Ski Sport Museum which collects, preserves and exhibits the history of winter ski sports in the American West. The Far West Ski Association annually presents the Bill Berry Award for outstanding service to skisport by a member of the media.

Berry Won the International ▶



On Mt. San Antonio ("Mt. Baldy") with Larry Jeffries, ski racer, Morgan Adams Jr and Stan (R) about 1960. Morgan Adams funded the lifts on Baldy in 1948. photo: Ingrid P. Wicken, California Ski Library.

J. Stanley Mullin (1907-2000)

Stan Mullin, a pioneer in the California Ski Association, along with Corty Hill, Frank Ferguson, Sepp Benedikter and Andy Hauk, began skiing in 1931. He skied in California before the first lifts in 1940 and served as a Southern Skis club officer before and after his service in World War II. As a Lieutenant, USNR, he served on Atlantic submarine patrols aboard cruisers and destroyers and saw action in the invasions of Normandy, Southern France, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. Stan Mullin served skisport for more than four decades: vice-president and director of USSA and Far West Ski Association, U.S. delegate to F.I.S. (1951-67), vice-president of F.I.S. (1961-67) and the chairman of its eligibility committee (1961-67). The eligibility certification committee was destined to make numerous difficult decisions as de facto professionals and national athletes whose full time assignment was training and competing dogged the F.I.S. and the Olympics. Stan was awarded the highest individual honor of the USSA, the Julius Blegen Award, in 1962. The Far West's "Man-of-the-Year Award" was established in 1966 in Stan's honor. Stan was inducted into the National Ski Hall Of Fame in 1973.



Jimmie Ray Nunn

(1927 - 2020)

Since the 1930's, Jimmie Nunn has been involved in the development of skiing in the state of Arizona. Jimmie, Architect of City and Slopes, was presented the FWSA's Snowsports Builder Award at the 2016 Convention. His family was present as he received the Award.

Pictured Left to Right - Back Row: Kathie Nunn (daughter-in-law), Terri Myers (daughter-in-law), Eric Nunn (grandson), Ryan Sloyan (Aly's husband), Aly Myers (granddaughter). Front Row - Seated: Stephen Nunn (son) and Jimmie Nunn. Both Jimmy and his wife Jerry are in the NSP Hall of Fame. (Also see pages 36 and 56 for more on Jimmie Nunn...) photo / Azy's Photography



Steve Reneker summited Mt. Everest - the highest mountain on the planet at 29,035 feet - on May 16, 1995. He brought a FWSA flag with him on his climb! photo: Steve Reneker

Steve Reneker

Steve has skied since 1974 and holds National Ski Patrol number 185685. He patrolled Mt. High California for 23 years, now at Snow Summit/Big Bear for 18 years with a two year stint at Keystone, Colorado in between. Following the tutelage of his close friend Dave Tollakson starting in 1981, he instructed Mountaineering for 13 years. Three mountaineers were making a difficult training climb April 9, 1994 on the Snowcreek route up Mt. San Jacinto. The last man up was Dave Tollakson, who lost his footing near the top and tumbled several hundred feet to his death. Steve fulfilled a vow to his wife, Lynn, to take Dave's ashes to his seventh summit, Everest, the top of the world and there release them.



Bill Berry displays the size of the snowshoes used for racing.

► Bill Berry

Skiing History Association's (IHSA) prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award in 1994. Berry was the recipient in 1969 of the Blegen Award, the highest honor given by the United States Ski Association. He was inducted into the National Ski Hall of Fame in 1976.

Bill Berry carried FWSA Membership #1 until his death in 1999. Image from The Last Sierra.



Doug Pringle

Doug Pringle, past President of Far West Disabled Sports USA (now Move United), has provided over a half century of service to the disabled community. It all began in 1967, having graduated from the US Military Academy, when he was ordered to Vietnam and lost most of his right leg in combat. In 1969, he and 13 other amputees organized and raced in an Amputee Championship at Donner Summit. This was the beginning of DSUSA which today serves over 60,000 youth, wounded warriors and adults annually in over 40 different sports, through a nationwide network of over 100 community based chapters in 37 states. These sports opportunities transform participants, highlighting the potential in each. In the 1990s, as a member of the US Olympic Committee, he helped bring focus and equality to the United States Paralympic Team and has traveled to many countries to establish Disabled Sports Programs on an international level. These sports opportunities transform participants, highlighting the potential in each, embodied in the DSUSA motto "If I can do this, I can do anything"! Doug Pringle is a 2013 FWSA Snowsport Builder. Photo provided by Doug Pringle



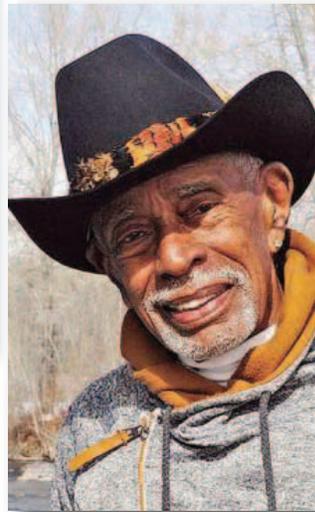
Gordon Cordona at Mammoth on his bi-ski.

Gordon Cordona

Gordon Cordona became a member of The Unrecables in 1993 after someone approached him when he and his family were visiting Mammoth and asked if he skied. Later that season, he went on his first ski trip with the club. The rest is history. Soon, he was appointed Newsletter Editor (now Communications Director) and held

that role since. He was also President, Vice President, Membership Director, and Webmaster. In 2000, he was named LA Council Man of the Year with Sigrid Noack as LAC Woman of the Year. Currently, he serves as VP Communications for LA Council. Gordon Cordona, Communications Gordon has been the leading

Ben Finley at the 2020 NBS Black Summit



Ben Finley, together with Art Clay, conceived and organized the first gathering of 13 black ski clubs with 350 attendees in Aspen in 1973. Finley had co-founded Four Seasons West Ski Club in Los Angeles and served as its President 1966 - 87. The black skiing population was virtually non-existent in the early 1970s, and the gathering became the foundation for what would become the biennial Black Summit and the birth of the National Brotherhood of Skiers. NBS emerged quickly as a skisport organization of national scope. Through nearly five decades, the NBS has nurtured (or launched) many thousands of snow sports enthusiasts and generated substantial revenue for the winter sports industry. The NBS' annual gathering is one of the largest ski events in the USA. Ben Finley was the 2015 FWSA Snowsport Builder. He will be inducted into the National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame in its class of 2019.

Off the ski hill Ben enjoyed a long and distinguished career as an engineer at Raytheon Systems Company, where he worked on the development of the Advanced Standoff Radar System among many other projects. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Andi. photo by Ben Finley

spokesman and advocate for adaptive sport almost from the beginning of the Unrecables four decades ago. He continues to demonstrate the ability of his fellow club members to enjoy sports at the shore on the water and on the slopes. Using a diverse inventory of adaptive gear, Unrecables both ski and snowboard. They are a chapter



Richard Lubin

(1954-2020)

"The Snowboarding Chiropractor"

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

Positive energy lit his spirit – kind, generous, an amazing chiropractor, passionate music lover, football enthusiast, ardent snow-boarder, playful sense of humor, and a great friend. He truly touched everyone he met. He loved music and music festivals. He made CDs of Christmas music and distributed them to friends each year.

In 2008, he suffered a bacterial infection of his spine which resulted in surgery to remove an abscess and which left him a quadriplegic. Within months and after intensive physical therapy, he recovered some measure of strength and mobility in his hands and arms. Then, he went back on the job as Safety Chair, coming to FWSA Conventions on a remarkable high tach wheeled vehicle. He continued his duties until his passing March 28, 2020. The FWSA Safety Person of the Year Award has been renamed the Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year in his honor.

Written by Randy Lewis, photo / FWSA

of Move United, formerly known as Disabled Sports/USA and are active in the Los Angeles Council of ski clubs and are affiliated with the National Ski Council Federation. They benefit from sponsorships by local businesses and support from fellow skiers.

Photo provided by Gordon Cordona



Dan Campbell Photography

Sarah Hendrickson

Sarah joined the initial group of Park City jumpers led by Lindsey Van and Jessica Jerome. Deedee Corradini had engineered the creation of Women's Ski Jumping USA. Deedee led this early group, with fellow international competitors as well, through the unsuccessful fight in the Canadian court to get the opportunity to jump in the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver. Sarah, at age 17, became the youngest of the WSJUSA jumpers. She won the inaugural women's World Cup season in 2012, finished runner-up in 2013, and won an individual gold medal at the 2013 World Championships. By this time, the campaign through FIS and IOC to jump in the Olympics had succeeded and WSJUSA got accepted into the Sochi Olympics. Healing from an injury, she joined Jessica Jerome and Lindsey Van to jump in Sochi. She was granted the historic honor of being the first female to ever jump in a ski jumping event at the Olympics, with women having been allowed to participate in Olympic ski jumping for the first time in history. She placed 21st. She was injured once more, interrupting her training. But, she made the Olympic selection once again and joined Debbie Ringquist and Nita Englund for the US team in PyeongChang. She placed 19th, Ringquist 29th. Today, women's ski jumping has been incorporated into USA Nordic. She was recognized with a FWSA President's Award in 2012.



Billy Kidd and Lila Lapanja

Olympians once and future. Billy Kidd and Lila Lapanja, compare medals at the 2019 FWSA Annual Convention. Billy offered advice and encouragement to Lila Lapanja. Billy Kidd was the silver medalist in slalom in the 1964 Olympics. His friend Jimmie Heuga took the bronze. The two of them are the first American men to medal in Alpine racing. In 1970, Billy won the gold medal in the combined and the bronze in the slalom at the 1970 World Championships. He won the slalom at Squaw Valley the prior year. Billy was the honored guest at the 1970 Far West Convention in Sacramento. He has continued to charm us at conventions ever since. In 2019, he met with Lila Lapanja to share medal experiences. Lila was named to the US Ski Team when she was just 16 in 2014. In 2019, she won her 3rd Overall NorAm Slalom title and has Europa and World Cup starts in GS and SL. Starting this season, she is ranked #2 in the US and top-23 in the world in slalom. She earned six FWSA Athletic Scholarships to help get her career started.



Dan Campbell Photography

Deedee Corradini

(1944 - 2015)

Deedee Corradini was a principal in the 15 year effort in the Utah committee which resulted in the award in 2002 of the Winter Olympics to Utah, the first woman and two term Mayor of Salt Lake City who engineered a light rail system to benefit its citizens, and who forcefully took the initiative to get Women's Ski Jumping accepted as a Winter Olympics event. This started with Lindsey Van telling her that women were not allowed to jump in the Games. Deedee had previously succeeded in getting women allowed to compete in skeleton and bobsled, so this initiated a furious ten year effort for women's ski jumping in the Games with her as the first President of Women's Ski Jumping USA. Failing at Vancouver 2010 with litigation, WSJUSA succeeded with a US team at both Sochi in 2014 with Sarah Hendrickson (21st), Lindsey Van (15th) and Jessica Jerome (10th) and at PyeongChang in 2018 with Hendrickson, Abby Ringquist (29th) and Nita Englund, with Hendrickson placing 19th. All quite remarkable for the daughter of an educator at universities in Beirut and Aleppo where she spent her pre-teen years. She was then fluent in French and Arabic. She was recognized as the FWSA Snowsport Builder in 2009.

LEFT: Billy Kidd/Lila Lapanja photo by Leigh Gieringer taken at the 2019 FWSA Convention

RIGHT: photo provided by Chuck Morse

Charles Arthur "Chuck" Morse

Chuck Morse has been an aerospace engineer, ski patroller (honor number 2825), association executive officer, ski program innovator and entrepreneur, ski area development and operations manager, US Army veteran and activist in community and veterans matters and a ski historian.

Chuck's innovations include Far West Ski Week, Donner ski tours, the green and white diamond Ski Touring and Mountaineering Handbooks. He created many briefings incorporating cartoon characters designed to teach, such as the "Mogul Mike - Ski Sense and Safety Program" for the US Ski Areas Association. He also developed the "Angel" program (and pin) for the NSP, honoring the wives who manned the first aid room while their patroller husbands were out on the mountain.

Chuck was the first and only Director of Recreational Services on staff of any regional ski association in addition to being the top administrator in other years.

He has consulted on many different ski areas or potential ski areas, including Peppermint (he led the helicopter surveying), Sherwin Mountain, Donner Ski Ski Resort and Snowbird. He has developed and executed several promotional projects under his company World Ski Events.

Chuck Morse is the 2015 FWSA Snowsports Builder. ■



Timeline: Skiing at Mammoth Mountain

- 1927 The H. F. Rey family, originally from Switzerland, first skied on Mammoth Mtn, to which they returned to every winter.
- 1928 Twelve-year-old Dave McCoy, founder of Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, visited the Eastern Sierra.
- 1930s Ski clubs forming in Los Angeles and Eastern Sierra. *"Skiing at Mammoth not to be excelled in America"*, said Will Vaughn, president of Big Pine Ski Club in LA County.
- 1935 Road improvements made the Eastern Sierra more easily accessible and the region gained fame among Southern California hunters, campers, fishermen...and skiers.
- 1935-36 Dave McCoy's first day of skiing in California. In Independence, Dave and two friends built the first Eastern Sierra rope tow with a winch, model A Ford truck and 200 feet of rope.
- 1936 (*April*) Jack Northrop converted his car into a rope tow, the first in Mammoth Lakes, and McCoy skis Mammoth Mtn.
- 1936-37 Jack Northrop designed and Corty Hill managed an overhead cable lift on McGee Mountain.
- 1937-38 Inyo-Mono Championships at McGee Mountain.
- 1955 Mammoth Mountain Chair 1
- 1957 Chair 2
- 1959 Chair 3
T-Bar 1
- 1962 Chair 4
T-Bar 2
- 1964 Chair 5
- 1965 Chair 6
- 1966 Gondola from base to Mid-Chalet at 9,630 feet
- 1967 Upper Gondola from Mid-Chalet to summit at 11,053 feet
- 1969 Chairs 7, 8 and 9
- 1970 Chair 10
- 1972 Chairs 11, 12, 13, 14
- 1975 Chairs 15 and 16
- 1976 Poma lift
- 1979 Chairs 17, 18 and 19
- 1980 Chairs 20 and 21
- 1982 Chair 23
- 1985 Chairs 24 and 25
- 1988 Chair 26
- 1994 Chair 27
- 1996 Sold to Interwest
- 2002 Village Gondola
- 2005 Mammoth Mountain sold to Starwood Capital Group
- 2017 Sold to Aspen Skiing Company / KSL Capital Partners -
- 2018 Corporate name was changed to: Alterra Mountain Company

Mammoth Mountain & Dave McCoy

by Diane Eagle Kataoka

Beneath the deep blue skies of the Eastern Sierra Nevada mountains in California, Mammoth Mountain reposes like a mastodon. The story of this mountain and its evolution into a ski area have as much to do with a single man, Dave McCoy, as well as its storied deep snows. So inextricably entwined are the man and the mountain that, as you gaze at the ski area while driving north up Hwy 395, you can imagine McCoy's profile on the ridgeline. In April 2020, this ski mountain stands high and massive and proud. Cloaked in snow and caught by the sunrise on its untouched, pandemic-closed slopes, it must look now very much as it did when Dave McCoy chanced upon it one day in 1936.

It wasn't the first time he'd been in the Eastern Sierra. That had been eight years earlier, at the age of 12, when he and his mother spent a week in Independence, one of a string of small towns along the Eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada. That summer of 1928, McCoy hiked up the Kearsarge Pass trail to a snowfield above Heart Lake. He glissaded *"over ripples of summer snow, his arms waving in the air for balance"*. On the spot, he was hooked by the feeling of snow beneath his feet, which shaped his life from that moment forward. *"I couldn't get over the snow on the mountains in the middle of July,"* he said. *"This spiritual feeling came over me, a sense of opportunity and desire. I felt like I belonged and I knew I would come back."*

In 1935, he returned to the Eastern Sierra and skied in the foothills above Independence. McCoy was captivated by the pure joy of the sport, by the freedom of flying down a snowy slope. He embraced the challenge of building a ski tow so that people could indulge in similar flights of freedom. His timing couldn't have been better, as skiers were finding their way to Southern California slopes in increasing numbers. McCoy set up his portable tows up and down the highway from McGee Mountain to Deadman Summit. From the beginning, he jumped in whole hog; Dave McCoy did nothing halfway. As author Robin Morning describes, *"The mechanically minded, such as Dave, tinkered with their makeshift tows, experimented with various diameters of sisal ropes, and developed special techniques to coil, carry, and uncoil ropes for efficient set-up and tear-down. To prevent the ropes from twisting, the men weighted the pulleys with snow-filled burlap bags. Eventually, they built a permanent tow in Grays Meadow [Independence], using telephone relays for safety switches, dry cell batteries for power, and a speed control unit to slow the rope down so that skiers could more easily grab hold."*

Meanwhile, in 1936, Averell Harriman installed the world's first chairlift — an innovative up-ski with wooden chairs hanging from an overhead cable — at Sun Valley, Idaho. California's Eastern Sierra was inundated with more tourism and automobile traffic than the region had ever experienced.

To support his passion for skiing, McCoy secured a hydrographer's job with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in Long Valley, using his skiing skills on snow surveys. By 1941, he had married Roma Carriere and moved into an LADWP bungalow overlooking the Long Valley Dam at Crowley Lake. Their six children were born during the 12 years the McCoy's lived there. Skiing was a family venture! McCoy loved nothing more than flying down a mountain. He and Roma both enjoyed ski racing and encouraged the sport in Bishop high school kids. He coached them while Roma cooked for them and gave them a place to sleep on weekends. Their dedication to skiers and ski racing never flagged. He and Roma ferried the teams to races all over the West as the sport grew.

DAVE McCOY & MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

Robin Morning, one of McCoy's protégé ski racers who raced for the National and Olympic Teams in the 1960s, has written a comprehensive photo essay chronicling the story of how Dave McCoy and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area grew together, *Tracks of Passion, Eastern Sierra Skiing, Dave McCoy & Mammoth Mountain*. (www.tracksofpassion.com) She has followed that up with an in-depth and intimate look at the ski pioneer in her new book, *For the Love of It, The Mammoth Legacy of Roma and Dave McCoy*. (www.blueoexpress.com) The following are excerpts from *For the Love of It* and *Tracks of Passion*.

Ultimately, McCoy's focus fell on Mammoth Mountain and on having fun. In 1941, as Morning describes in *For the Love of It*, *"... Dave converted his '38 Chevy into a roadside up-ski and sought out Mammoth District Ranger, Doug Robinson, to obtain a permit. Robinson had long supported the local ski community, occasionally ferrying skiers up Minaret Road in his small Forest Service bulldozer, clearing snow as he went. He assured Dave he didn't need a permit because his tow wasn't a commercial venture."*

"After the first snowstorm of the season, Dave and Roma loaded their Chevy with fixings for a barbecue, tools, pulleys, ropes, and a plywood wheel Dave had made, and drove up Minaret Road to the snowline on Mammoth Mountain's north

side. Dave backed the car against a hillside, jacked up the rear end, replaced the tire with the plywood wheel, and wound the end of a long rope around the rim. He then hauled the rope and a deadman pulley up the slope, attached the pulley to a tree, looped the rope around it, walked the remaining rope to the bottom, and spliced it together. Next, he disconnected the emergency brake from one side of his car so the differential could run twice as fast as the car registered. There it was. Dave had his own roadside tow.”

And when it snowed, people from Southern California headed up the highway to wherever McCoy was operating his portable tows. They were happy to pay fifty cents a ride to take the rope tow up the hill so they could ski down.

MAMMOTH VISIONS

On August 12, 1953, after three months of negotiations, the Forest Service’s Slim Davis wrote Dave McCoy a personal letter stating, “This confirms the issuing to you yesterday of a [25-year] term permit for the further development and operation of the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area”. McCoy agreed to construct a service building with water and sewage systems by November 1953, form a corporation by August 1954, build a chair lift by December 1956, construct a shelter hut at the upper terminus by November 1957 and a second chairlift by December 1960.

Determined to remain a family-owned business, McCoy set out to secure his own financial backing. No such luck! The ski business was far too risky, he was told, for a man without collateral. With verbal permission but no Forest Service permit and a grand total of \$12,500 in personal loans to back him up, Dave broke ground on his Warming Hut. He refurbished a donated 10,000-gallon water storage tank with rivets and tar, hand-dug a hole to house it, and laid a quarter mile of plastic hose connecting the tank to a spring farther up the mountain. He hired Lloyd Nicoll to frame a foundation while junior racers Rhubarb Marcellin, Kenny Lloyd, and twelve-year-old Gary McCoy helped him collect scrap rebar and hand shovel aggregate from a pit near Rock Creek.

By November 1953, two weeks after the birth of his sixth child, 38-year-old Dave McCoy concluded that to be a successful ski area operator, he needed to devote all his time and energy to that endeavor. He requested a leave of absence from his Los Angeles Water Department (LADWP) job of 16 years, sold his fishing boats to the LADWP and moved his family to his McGee ski-tow warming hut.

By winter of 1953-54, a newly paved Minaret Road, an improved parking area, and the friendly atmosphere of a crackling fire in the huge rock fireplace of the just completed Warming Hut welcomed skiers to McCoy’s Mammoth rope tows. Feeling like extended family, they chatted with ticket-sellers, most often Nick Gunter and wives of Dave’s friends who were helping him with the tows. They skied with Mark Zumstein’s Mammoth Ski Patrol, who were mostly volunteers from the Avalanche Ski Club, teased McCoy’s junior racers, and doted on the smiling faces of the six McCoy children—several of them already sporting Mammoth race team uniforms.

Yet during the summer of 1954, an unfamiliar feeling of discouragement nagged at Dave: he had not been able to secure financing to build a chairlift. He had talked to bankers, walked door to door in Bishop asking for support, even explored the possibility of using an old tramway from the Cerro Gordo mine. Just when he could think of no other avenues to pursue, a stranger knocked on his door.

Walter Martignoni of United Tramways went right to the point. Another ski area had canceled its order for a chairlift . . . would Dave take it? Dave said he couldn’t pay. Not to worry, Martignoni told him, he would carry the cost until they worked out a feasible payment plan. On a handshake, the two men sealed the deal.

McCoy turned his attention to the 1954-55 ski season and his current flock of promising ski racers. His junior team was monopolizing the Far West division and four of his seniors — one of them local racer, Jill Kinmont, whose vibrant smile and winning form had made her the unofficial darling of American skiing — were contenders for the 1956 Olympic Team.

In a newspaper article directed toward Southern California skiers hungering for news about the oncoming 1956-57 ski season, ski writer, Lester LaVelle, described improvements that took place at Mammoth Mountain over the summer. His words captured the essence of an entire era between 1955 and 1969.

“Dave McCoy has followed a policy through the years which indeed pays off. He offers summer employment to all his regular winter crew who care to stay with him, and this summer an average of more than twelve have remained on the job. And the ‘durn fools’ are so enthusiastic about the area and so loyal to their boss they work from sunrise to dark. No outsider understands it, and attempts at explanation are wide of the mark. But that’s the way it is at Mammoth — the bigness of the mountain gets in the blood.” — **Lester LaVelle, 1956**



In 1953, Dave McCoy built a full service Warming Hut at the bottom of his Mammoth tows. photos on this page provided by Robin Morning



On Opening Day at Mammoth Mountain - November 25, 1955. Skiers line up to ride Rope Tow 1.



1962 California Team at the annual American Legion races in Sun Valley, Idaho. LEFT TO RIGHT BACK ROW: Dennis Agee, Spider Sabich, Jon Reveal, Dennis "Poncho" McCoy, Jim Morning, and Dave McCoy (coach). LEFT TO RIGHT FRONT ROW: Linda Meyers (coach), Patti Formichelli, Robin Morning, and Virginia Birimisa.



The Inyo-Mono Championship was held in April of 1937. Blanche and Corty Hill, center, are shown with race winners. Dave McCoy on the right.



The 1953 American Legion Team at Sun Valley was coached by Dave McCoy (first left), Bobby Kinmont, Johnny Murphey, Lewis Fellows, Kenny Lloyd, Jill Kinmont, Barni Davenport, and Janice Catagno. The McCoy National Team coached the Junior National and American Legion teams every year from 1953 to 1965.

TO THE TOP

Junior ski racer turned ski instructor/summer worker, Eddie Riley, described this era: *“Dave had the ideas and he had the personality and stature to influence people to back him. Skiing was the essence of what he lived for. He wasn’t social . . . there was no icing on the cake. He never lost sight that he was promoting the simple fact of skiing.”* Ski patroller, John Garner, elaborated about the tone of those years: *“In meetings, Dave would say he wanted Mammoth to be the Vons or JC Penney of the ski industry so that everyone could afford to ski here. And his bottom line was always, ‘Did you have fun today?’”*

Each summer, McCoy invested his winter profits back into Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, pursuing his goal of enhancing the skiing experience. Between 1955 and 1969, without taking on a partner or long term debt, Dave and his small but dedicated crew built Mid-Chalet [McCoy Station], enlarged the Warming Hut, sculpted Mammoth’s ski slopes, and erected nine chairlifts, two T-Bars, and a gondola that accessed the top of his 11,053-foot mountain. *“Dave knew years in advance what he wanted to do,”* recalled cat driver, Roger Sorensen. *“We’d be at the bottom and he’d say, ‘A gondola will be going up there someday and we’re going to knock off those cliffs and make a run going down such and such.’”*

Sorensen continued, *“The roads weren’t surveyed. If Dave wanted one somewhere, he would just walk ahead of me. I’d follow him with the loader and make a small track, later go back and widen it. A lot of times, he’d stand on a slope and wave his hand directing me where to move dirt. We’d take a hump out over here and build a curve or slope over there.”* Reflecting on his years at Mammoth, Don Rake said, *“No one got hired for anything specific. At first, I did carpentry because I was a carpenter by trade, but as time went on, like everyone else, I did everything. One day concrete work, the next day putting up rafters, and the next, whatever. It was great!”*

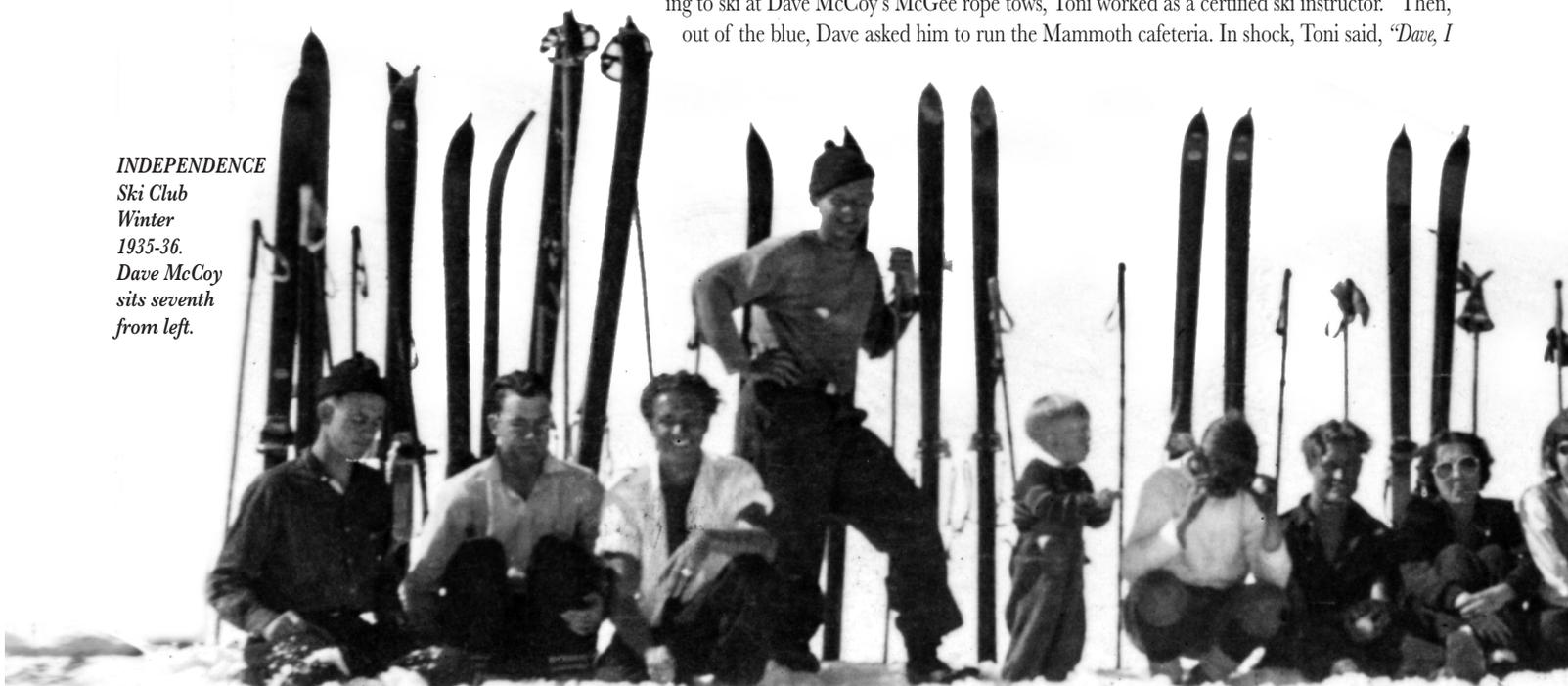
Anybody could run the backhoe — if they didn’t know how, they learned. Improvisation served as the rule of thumb. Using old surplus equipment, common sense, and brute force, the crew lived by the motto, ***“the impossible is simply something that takes a little longer.”***

Dave didn’t talk much. If a ditch needed to be dug, he grabbed a shovel and started digging. *“His energy rubbed off on you,”* explained long-time Mammoth local Bob Edwards. *“Dave would ask, ‘How ya doin’?”* and that would just put a fire under you because you didn’t want him to show you up. *Whether it was conscious or not, I don’t know.”*

Between 1955 and 1969, the business office for Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, located on the bottom floor of the Warming Hut [Main Lodge], housed only two desks: one for Dave McCoy, although he could rarely be found there, and one for accountant, Nick Gunter. As business grew and the office stayed the same size, employees followed Mammoth Mountain’s policy of making do with what they had, assuming new roles and responsibilities as they came along. Experience was not considered a prerequisite for advancement, only the desire to be part of the team and do a good job.

Toni Milici was the perfect example of the successful application of this make-do policy. After learning to ski at Dave McCoy’s McGee rope tows, Toni worked as a certified ski instructor. Then, out of the blue, Dave asked him to run the Mammoth cafeteria. In shock, Toni said, *“Dave, I*

INDEPENDENCE
Ski Club
Winter
1935-36.
Dave McCoy
sits seventh
from left.



don't even know how to boil water." Dave answered, "Well, I don't either. But Toni, you're good with people. You can remember all their names." For the next twenty years, Milici ran Mammoth Mountain Ski Area Food Services, a restaurant business serving thousands of skiers each weekend.

In this ever-evolving, family-like environment, the ski area expanded. Each morning, junior racers worked in the lobby using metal wires and pliers to laboriously attach lift tickets to customers' ski pants, while their mothers and wives of employees helped Nick Gunter in the ticket booth. On weekends, elementary school teacher, Tom (TJ) Johnston, buzzed around the office making snow reports, organizing entries for Far West junior races, and on occasion, putting together a brochure. When ski instructor, Bobby Cooper, took over the sport shop, Don Sharp, an accountant who had worked as a lift operator before running the sport shop, moved downstairs to help Nick keep track of the cash flow, which was growing by leaps and bounds.

Many employees considered their employment at Mammoth Mountain one of the best time periods in their lives, a time of learning by practical experience. Why? According to Nick Gunter, "It certainly wasn't for the money, because they didn't make anything. I think it was how Dave treated them. Employees were always first on his mind."

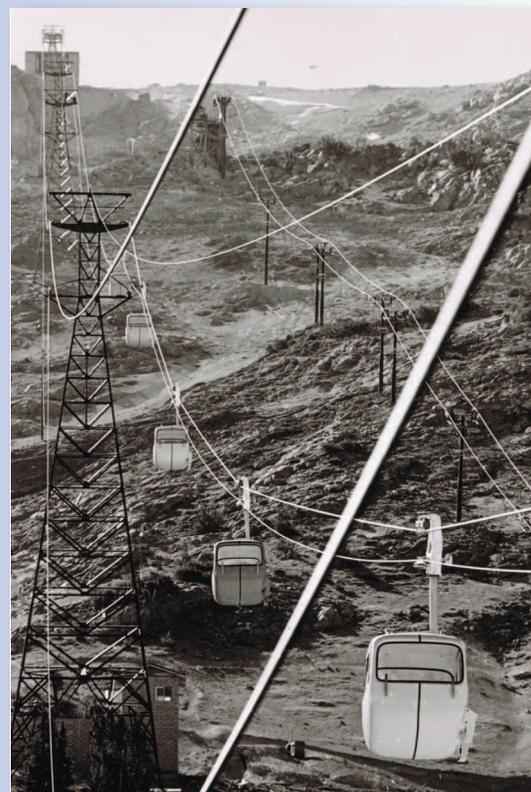
Whatever it was that created this sense of belonging, visiting skiers, especially those from Southern California, also felt part of the Mammoth family. They organized ski trips like treasured rituals, looking forward to the hours spent with friends and family while traveling in their packed cars, sharing dinner at White's Café in Mojave, freezing fingers while putting on chains, and pulling into town in the wee cold hours after midnight. Regardless of winter storm or bluebird day, they awakened to the winding Minaret Road, the "cattle truck" shuttle bus, the luscious scent of Max Riegg's warm cinnamon rolls, and a "story of the day" from Toni Milici. After stopping in the repair shop to be teased by Rhubarb Marcellin, they met Ralph Batchelder's smiling face at the top of Chair 1 ramp and Downhill Dick's casted leg propped up in the shack window at the top of Chair 3. Then, the fun of skiing huge rounded moguls on Upper Broadway and over giant steps on Stump Alley, the balancing act on T-Bar 1, the adrenalin rush of flying off Hair Jump, the pride of counting lots of holes punched in lift tickets, and most of all, the warm-hearted down-home feeling of being part of a Mammoth day.

In the 1960s Dave McCoy's vision for a family-fun ski resort expanded as his personally trained racers competed internationally and his children raced in the Olympics. With more than a half-century of McCoy's leadership, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area eventually encompassed 27 lifts and a gondola, lodgings, and amenities for skiers. An enthusiastic staff of dedicated mavericks ran ski lifts, ski patrol and ski school each winter and built lifts each summer. Turning over the reins in 2005 at the age of 90, Dave McCoy summed up his career. "It wasn't a job, it was a love affair."

Dave McCoy was one of a kind, possibly the last of the self-made ski area pioneers. He passed away at the age of 104 in early 2020. According to Robin Morning, he started "with little more than a strong work ethic and a huge amount of enthusiasm, and built one of the largest and most popular ski areas in the world. Along the way, he inspired thousands of people with his positive attitude, leadership and belief in the individual."



Planning diagram from 1958 for expansion of Mammoth Mountain ski area, three years after opening. Mammoth had two chairlifts from which trails for all skill levels could be accessed.



Testing the Upper Gondola between Mid-Station and the top before it opened in November, 1967.

About the Authors:

Whether co-directing a ski racing circuit, writing and editing for ski town newspapers in Aspen, Colorado, and Mammoth Lakes, California, doing research for Leon Uris, or cashiering in a ski area restaurant, **Diane Eagle Kataoka** has skied and lived in ski towns before, during and after their metamorphoses into resorts. At 8,000 feet above sea level, in the land of fires and earthquakes, she is writing a novel.

Robin Morning is the author of *Tracks of Passion* (2008) and the recently published book *For the Love of It*. She has received the FWSA Western Ski Heritage Award three times and was the co-host of the World Ski Congress in Mammoth in 2009.

photos courtesy of Dave McCoy's Collection



Wayne Poulsen and friends view Squaw Valley to ascertain the possibilities of developing a ski area in 1940.
Don Wolter photography, courtesy of the Poulsen family



Chair One was installed along Ward Creek at Alpine Meadows in 1961. John Reily looks over the resort (below). Don Wolter photography



AMOT (Alpine Meadows of Tahoe) Inc. Board of Directors: Byron Nishkian, Bill Evers, John Reily, and Larry Metcalf at the end of their first season (1961).

Don Wolter photography

Alpine/Squaw History

Eddy Ancinas

Author | Travel and Ski Writer

Wayne Poulsen, a young ski competitor from Reno, was on his way to Tahoe City for a jumping meet held on Olympic Hill in 1931, when he stopped to look west just before the dirt road from Truckee entered a canyon. Poulsen pointed out the spot to his friend and ski teammate, Marti Arrougé, who told Poulsen that his parents, who were Basque, grazed their sheep there in the summer, and that he had spent many summers camped there by a creek. As soon as the snow melted, Arrougé took his friend into the valley to fish in a stream that meandered through a meadow surrounded by granite peaks. It was called Squaw Valley.

Poulsen continued to explore the valley in summer and winter, and before he graduated from college in 1938, he took an option on 1200 acres of the Smith Ranch. He was certain that someday Squaw Valley would be his home, that he would build a house there ... maybe a ski resort...

In the early 40s, with the war intensifying in Europe, Poulsen took flying lessons in Reno and then had to wait to join the British RAF. Arrougé (also a pilot) suggested they wait it out in Sun Valley, where they could be ski instructors. It took only a week of private lessons with a lovely young lady from New York for Poulsen to fall in love, and in 1942 he and Sandy were married.

A year later Poulsen purchased 640 acres from Southern Pacific at the western end of Squaw Valley – a place where he and Sandy camped in the summer and ventured out into the mountains on skis in winter. With the family growing during the 40s, they built a home on the main road (now Graham's Restaurant), where their seven children learned to ski on the hill behind the house (Christy Hill). Meanwhile, they pulled friends and prospective investors on skis across the meadow behind a weasel (see photo bottom of page 53) in full view of the splendor of the snowy peaks around them, hoping to entice these investors to build a ski area. However, it was a chance meeting in the lodge at Alta, Utah, where Poulsen met Alex Cushing and invited him to come take a look.

With money raised by Cushing and Poulsen's 640 acres traded for stock, they formed the Squaw Valley Development Company. Poulsen saw the valley's future as a resort with land and lodging to complement the ski area, and in 1948 he exercised his option to buy 1200 acres from the Smith family. Cushing wanted only to be in "the uphill transportation business". The following year, with Poulsen now a full time pilot for PAN AM and out of the country, a stockholder's meeting was called and Cushing took over Poulsen's position as President. As a majority stockholder, he took over the company, leaving Poulsen without his



“Kit” Carson White skis the slopes at Alpine Meadows in the early 1960s. Prior to opening the Sherwood Forest Lift in 1965, Reily, Carson and guides often skied from the top of Ward Peak to Sunnyside overlooking Lake Tahoe. photo courtesy of Ingrid P. Wicken, California Ski Library

640 acres at the head of the valley and his dream to own the ski area. However, he owned everything else in the valley, and would go on to develop an entire community, raise a family and save 150 acres of his beloved meadow from destruction by state and local officials who wanted to build a sewage plant at the east end and pave 50 acres for parking for the 1960 Olympics.

Squaw Valley opened in 1949 with a double chairlift (*“The world’s longest ski lift”*), a rope tow and a 50 room lodge. The fledgling ski area was a great success with East and West coast socialites, movie stars and the skiing elite. Financially, it was a disaster. Revenue for the first year of operation was reported at \$28,000. Over the first five years, three avalanches destroyed the only chairlift on three occasions. Floods closed the lodge and washed out bridges on the dirt road, leaving guests stranded on either side. In 1955 the lodge burned down.

An article in the *San Francisco Chronicle* announcing that Reno was a candidate for the 1960 Winter Olympics inspired Cushing to consider a bid for the Olympics – a preposterous idea, but it might give Squaw Valley a more positive image. After convincing the state of California to sponsor it, the United States Olympic Committee to choose an unknown ski area with one lift, one lodge and a dirt road over Aspen, Sun Valley, Lake Placid, Alaska and Reno and the International Olympic Committee to even take him seriously; Cushing was on his way to not only make Squaw Valley famous, but also to stage *“the best Olympics ever”* and to forever change skiing in California and the West. Today, the Tahoe area has the highest concentration of winter sports facilities in the western hemisphere, and the area has produced more Winter Olympians and World Cup athletes than any region in the USA.

When John Reily, a Los Angeles businessman and weekend skier, heard that Squaw Valley was a candidate for the 1960 Winter Olympics, he and his wife, Winnie, made a spring ski trip to the area in 1955. They liked what they saw and built a cabin on the main road. As Reily explored the area – first on skis and later on horseback – he discovered another valley just over the ridge from Squaw. It didn’t take him long, as Wayne Poulsen had, to fall in love with the idea of developing a ski area.

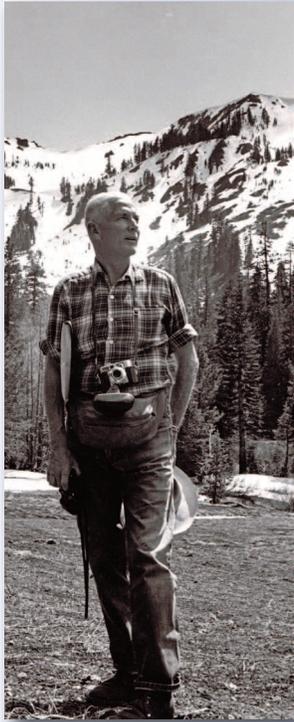
In the spring of 1957, Reily drove up a logging road in his jeep to get a better look at the valley floor, and throughout the following winter, he led ski tours down the back side of KT22 to a spot where a weasel waited to ferry skiers out of the valley to Deer Park Lodge on Highway 89. Encouraged by the enthusiasm of all who had made this journey, Reily signed a 25 year lease with Southern Pacific for 56 acres on the



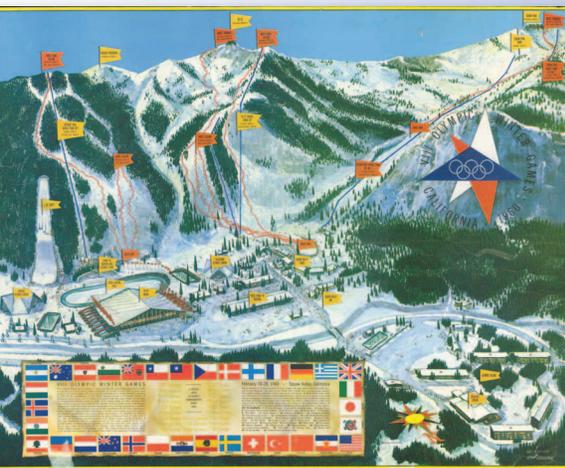
The Alpine Meadows Lodge - surrounded by beautiful pine trees - was constructed in 1961. Don Walter Photography



A “Weasel” Snow Cat pulls skiers to Reily’s cabin at Alpine Meadows as they were looking for expansion possibilities. Don Walter Photography



This photo of John Reily, President of Alpine Meadows of Tahoe, Inc., was taken in May, 1960 as he was proudly looking over the resort terrain.
Don Wölter
Photography



This map of the different 1960 Olympic venues appeared in the official event program.
Illustration courtesy of Squaw Valley Ski Corp.

About the Author:

Eddy Ancinas grew up in the Bay Area where she learned to ski at Badger Pass and Sugar Bowl. After volunteering at the 1960 Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley, she met her future husband, Osvaldo, a member of the Argentine Olympic Team. They built a home in Alpine Meadows in 1965, where they lived with their three children while operating their three Casa Andina Ski shops in Alpine and Squaw Valley. Eddy has been on the board of Lake Tahoe Ski Club Foundation, the Squaw Valley Community of Writers and the SNOW Museum Foundation. She is a non-fiction travel and ski history writer. Her book, *Tales from Two Valleys-Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows* was awarded the Skade Award for best regional ski history book (2013) by International Ski History Association. A second edition was published in October, 2019. She has written articles on Skiing and Ski History in *The Atlantic* and *Ski History Magazine*. To know more about Eddy, visit www.EddyAncinas.com and www.TalesfromTwoValleysbook.com.

back side of KT22 and Papoose, which included the terminal towers of both lifts and control of the future road into the valley. He had an option to renew in 1983.

Later that summer, Reily invited Peter Klaussen, a Harvard Business School graduate, experienced skier and local contractor to accompany him on an excursion into Bear Valley and to give an opinion on his plan to build two lifts on the back sides of KT and Papoose. Skiers could ski down from Squaw and ride the lift back. While searching for a biathlon course for the coming Olympics, Klaussen had surveyed the ridge between the two valleys for avalanches and had skied the surrounding mountains. He told Reily that the slopes on the backside of KT were too steep and not suitable for teaching. With its southern exposure, slides were frequent and snow would disappear early in the season. Klaussen suggested that a better choice would be farther up the valley on Ward Peak, independent from Squaw Valley. Reily thought a gondola from the top of KT to Ward Peak would be spectacular.

In the summer of 1959, Squaw Valley was under construction from peak to valley, in preparation for the coming Olympics. During that summer, Reily built the cornice restaurant on top of KT and two A-frame houses in Alpine Meadows to show off his proposed ski area. He would use them as offices and a place to greet skiers after skiing down from KT. Renowned ski area consultants, John Graham and Company, began preparing a planning and feasibility report for potential investors. When it was completed, the report stated, *“The high valley floor of 1,690 feet from base to the top of the main lift, combined with unusual ridge formations of the four bowls, make possible some of the best skiing in the United States.”*

Additional affirmation came from Willi Schaeffler, U.S. Ski Team Coach, Chief of Courses for the 1960 Olympics and ski area designer, who had visited Alpine Meadows in summer and winter, and wrote *“the ski terrain on Ward Peak is more varied and suited for all types of skiers than in any area I know in the U.S.A”*. He later predicted that, *“over sixty million people saw the Olympics on TV. I believe the number of skiers will double over the next ten years.”*

The USFS granted Reily and his son, John Jr., a permit to build a ski area in October, 1959, and Alpine Meadows of Tahoe (AMOT) became a California corporation in December of that year. With an impressive Board of Directors that included lawyers, bankers, business men and influencers from National and Olympic ski organizations, AMOT had until August, 1960, to raise the capital to build the ski area. They all shared John Reily’s dream to create a ski area owned and operated by skiers whose families would enjoy the sport without the distraction of commercial activities.

The Cornice restaurant opened in the spring of 1960 and soon became a hub for local skiers and a place where Reily and Cushing often met to discuss their two valleys and the pros and cons of joining them. The top of KT was also a viewpoint and the starting gate for Alpine’s future investors. In spite of spring ski tours, summer jeep tours, meetings, mailings – even the offer of a lot for \$5,000 with ten years of lift privileges; AMOT could not raise the required funds by August 28, the date set by the California Department of Corporations.

A year later, they tried again with a revised budget and more vigorous fundraising. Again, they failed to reach their April, 1961 goal in time for summer construction. A new plan offered membership in the Bear Creek Association to the first 130 investors of 500 or more shares and included choice of a lot in an area leased from Southern Pacific Land Company. The promise of an exclusive mountain retreat – much like Sugar Bowl – attracted wealthy San Francisco investors who purchased all the remaining shares in the Bear Creek Association. Reily’s dream of a ski area was saved, but he had no control of its future. Byron Nishkian, past president of FWSA, was elected president of AMOT and Reily remained chairman of the Board.

Alpine Meadows opened December 28, 1961 with one chairlift and a lodge under construction. In their first year of operation revenue exceeded expectations. Snow was good and abundant. Enthusiastic skiers praised the variety of terrain, the excellent ski school and the friendly family vibe. The following winter (62-63) was the driest in 100 years. Snow didn’t fall until late February. With revenue down 60%, Nishkian, Larry Metcalf and other investors once again rescued Alpine to survive another season. Luckily, the next season lasted from November to May.

The 1960s began with optimism and growth. Alpine added six lifts and access to Ward Valley. Squaw Valley added ten lifts, a gondola and a Tram. However, by the end of the decade, skier numbers plunged. Alpine was on the verge of bankruptcy, and Squaw Valley’s reputation plummeted with reports of surly personnel and a lack of concern for skier’s safety, as lift and ski accidents occurred with alarming frequency. Throughout the 70s and into the 80s the news from Squaw Valley was all about conflict and controversy, as Cushing blasted rocks, cut trees and diverted streams to build more lifts, resulting in lawsuits filed by county, state and environmentalist groups.

Nick Badami took over management of Alpine Meadows in 1971 and bought the area in 1975. His attention to fiscal discipline and his focus on skiers’ experience (*groomed slopes, good food, clean facilities, courteous employees*) lead him to invest heavily in snowmaking, grooming and lift improvements throughout the 80s



and 90s, thus restoring Alpine's reputation for friendly service and quality skiing. Badami worked closely with Werner Schuster, former ski-school director and now Vice President of AMOT. Schuster loved Alpine and had been a respected member of the Alpine family since 1963. He understood what motivated skiers to buy lift tickets, rent or buy equipment, rent, buy or pay for lodging, drive in challenging conditions and show up – rain, blizzard, powder, packed or slush. "It's not just a lift ticket we are selling," Schuster said, "but an experience, a life-style." With that in mind, Schuster initiated a Ski Week Program that included lodging in Tahoe City and lessons at Alpine. Races and special events for ski clubs and schools won the hearts and wallets of local skiers as well as the Bay Area and beyond. Schuster's national marketing program, Ski Lake Tahoe, benefitted six resorts around Lake Tahoe, and Alpine.

Badami sold AMOT to Powdr Corporation in 1994, became Chairman of the Board and moved to Park City, where he guided the company in the acquisition of ski areas including Boreal Ridge and Soda Springs. New management, a shift in priorities from those of a public company to a private corporation and the departure of key employees (including Werner Schuster) sent ski teams and many locals back to Squaw Valley, where snowboarders were welcome and extreme skiers shot down chutes and leapt from cornices to the delight of onlookers. High Camp, at the top of the Tram, was a year round attraction with restaurants, skating rink, swimming pool and tennis courts. Then Squaw added an entire village in 2002.

Cushing died in 2006, leaving his wife, Nancy in charge and the skiing public wondering what big corporations would make an offer on one of the country's last privately owned ski resorts. "Not for Sale", Nancy said.

JMA Ventures, a publicly traded real estate investment company, bought Alpine Meadows from Powdr Corp. in 2007. New capital improved mountain and base facilities, and former employees and devotees returned to their favorite ski area. KSL, a private equity firm, bought Squaw Valley in 2010 and added Alpine Meadows a year later. By 2018, Alterra Mountain Company, a private company owned by KSL, acquired KSL's community of 14 ski areas, including Squaw and Alpine.

Just as Poulsen, Cushing, Reily and many others have speculated for the past 70 years, the two valleys now operate as one ski area, and soon they will be connected by a base to base gondola – making the combined operation the largest ski resort in California and 2nd largest (after Park City) in the USA. ■

The future Sierra Nevada Olympic and Winter (S.N.O.W.) Sports Museum will tell the stories of Sierra Nevada ski history from the days when the Washoe climbed the mountains on hand-made snow shoes, through the 1900s when goldminers raced down on 14-foot longboards to modern day world cup and Olympic athletes. As an Olympic museum, it will commemorate the 1960 Winter Olympics and the ensuing effects on regional and western ski history. The two-level, 16,000 sq. ft. museum will be located in the park at the entrance to Squaw Valley Ski Area and will include a Far West Ski Hall of Fame, Olympic and Sierra Ski History wings and space for private and public events, classes, lectures, films and conferences. The architecturally iconic building will be surrounded by an Olympic park which will include the Tower of Nations and other statuary. Currently, the SNOW Sports Museum Foundation is completing preliminary environmental information for local government review. The foundation looks to begin construction in the next few years. Follow their progress, share memorabilia, listen to oral histories or get involved at www.thesnowmuseum.org.

watercolor drawing of the proposed S.N.O.W. Museum courtesy of the SNOW Museum

Arizona Timeline

1915 – Ole Solberg introduced skiing to Flagstaff.

1920s – Skiing was largely cross-country and for utilitarian purposes.

1930s – Organized skiing established on the San Francisco Peaks under a permit from the US Forest Service.

- Forest Service Ranger Ed Groesbeck put in charge of the CCC Civilian Conservation Corps camp that constructed a road up to Hart Prairie.

Jan. 1, 1938 – A ski jamboree organized by the 20-30 Club held on Hart Prairie which the newspaper called “the opening show for the snow sport program of the Flagstaff area”.

February, 1939 – 20-30 Club organized the first Snow and Ice Fiesta. A power-drawn rope tow was purchased. After a huge success, the club had a contest to name the area. Arizona Snowbowl was selected from over 115 entries including Frosty Run and Alt Vista.

- Arizona State College (now NAU) organized a team called the Ski Jacks

1940s – Flagstaff Ski Team was created and bought equipment for the area

- Races were organized with teams from Flagstaff High School, Phoenix, Williams and the PreSkiMos of Prescott

1941 – The CCC finished Hart Prairie Lodge, complete with fireplaces and a glass observation porch

- World War II closed down operations for two seasons

1946 – Al Grasmoen and his wife Venna bought the ski facilities from Flagstaff Ski Club, leasing the land from the Forest Service. Grasmoen purchased Army surplus equipment that included white skis from the 10th Mountain Division. These were painted orange for rentals.

1947 – Phoenix Chamber of Commerce sponsored the 1st Annual Thunderbird Invitational Ski Meet at Snowbowl.

1948 – Phoenix Ski Club formed

1950s – Grasmoen adds 3,000’ long rope tow on Hart Prairie, reportedly the world’s longest rope tow to date.

Arizona Skiing

by Jane Jackson

“Echoes of the Peaks”, Producer

A crowd gathered at the bottom of Flagstaff’s Observatory Hill during the winter of 1915-16 as Ole Solberg shouldered his homemade skis and hiked up the hill. Locals were awed as he flew down the hill “hot for town”. When he hit a snowcovered fence wire sailing through the air and landing with his head next to a rock many locals thought the Norwegian had just completed an amazing stunt. Most pronounced the sport eccentric but regardless, skiing had just made its debut in northern Arizona.

Initially, Flagstaff skiing was cross-country and more utilitarian than for fun. But that began to change by 1935. The 20-30 Club, a service organization, promoted winter sports and sponsored the first winter sports day renting skis for 50 cents a ride to try out the new sport.

That year also brought Colorado skier Ed Groesbeck to Flagstaff to work for the Coconino National Forest. He supervised the Civilian Conservation Corps camp enrollees at Schultz Pass in the development of a road up Agassiz and a ski lodge. Groesbeck is the self-proclaimed father of the development of Arizona Snowbowl and many locals recalled him clearing trails with an axe and cross-cut saw on weekends on his own time.

The first ski area on the San Francisco Peaks, Scissorbill Park, had a portable rope tow that could carry three skiers at a time. A 1938 ski jamboree held there was billed as the “opening show for the snow sport program of the Flagstaff area”.

In February of 1939, the first Snow and Ice Fiesta held on Hart Prairie featured a ½-mile slalom, ski races and relays using Forest Service radios for timing. The huge success of the event led to a contest with a cash prize to name the area. Arizona Snowbowl was the clear winner. Enthusiasm for skiing continued with clubs forming in Flagstaff at Arizona State Teachers College (now NAU) and Prescott, the completion of a lodge on Hart Prairie and winter festivals with highly competitive races.

See more about Jimmie Nunn in the *The Pantheon* Section on page 45.

About the Author:

“I started learning to ski in Virginia in 1974 but didn’t do anything more until the 1990s at Flagstaff and then Sunrise. In 2002, I joined Sunrise Courtesy Patrol”. Jane Jackson

In the summer of 2005, Jane Jackson began volunteering in Flagstaff with the USFS/NPS Interpretive Partnership. Volunteer duties included talking to visitors at the top of the Arizona Snowbowl summer scenic lift ride. After meeting Jimmie Nunn and visiting his Arizona Ski Museum, she prepared a program on the beginnings of Snowbowl looking at the involvement of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1930s. The CCC constructed the road up to Snowbowl and built the original Hart Prairie Lodge. Next came interviews with Jimmie and many other early skiers which eventually led to the DVD production of “Echoes of the Peaks: An Early History of Skiing in Northern Arizona”. NAU student, Gavin Boughner, was director and editor. An original music score was written and performed by NAU student, Jessie Bouvier. Jackson continues to enjoy skiing in the winter.



Ole Solberg, with his homemade skis, introduced Alpine skiing to the Flagstaff, Arizona area in the winter of 1915-1916.

photos courtesy of Jimmie Nunn Arizona Ski Museum

Flagstaff Ski Club owned and operated the facilities at Snowbowl until after WWII.

In 1945, Californian Al Grasmoen and his wife Venna, purchased the facilities at Snowbowl from the Flagstaff Ski Club. Grasmoen developed the ski area and brought it back up to speed as a post-war skiing craze hit the country. Fun in these Grasmoen years included many carnivals with races, costume days and events for non-skiers like a soap-box sled contest and a scoop shovel race between the mayors of Flagstaff and Phoenix.

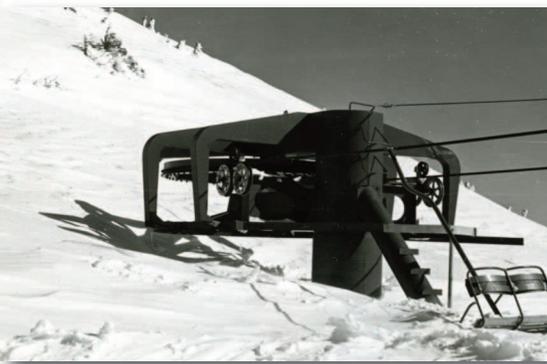
Volunteerism was always a key to the success of Arizona Snowbowl and in the Grasmoen years ski teams and Flagstaff locals felt like family. Ski club members cut runs, some named after those who made them like the Campbell-Nunn run cut by Bill Campbell and Jimmie Nunn. Al Grasmoen designed and built Agassiz Lodge himself with the help of volunteers from Flagstaff and Phoenix ski clubs, and without the knowledge or approval of the FS until it was almost finished and Jimmie Nunn could draw up “as built” plans!

In 1962, after the first time Grasmoen sold the facilities, volunteers pitched in digging tower footings among other jobs for the installation of the new Riblet Company two-seater chair lift. Skiers could, for the first time in 24 years, ride up to the top of Agassiz Peak instead of walking. In later years there were rare times when ski patrol got extra work hiking up lift line to dig out those chairs!

Over the years Snowbowl facilities have continued to change with new runs, new lifts, a new lodge at Hart Prairie and a paved road. Today Snowbowl welcomes snowboarders with a terrain park, a military ski free day and special learn-to-ski days for local fifth grade classes. A historic love of winter sports and the camaraderie of community have kept skiing alive in Flagstaff for 82 years and will continue into the future. ■

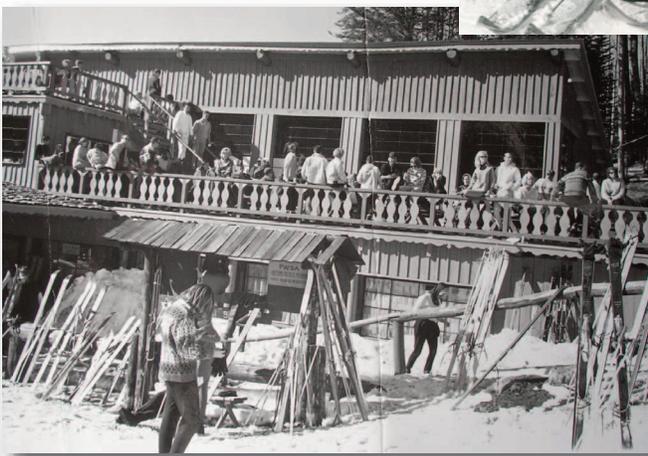
The Arizona Ski Council joined the Far West Ski Association in 1993.

Before the three-seater chair was installed in 1986, Ski Patrol occasionally had to hike up to dig out the top of the Riblet lift. Courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service



Beverly Wensel, La Questa Queen Elizabeth Hoffman Carter and Vera (Sis) Beamer, Winter Carnival March 13, 1949. courtesy /Vera Beamer Pinkerman

RIGHT: Al and Venna Grasmoen operated the ski area from 1945 to 1962. Holding onto the lien, he sold and bought it back three times until 1976 when the facilities were sold outright. He joked that he made more money buying and selling Snowbowl than he ever did running it.



Al Grasmoen did much of the work of building Agassiz Lodge on his own. Volunteers from Flagstaff and Phoenix Ski Clubs helped build the lodge including cutting and skinning trees for use. By 1955, the basement and sun deck were complete. The second story was added the following year. photos courtesy of Jimmie Nunn Arizona Ski Museum

- Grasmoen built a house and a summer dude ranch called Ski and Spur at the bottom of Snowbowl Road. Dry-land skiing was taught during summer

1952 – Hart Prairie Lodge burned down overnight on the weekend of the Thunderbird races.

1956 – Grasmoen built Agassiz Lodge with the help of ski club volunteers and “as built” plans drawn up by Jimmie Nunn

1958 – The 3000’ long tow rope (now on Blackjack) is replaced with a poma lift

1960s, 70s, 80s

Grasmoen sold Snowbowl three times, holding onto the loan papers through each transaction and buying it back as each owner had to sell

1962 – Snowbowl’s first chair lift, the Agassiz two-seater Riblet lift, was installed using 100% volunteer help including those from the Phoenix Ski Club

1977 – Snowbowl bought outright by Northland Recreation, owned by Norm Johnson

1982 – Hart Prairie lift installed giving beginner skiers the original historic run to ski on

1983 – Fairfield corporation bought the facilities and renamed the area Fairfield Snowbowl

1983 – Hart Prairie Lodge and Sunset lift constructed

1986 – the 24-year old Riblet lift was replaced with current three-seater chair lift

1989 – Snowbowl Road paved up to Hart Prairie Lodge

1990s

1992 – Eric Borowsky and Arizona Snowbowl Limited Partnership bought the ski area and brought back the original name, Arizona Snowbowl

1994 – Logjam run widened moving 200,000 cubic yards of earth

1997 – Lava and Volcano ski trails completed.

2000s

2005 – After a lengthy environmental impact analysis, Coconino National Forest authorized snowmaking, new lifts, new trails and facility improvements.

2010 – two conveyors, moving sidewalks, installed at Hart Prairie for beginners

2012 – In December, snowmaking begins

2015 – James Coleman and Mountain Capital Partners joined AZ Snowbowl Limited Partnership.

2017 – A detachable high-speed chairlift, the Grand Canyon Express, installed

2020 – A combination high-speed chairlift and gondola are to replace 34-year old Agassiz lift



Hjalmar Hvam, ski racer, and inventor of the first safety binding, is shown with his wife, Vera, in 1936.

Timeline: Mt. Hood Ski History

1850 - Sondre Nordheim of Telemark, Norway discovers birch tree roots can be used as heel bindings, allowing skiers to jump and turn for the first time.

1870 - Sondre Nordheim designs first sidecut ski, the "TELEMARK SKI", a narrow-waisted ski that facilitates turning in soft snow.

1882 - Norske Ski Club, Berlin, New Hampshire formed first ski club in America. It is still active today.

1894 - Mazamas Mountaineering Club founded on Mt. Hood.

1900 - Mazamas take first Norwegian snowshoe (skis) trip to Mt. Hood. This event sparked the start of Mt. Hood skiing.

1925 - Mt. Hood Loop Highway completed after 5 years of planning and 5 years of construction work.

1925- Hood River Ski Club holds cross country ski race from Cloud Cap to Kirby ranch. Race was won by Mark Weygandt, a local mountain guide.

History of Skiing on Mt. Hood

by Emilio Trampuz

*Newsletter Editor, Mountain High Snowsport Club,
Portland, Oregon*

Mt. Hood, also known by its Native American Multnomah Tribe name *Wy'East*, is the tallest mountain in Oregon (11,240') and the one with the longest ski season in the United States, with the Palmer snowfield above Timberline Lodge open for skiing until Labor Day.

Oregon's population started to grow significantly after 1843, when the Oregon Trail began bringing thousands of new settlers each year. The first settlers drove their wagons only as far as The Dalles, and from there they took boats or rafts down the wild Columbia River. In 1845-1946, the first road was established around the south side of Mt. Hood, that led from The Dalles to Oregon City. It was built by Samuel Barlow with the help of a crew of about 40 people. It is known as Barlow Road. It was a very rough road, in places more like a forest trail than a road. But, it was a toll road and for about 70 years was the only way to get around the south side of Mt. Hood.

In the fall of 1849, a detachment of the First United States Mounted Rifles was forced due to weather to abandon a large number of wagons along Barlow Road, while traveling west toward Oregon City. They left their wagons at the site that became known as "Government Camp" on the south side of Mt. Hood. Government Camp later became a hub for skiers, offering lodging, restaurants, information and transportation to the ski areas.

Government Camp is now a small ski town at the base of Mt. Hood and surrounded by ski areas. It is located 3 miles south and downhill from the Timberline Ski Area. On the upper end of town is the small Summit Ski Area. Across highway 26 is the Skibowl Ski Area. The Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Area is about 11 miles further east (*circling the mountain in a counter-clockwise direction*), and another 14 miles to the northeast is the small Cooper Spur Ski Area. Yes, that's a total of five ski areas on Mt. Hood!

Skiing on Mt. Hood had its beginnings about 50 years later, around the year 1900, when the Mazamas climbing club members decided to try putting on skis for the descent after a climb. An excursion from Portland to the mountain in those early days involved a whole day of travel east along the Columbia River to Hood River; and then south to Mt. Hood. People climbed a bit, took one run down on skis and spent the rest of the day traveling back to Portland.

Skiing really started to take off after 1924, because of two factors. The first road, known as the Mt. Hood Loop highway, was built, making access to the south side of Mt. Hood easier. At the same time, several Norwegian Nordic skiers settled in the area and brought a lot of attention to the sport by showing off ski jumping. They first built a ski jump on the south side of Mutorpor Mountain, just two miles from the town of Government Camp, but they soon realized their mistake because the snow would melt and get mushy too easily on south-facing slopes. This was not cold Norway. This was a milder Oregon climate. So, they soon relocated their ski jump to the north side of Mutorpor Mountain (*which is now known as Skibowl East*). Ski jumping events attracted hundreds of spectators. It got so crowded it was difficult to find a spot to park your Model-T car in the town of Government Camp and then walk to the jumping hill.

Among the Norwegians, the most famous one was Hjalmar Hvam, a ski racer and jumper who won many competitions and also invented the first safety binding. After breaking his leg, in 1939, he patented his Saf-Ski binding, which was probably the first releasable binding in the world. He sold quite a lot of them from his ski shop in Government Camp. His advertising slogan was: "*Hvooom with Hvam and have no fear*".

Before 1937, when Timberline Lodge was built, there were no lifts anywhere on or around Mt. Hood. In those early days, all trails began in Government Camp. People had to climb up before they could ski down. In addition to the nearby Mutorpor Hill, people established trails heading up Mt. Hood to where the tree line ended. The trails still exist and are skied to this day, including the Alpine Trail, The Glade Trail, and Blossom Trail.

In 1916, the locals built a cabin, called Timberline cabin, where they could rest before skiing back down to Government Camp. This was 21 years before Timberline Lodge was built about a mile east of Timberline Cabin. The cabin was used until about 1953, and only its foundations and part of a chimney are still visible today.

Timberline Lodge was built between 1936 and 1938. It was constructed by the Works Progress Administration, built and furnished by local artisans during the Great Depression, and inaugurated by pres-



Hjalmar Hvam - the tall one on the left - poses with several other ski jumpers in the 1930s.

ident Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1937. Timberline Lodge is the only true ski-in/ski-out lodging on Mt. Hood. Much later, in 1983 - 1984, the Wy'East day lodge was built next to Timberline Lodge, to provide services to the growing number of skiers, climbers, and day visitors.

The first chairlift built on Mt. Hood was the Magic Mile lift, constructed in 1938 above Timberline Lodge. The chairs on that lift were single chairs (*one person at a time*). The initial location of that lift was several hundred feet east of the present day location. When the new Magic Mile lift was constructed, the top station of the original Magic Mile lift was converted into a cabin offering lodging and meals. It is called Silcox Hut.

The regular ski season at Timberline Ski Area usually ends at the end of May, but skiing continues on the Palmer Snowfield, almost two miles north and 2,000 vertical feet above Timberline Lodge. This is a rather large square-shaped patch of snow that never melts. It's like a glacier, but it doesn't move like glaciers do, so it's called a snowfield. Skiing there is sustained by the numerous Race Camps held there and organized by different groups. The rectangular area is divided into several lanes, each devoted to a specific camp with its own race course set up there. Only one somewhat wider lane is open for the general public to ski on.

Race Camps on Mt. Hood started being held regularly around 1956, when Richard Kohnstamm and the RLK Company took charge of Timberline Lodge, and revived it after a short period of decline and even a temporary closure. At first, the camps were held on the relatively lower terrain served by the Magic Mile lift. From 1956 to 1979, the Palmer Snowfield was accessible only by hiking or by snowcat.

Summer Camps got a big boost when the first Palmer chairlift was installed in 1979 - 1980. But, the winds on the upper mountain were so strong that during the first winter, three of the lift's towers were knocked over by the wind. Also, the ski area operators had to be sure the weather would remain good for the remainder of the summer before painstakingly attaching each chair to the cable, as this was a fixed chairlift. In the mid-nineties, the Palmer chairlift was replaced by an express quad, with detachable chairs, which meant that the lift could be put in service at a moment's notice as soon as the weather improved.

Summer Camps grew in popularity. Among the first groups to organize summer camps were: Timberline Summer Camps and Mt. Hood Summer Camps. But, word soon spread about the availability of this terrain for summer training, and eventually the US Ski Team came to train here, as well as numerous other ski racers from around the world.

Typically these days, there are dozens of different groups and organizations from all over the world that organize summer camps at Timberline. There are camps for children (*ages 10 - 20*) and for adults

1926 - Oregon Highway Department begins to keep the road to Government Camp open in the winter.

1926 - First modern downhill race in the U.S. held at Mt. Moosilauke, New Hampshire.

1926 - First ski shop in U.S. opened in Boston, by Oscar Hambro of Norway.

1927 - Mt. Hood Ski Club formed. This club sponsored ski jumping tournaments at Swim, located on the south side of Multnorpor Mountain.

1927 - Summit Ski Area built and operated by Advertising Club of Portland; opened with large formal ceremonies on December 11, 1927.

1927 - Cascade Ski Club organized; built Multnorpor Ski Jump Hill.

1930 - Rudolph Lettner from Salzburg, Austria invents the steel ski edge.

1934 - The first rope tow installed at Gilbert's Hill, Woodstock, Vermont. Tow rope was attached to rear wheel of a Model T Ford.

1934 - Dr. Otto George opens First Aid room in Ski Pole Ski Shop in Government Camp.

1934 - Rope tows installed at Summit and Ski Bowl Ski Areas.

1936 - Sun Valley opens the world's first chairlift, copied from banana lifts used in Central America to load fruit on cargo ships.

1937 - Timberline Lodge opens.

1938 - North Slope Ski Club builds first ski tow at Cooper Spur. The tow was 150 feet long and had a 50 foot rise.

1938 - First U.S. Ski Patrols established including Mt. Hood Ski Patrol, Stowe Ski Patrol and the National Ski Patrol.

1938 - Ariel Edminston, under the supervision of Otto Lange, starts Timberline Ski School.

1939 - Magic Mile chairlift built at Timberline Lodge, as longest chairlift in the world (4,950').

1939 – Hjalmar Hvam, a Mt. Hood champion skier, invents the world's first useful release safety ski binding.

1942 – Schneevogel Ski Club started by a group of Portland high school boys as a men-only club.

1946 – Lower bowl chairlift installed at Skibowl Ski Area with wooden towers.

1948 – Portland Junior Chamber of Commerce starts free Ski School in effort to reduce ski accidents.

1949 – Gary Gast begins Mount Hood Ski School at Ski Bowl.

1949 – Howard Head markets the first commercially successful metal ski.

1954 – Ribblet double chairlift installed in upper bowl at Skibowl Ski Area.

1954 – Ski Bowl Ski School established.

1951 – Skiway aerial tram from Government Camp to Timberline Lodge opens.

1953 – Skiway aerial tram closes.

1955 – Henke Speed Fit buckle boots appear.

1955 – Skiyente Ski Club, organized as an all women's ski club to actively promote skiing.

1956 – Timberline holds first Summer Racing School.

1957 – The first useful aluminum ski poles made by Scott.



This old photo of Government Camp shows the town full of cars parked along the streets. The majority of these are spectators who came to watch the ski jumping competition on Multorpor Hill, located outside of the photo to the right. Multorpor Hill is now part of Mt. Hood Skibowl East. The name Multorpor is a contraction of Multnomah county, Oregon, and Portland.



ABOVE: The first Summer Racing School was held in 1956. A group of summer camp participants gather high up on Mt. Hood with its year-around snow cover. RIGHT: Another group of participants attend the Summer Racing School in 1956 above the Palmer Snowfield, near Illumination Rock, which is higher than the top of the current Palmer chairlift.



LEFT: The Skiway Tram was a modified bus that traveled along stationary cables between Government Camp and Timberline in the 1950s. (Also see page 5.) RIGHT: Emilio Trampuz posts one of the safety signs marking the safety boundary on the south side of Mt. Hood. Anyone skiing beyond this boundary will have to spend several hours slogging through the forest and most likely having to spend a cold and wet night in the woods before finally reaching a road several miles lower down. photo taken by Janis Allen with Emilio's camera.





Aerial photo of the south side of Mt. Hood is illuminated by the rising sun. The Timberline Ski Area trails are in lower middle of the picture, and Mt. Hood Meadows is visible on the right side of the mountain. Those are the two largest of a total of five ski areas around Mt. Hood. The summer ski training camps are held on the Palmer Snowfield, located about 2,500 vertical feet almost directly above Timberline lodge, in the sunny area almost in the center of the photo. photo by Nathan Campbell

(21+). Each organization schedules 3–10 camps throughout the summer. Camps usually last between 5–10 days. Typically 6 or 7 days. But, there are also longer programs. Some well to do families can send their kids here for several weeks at a time.

Most camps focus on ski racing, slalom and giant slalom. There are also freestyle camps, focusing on terrain parks, half-pipes, and aerials. Snowboarding camps started in 1986. Windells Camps and High Cascade Camps were among the first to organize snowboarding summer instruction and training. Camp programs vary from one group to another, but it typically involves on-snow training in the morning and dryland activities in the afternoon. During most of the summer months, lifts operate from 7 am to 1 pm, offering plenty of time for off-snow activities in the afternoon.

With the growing popularity of snow sports, the main issue now is providing enough parking for all the visitors. Parking lots fill up quickly in the morning. The road from Government Camp to Timberline is actually closed on popular weekends when the parking lots fill up, and cars are allowed to proceed up only when someone leaves the ski area.

There are future plans to provide more parking in Government Camp and/or at Mt. Hood Skibowl, and to connect either Government Camp or Skibowl with Timberline Lodge via a gondola or tram. ■

The Northwest Ski Club Council joined the Far West Ski Association in 1993. States within NWSCC include Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii.

About the Author:

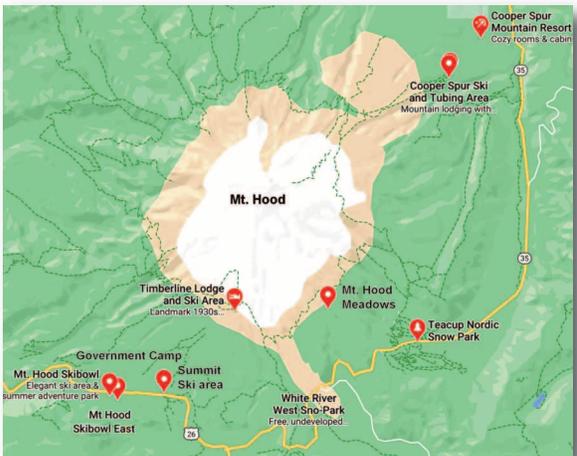
Over the last decade, **Emilio Trampuz** has researched the history of the Oregon Trail around Mt. Hood and has guided bicycle history tours along the original wagon trail now known as Barlow Road, visiting several historic sites along the way. For his work on preserving the history of Mt. Hood, he received the FWSA Western Ski Heritage Award in 2014.

Concurrently, Emilio has been concerned about skiers getting lost in the country west of Timberline. He determined how far it is safe to go and still be able to return to the ski area or at least to Government Camp three miles below the ski area. He received permission from the Forest Service to mark the safety boundary with signs posted on trees. He also leads guided ski tours to show skiers where the boundary is located, to raise awareness both of the danger of getting lost and the existence of the safety signs. For this work, Emilio received the FWSA Safety Person of the Year Award in 2017.

Trampuz is a member of the Mountain High Snowsport Club in Portland, Oregon. He skis Mt. Hood in the winter and hikes and rides his bicycle in the summer. He has been a ski host and ski instructor at the Timberline Ski Area.

This map shows the location of the five alpine ski areas around Mt. Hood. Mt. Hood Skibowl is shown with 2 markers indicating the original 2 ski areas: Skibowl and Multorpor Mt. The two merged into one ski area in 1964, and today the two halves are called Skibowl East and Skibowl West.

Map prepared by Emilio Trampuz based on a Google map.



1960 – Kneissel markets first fiberglass skis.

1961 – Lee Perry organizes first American Amputee Ski School with Portland Jaycees.

1964 – Multorpor Inc. purchases Ski Bowl Ski Area, one ticket can now be used to ski both Multorpor and Ski Bowl Ski Areas.

1964 – Lange plastic ski boot commercially available.

1964 – The ninth winter Olympic games held in Innsbruck, Austria. Oregonian, Jean Saubert, ties for second in giant slalom, and places third in slalom. Billy Kidd and Jimmie Heuga become the first American men to win Olympic medals for skiing, being second and third, respectively, in the slalom.

1967 – Mount Hood Meadows Ski Area opens.

1967 – Snowboarding begins with Jake Burton testing his Snurfer.

1968 – Mike Devecka, competed in the nordic combined events in the 1968 Grenoble, France, Winter Olympics.

1979 – Timberline Lodge installs Palmer Chairlift, summer racing camps grow in popularity.

1985 – Mt. Hood Academy combines high school academics and serious ski racing.

1984 – Bill Johnson, Cascade Ski Club, wins gold in downhill to become America's first Olympic downhill champion.

1987 – Cascade Prime Timers Ski Club founded for skiers age 50 and over.

1990 – High Cascade Snowboard Camp builds Mt. Hood's first summer halfpipe.

1997 – Palmer Express, a quad chairlift, replaces the double chairlift on Palmer Snowfield at Timberline Lodge.

2001 – Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum opens.

The historical photos in this section have come from several sources, including the Mt. Hood Museum in Government Camp, the book entitled "Mt. Hood: A Complete History" by Jack Grauer, published in 1975, and, various skiers who have sent old pictures to Emilio Trampuz. The more recent pictures are provided by Emilio Trampuz.



Cle Elum Ski Club's giant new ski jump built in 1931, has been described as "one of the most hazardous in the world, 6% steeper than any in Norway which was the center of ski jumping". courtesy of Cecelia Maybo family and Archives and Special Collections, James E. Brooks Library, Central Washington University.



This map shows the ski runs at Paradise Valley, Mount Rainier, 1938, the first year that rope tows were operating. Trail 11 begins at Camp Muir, elevation 11,000 feet, the start of the Silver Skis Race that went down the glacier nearly four miles to near Paradise Lodge, elevation 5,400 (#2 on the map). The rope tow "eliminated long climbs to the crest of ridges" giving skiers "many more times the downhill running". Washington State Historical Society

About the Author:

John W. Lundin is a founding member of the Washington State Ski & Snowboard Museum. His book, *Early Skiing on Snoqualmie Pass*, received a Skade Award from the International Ski History Association as an outstanding regional ski history book in 2018. He has two new books published in 2020: *Sun Valley, Ketchum and the Wood River Valley*, by Arcadia Publishing; and *Skiing Sun Valley: a History from Union Pacific to the Holdings*, by History Press. John's book, *Skiing in Washington, A Nordic Tradition*, will be published in January, 2021.



Famous ski jumper and two-time Olympic gold medalist Norwegian Birger Ruud wins the 1938 Seattle Ski Club tournament at Beaver Lake on Snoqualmie Pass. At the end of his "meteoric" descent, Birger "didn't come to a casual, christy stop. No. He somersaulted. After the tournament, Birger and his brother Sigmund performed "a perfect double jump, both off the takeoff together, and landing in unison, 196 feet down the hill." quote from the Seattle Times. Museum of History and Industry

Washington Ski History

by John W. Lundin
Lawyer, Historian and Author

Washington skiing was promoted in its early days by newspapers and railroads. Newspapers gave extensive coverage to skiing activities and sponsored important events. Northern Pacific, Great Northern and the Milwaukee Road transported spectators to tournaments at Cle Elum, Leavenworth and Snoqualmie Pass. Northern Pacific provided land for the Cle Elum and Seattle Ski Clubs, planned a major ski area at Stampede Pass, and operated a small ski area there until WWII. The Milwaukee Road opened the Milwaukee Ski Bowl at Hyak in 1938.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal contributed to the growth of the ski industry nationally in the 1930s, by building roads and shelters; and clearing hills and trails. Washington ski areas benefiting from these programs included Seattle's Municipal Ski Park, Leavenworth, Mt. Rainier, Deer Park on the Olympic Peninsula, Stevens Pass, Mount Baker, Mount Rainier, Mount Spokane and others.

Ski Jumping was the Most Popular Form of the Sport

The Northwest has long attracted Scandinavian immigrants, because of its climate, geography

and employment possibilities. In Washington, in 1910, Scandinavians were the largest immigrant group, making up 20% of the foreign-born population, and one out of every 20 Seattle residents was born in Norway or the child of Norway born parents. "The Norwegians brought to their new country a passion for skiing..." They organized ski competitions "to strengthen their ethnic ties, showcase their abilities, and generate a new sense of belonging to their new country." (Quote from Harold Anson, *Jumping Through Time*.)

From the earliest days of skiing in Washington, ski jumping was the most popular form of the sport, due to the influence of Norwegian immigrants. Alpine skiing did not appear until the mid-1930s. The only skiing events at the first Winter Olympic Games in 1924, were Nordic (*jumping and cross-country racing*). Alpine skiing (*downhill and slalom*) first appeared in the 1936 Olympic Games.

The state's first formal ski jumping event happened in Spokane in 1913, when Olaus Jeldness, who helped create the Rossland B.C. Winter Carnivals, organized a "skee" jumping and "rumming" exhibition using a ski jump he built. Jeldness organized the 1915 Inland Empire Ski Jumping Championships, and skiing continued there until the 1920s.

In February 1916, Seattle's Norwegian businessmen held an exhibition to demonstrate the "Scandinavian sport" of ski jumping on Queen Anne Hill, following the heaviest snowfall in two decades. More than a dozen "crack jumpers" went off a ski jump built on Queen Anne Avenue, one of the steepest hills in the city. The exhibition was so successful that midsummer ski jumping tournaments were held from 1917 to 1924, at Paradise Valley on Mount Rainier over the July 4th holiday. A cross-country race was added in 1922. Olga Bolstad, a 22 year old "girl ski jumper" from Norway, won the 1917 tournament, and was called "Champion of the Pacific Coast on Skis". The best jumpers from the Northwest and Canada competed.

In 1913-1914, The Mountaineers began holding annual Winter Outings at Mount Rainier National Park. In 1914, the club built a lodge just west of Snoqualmie Pass summit, used for climbing and later what we would describe as back-country skiing. In 1928, The Mountaineers built Meany Ski Hut at Martin, the Northern Pacific stop near Stampede Pass. The club marked many miles of cross-country trails, and between 1930 and WWII, sponsored 20-mile long Patrol Races along the crest of the Cascades from its Lodge to its Ski Hut, called the country's longest and hardest race.

The Cle Elum Ski Club formed in 1921, east of Snoqualmie Pass, and from 1924 to 1933, held ski jumping tournaments that attracted many of the Northwest's best competitors and 3,000 - 5,000 spectators. In 1931, the club built a lodge on a ridge two miles north of Cle Elum on Northern Pacific land, a two mile uphill hike. In 1929, the club built a giant new jump, with "one of the steepest takeoffs in the world...one of the most hazardous in the world, 6% steeper than any in Norway, which was the center of ski jumping," according to the *Seattle Times*. It was enlarged even more in 1932.

In the late 1920s and early 1930s, new ski clubs formed around ski jumping, built ski jumps and hosted tournaments.

In 1927, the Mt. Baker Ski Club formed after the Mount Baker Lodge and a new highway were built. It held a jumping tournament in 1930, and one featuring uphill, downhill and cross-country races in 1931. A fire destroyed the lodge in August, 1931; setting back skiing there for years. The club held a two-day slalom tournament in May, 1935.

In 1928, the Leavenworth Winter Sports Club formed, east of Stevens Pass on a Great Northern Railway stop, built a ski jump, and held a tournament in 1929. In 1930, the club built a jump in a different location. Its big ski jump was built in 1933, later named after Hermod and Magnus Bakke, long time club supporters. The hill was redesigned several times, becoming one of the best ski jumps in the western United States.

In 1928, Portland's Cascade Ski Club organized, and built a ski jump on Mt. Hood on a natural hill with a "cribbage of timbers used to sustain the takeoff geometry". It held its first tournament in 1929, and in 1930, hosted the first Pacific Northwestern Ski Association sanctioned jumping championship.

The Seattle Ski Club was formed by Norwegian immigrants in 1929, who built a ski jump at Beaver Lake, 1½ miles uphill from Snoqualmie Pass, using the hill's natural slope for the inrun and outrun. The club's 1931 tournament was the regional tryout for the U.S. team for the 1932 Olympic games at Lake Placid, New York, included jumping and cross country skiing, and attracted 10,000 spectators. In 1931, the club improved its jump to be "one of the best in the United States, with the sheerest pitch of any in America", with "one of the steepest landings in the world, a hill three or four degrees steeper than the famous Holmenkollen Hill in Norway", according to the *Seattle Times*.

The Spokane Ski Club formed in 1929, and in 1932, built a lodge on Mt. Spokane. The club hosted a jumping tournament in 1933, that attracted 25,000 spectators, and others in 1934 and 1938, and a downhill and slalom tournament in 1937. The club installed a rope tow for 1937, the first in the state. A new ski jump was built on Mt. Spokane in 1948, and the club hosted the Esmeralda Tournaments from 1948 to 1953, and the last one in 1955.

Ski clubs were formed in Ellensburg, Yakima and elsewhere to provide skiing for members and occasional tournaments.

Soon, ski jumpers had a circuit of tournaments - at Cle Elum; the Seattle Ski Club's jump on Snoqualmie Summit; Leavenworth Winter Sports Club's jump; and Cascade Ski Club's jump on Mount Hood. Competitors and thousands of hardy spectators went from one tournament to another, braving long drives and harsh weather, hiking through snow to reach the jumping sites, and standing outside for hours, often in snowstorms.

In 1930, the Pacific Northwestern Ski Association (PNSA) was organized to sponsor regional jumping and cross-country competitions and coordinate calendars. It later established standards for ski instructors, pioneered their testing, and was the regional organization for the National Ski Association for sanctioned Northwest ski competitions.

Alpine Skiing Emerges

Starting in the winter of 1931, the road over Snoqualmie pass was plowed during the winter. By 1934, the entire highway had been paved, offering better access from Seattle.

In 1930, The Mountaineers began downhill and slalom races, said by the *Seattle Times* to be the start of this kind of racing in the Pacific Northwest.

A number of private ski clubs and lodges were built on Snoqualmie Pass in the early 1930s. They held regular ski competitions against each other that were covered by Seattle newspapers.

In 1933, a slalom racing series began at Paradise on Mount Rainier on Sundays, organized by Ben Thompson, who was in charge of winter sports operations. Some of the Northwest's best skiers came out of the series, including Don Fraser, Darroch Crookes, Don Amick and Gretchen Kungig (later Fraser), who became members of U.S. Olympic ski teams. In winter 1933-1934, cabins and rooms at Paradise Lodge were leased for the winter for \$30 to \$60, and over 400 reservations were made. Paradise Inn was remodeled in 1936. Rainier became the skiing center for Tacoma residents, and the site for Seattle's Junior Chamber of Commerce spring annual carnivals. Several proposals were made to install a tram from Paradise to Camp Muir.

The year 1934, was an important one for Washington skiing. The Seattle Parks Department opened the Municipal Ski Park on Snoqualmie Pass, after the CCC cleared a narrow run and built a warming hut. It attracted many new skiers, as well as spectators who came to watch the athletes. Ray Anderson and Ben Thomson formed a partnership to make ski equipment in Seattle, producing A & T skis. PNSA added slalom racing to its schedule, expanding its charter beyond Nordic events, as the event had "caught on by wildfire". The Seattle Ski club's tournament featured jumping, a cross-country race, and the first PNSA sanctioned slalom race. The University of Washington Ski Club was formed. The *Seattle Times* said 2,500 skiers were in local ski clubs, 3,000 to 5,000 spectators attended ski jumping events at Snoqualmie Pass, and 10,000 persons participated in some form of winter sports every weekend.

In April 1934, the Silver Skis race on Mount Rainier began, sponsored by the Seattle P.I., which became the Northwest's most iconic race. Competitors hiked from Paradise Lodge at 5,400 feet, up to Camp Muir at 10,000 feet. They then skied down in a virtually uncontrolled schuss nearly four miles, to finish near Paradise, dropping 1,424 feet in every mile skied, reaching speeds of "slightly better than sixty miles an hour" before they traveled 300 yards. Seattle's Don Fraser won the first race, with 64 racers starting and 43 finishing, and won again in 1938. The race was held from 1934-1942, and 1946 - 1948, attracting top competitors from all over the country.

In 1935, Washington skiing got a major boost as the National Downhill and Slalom Championships and Tryouts for the US Olympic Ski Team for the 1936 Games in Germany, were held on Mt. Rainier. Tacoma's Ethelynn "Skit" Smith won the women's National Slalom title, and her sister Ellis Ayr, won the Combined National Championship

title. The U.S. Forest Service spent \$35,000 building warming huts at Leavenworth and Mount Baker. A shelter was built at McClure's Rock on Mount Rainier, "a welcome protection for high altitude skiers".

The 1936 Winter Olympics at Garmisch, Germany, featured Alpine skiing for the first time, with downhill and slalom racing and a combined event (*downhill and slalom*), along with Nordic events. Five Washington skiers were on the Olympic team - Tacoma's Ethelyne "Skii" and Ellis-Ayr Smith, and Seattle's Grace Carter, Darroch Crookes, and Don Fraser.

In December, 1936, Union Pacific Railroad opened its Sun Valley Resort, built for \$1.5 million dollars in the remote mountains of Idaho. It was the country's first destination ski resort, with an ultra-modern lodge, chair lifts invented by U.P. engineers based on a system to load bananas onto boats, and a ski school with Austrian instructors that made skiing sexy, changing U.S. skiing forever. The resort attracted skiers from all over the world, including Hollywood movie stars, socialites, New York businessmen, and legions of Seattle area residents. Sun Valley became Seattle's "back yard". Seattle newspapers regularly reported on its races and the large number of locals who traveled there to ski and vacation. Sun Valley became the country's ski racing center, and many Washington skiers competed in races there. Skiers began lobbying for ski lifts to be installed in Washington.

In 1937, ski instructor, Otto Lang, started the country's first official Hannes Schneider Ski School on Mount Rainier, bringing the latest ski techniques to the Northwest, later expanded to Mt. Baker and Mt. Hood. In December, Norwegian ski jumping star Olav Ulland moved to Seattle to coach local jumpers. Ulland, who competed for Norway from 1929 to 1936, was the first to break the 100-meter mark by jumping 103 meters in 1935, and became a mainstay of Northwest skiing.

The period from 1938 to WWII was a seminal time for Washington skiing, which the *Seattle Times* said was "the greatest skiing area in North America".

For the winter of 1938, Ski Lifts, Inc., installed and operated rope tows at Mount Rainier, Snoqualmie Summit, and Mount Baker, providing an alternative to walking up the hills. The Municipal Ski Park 1,000-foot long tow cost 10 cents a ride or \$1 for all day. "Skiers could get downhill training without the long uphill climbs and sudden, weary-legged returns."

The Milwaukee Railroad opened its Snoqualmie Ski Bowl (later renamed *Milwaukee Ski Bowl*), at Hyak east of Snoqualmie Pass in 1938, offering access by train from Seattle in two hours. The Ski Bowl had the Northwest's first over-head cable lift (a J-bar called a *Sun Valley type lift without chairs*), a modern ski lodge, lighted slopes for night skiing, and it dramatically changed the area's ski scene. Ski trains had reserved seats, a baggage car with ski

Seattle's Olav Ulland and Portland's Hjalmar Hvam entertain spectators by doing tandem somersaults after the 1938 Silver Skis Race on Mount Rainier.

Tacoma Public Library, Richards Studio.



racks and waxing tables, and a recreation car for dancing. The *Seattle Times* offered free ski lessons for Seattle high school students, to learn "controlled skiing".

The Stevens Pass ski area was started in winter 1937-38, after Chambers of Commerce from Everett and Wenatchee bought 100 acres of land for the area. A rope tow was installed, costing 5 cents per ride. The Forest Service built a \$10,000 lodge using "30 CCC boys aided by skilled workmen," that was dedicated in December, 1938; although it burned down in 1940, and rebuilt after the war.

In March, 1938, two famous Ruud brothers from Kongsberg, Norway, Birger (*Olympic gold medal winner in 1932 and 1936*) and Sigmund (*Olympic silver in 1928*), toured the United States, participating in numerous jumping tournaments, including one hosted by the Seattle Ski Club at Snoqualmie Summit. Showing the dominance of that country's jumpers, seven of the 16 competitors were from Kongsberg. Birger won the tournament in front of 4,000 spectators.

In 1940, the Seattle Parks Department got out of the ski area business, concluding that Snoqualmie Pass was too far away for a city park. Ski Lifts, Inc. took over the ski area's operations, and renamed it Snoqualmie Pass Ski Area.

From 1940 until WWII, there were a number of epic battles for new distance records between Sun Valley's Alf Engen and Torger Tokle (*member of the Norway Ski Club of New York*), a recent immigrant and rising jumping star.

Alf Engen won the 1940 Pacific Northwest Championship Tournament at Leavenworth, jumping 252 feet, thought at first to be a new national distance record.

The year's biggest tournament was the 1940 National Four-Way Championship Tournament. Downhill and slalom races were held on Mount Baker, the cross-country race on Snoqualmie Pass, and the jumping competition at the Milwaukee Ski Bowl, on a new giant ski-jump built for the event.

The best skiers in the county competed. Seattle's Sigurd Hall won the downhill race, Alf Engen was third, but won the slalom. In the jumping event, Torger Tokle had longer jumps than Engen, but Engen won on form points. Showing he was an all-around skier, Alf Engen won the Four-Way Championship. Engen's brother Sverre was second, Sigurd Hall, third, and Portland's Hjalmar Hvan, fourth. Hall was tragically killed the following month in the Silver Skis race on Mt. Rainier, when he hit some rocks after skiing into a fog bank.

In February, 1941, at Iron Mountain, Michigan, Alf Engen jumped 267 feet to set a new the North American distance record. His success was short-lived. Two hours later at Leavenworth, Washington, Torger Tokle exceeded Engen's distance, setting a new record of 273 feet. At the National Jumping Championships at the Milwaukee Ski Bowl in March, 1941, Tokle, jumped 288 feet, to set his second North American distance record in less than a month. Alf Engen was second. Showing the level of competition, six jumpers at the tournament were later inducted into the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

In 1941, nearly one-half million people went to Washington's mountain resorts. Skiing was a \$1 million industry and there were 65,000 local skiers in Western Washington. Tokle set another distance record in 1942, jumping 289 feet at Iron Mountain, Michigan, with Engen finishing fourth.

World War II changed everything. Skiing stopped as men went off to war, and women had to deal with war-time living conditions that included rationing of items such as gasoline and tires. U.S. Army Mountain Troops trained at Mount Rainier from 1940 to 1942, before moving to Camp Hale, Colorado, in 1943, and local ski clubs taught soldiers and sailors how to ski on Snoqualmie Pass. Snoqualmie Pass was the only ski area to remain open, as skiers shared their gas ration coupons to drive there. In 1945, Torger Tokle was

killed in Italy fighting as a member of the 10th Mountain Division. In his short, remarkable career, Tokle had broken 24 jumping records and won 42 of the 48 tournaments in which he competed.

Skiing After WWII

Skiing resumed after WWII, and Washington ski areas were expanded and upgraded. Snoqualmie Summit Ski Area tripled its ski terrain, new rope tows and lights for night skiing were installed. Small ski areas, often with a single rope tow, opened around the state, most of which later closed.

In February, 1945, the Associated Students of the University of Washington bought the Martin Ski Hut from Northern Pacific. The Husky Winter Sports Club improved the lodge, installed rope tows, and offered ski lessons to students. From 1945 to 1949, when the lodge burned down, Martin was used by the U.W. ski team for training and races, and by student skiers.

The National Park Service hardened its policies regarding winter activities within National Parks after the war. It would not allow Mt. Rainier to be used for sanctioned ski meets, permanent ski tows, or ski carnivals or events that would attract large crowds of people. Portable tows could operate if they were removed in the spring. This meant the end of Mount Rainier as one of the state's major ski areas.

The Mount Baker Ski Area planned to spend \$500,000 to build a 100 room lodge and two chair lifts, and four rope tows would be in operation the winter of 1946.

For the 1947 ski season, the Milwaukee Road resumed operations of its Ski Bowl. The first high-capacity ski lift on Snoqualmie Pass was installed, the SkiBoggan. It was a surface lift, a "massive sled that carries 32 snow riders a time up", capable of carrying 1,440 skiers per hour.

In 1947, six jumpers were selected at the Milwaukee Ski Bowl for the U.S. jumping team for the 1948 Olympic Games at St. Moritz, coached by Alf Engen. Gustav Raaum, who won Norway's junior Holmenkollen, stayed to attend the University of Washington, and lead its jumping team, becoming a mainstay of Northwest ski jumping. He was the first of many Norwegians to study at local schools and jump for their college ski teams. Raaum listed 56 Norwegian students who competed for Northwest schools, 41 in Washington.

The big skiing story of 1948 was the winter Olympics in St. Moritz, Switzerland, the first held since 1936, and the first to feature a full array of Alpine events. Three Washington skiers were on the U.S. Olympic team - Gretchen Fraser, Don Amick and David Fairies. Tacoma native Gretchen Kunnigk Fraser was the "unexpected heroine", winning a gold medal in the slalom and a silver in the Alpine Combined, narrowly losing to Trude Beiser of Austria by 37/100 of a point in the combined. She was the country's first athlete to win an Olympic medal

in a skiing event.

In 1949, Sverre Kongsgaard, a Norwegian exchange student at the University of Idaho, set a North American distance record at the Ski Bowl, beating Torger Tokle's hill record set in 1941, and his 1942 record at Iron Mountain, Michigan. Ski Acres opened one mile east of the Snoqualmie Summit, with the first chair lift on the Pass. The Spokane Ski Club built a ski jump on Mt. Spokane

A major blow to Northwest skiing came in December 1949, when a \$180,000 fire destroyed the lodge and train depot at the Milwaukee Ski Bowl, and the Milwaukee Road decided not to rebuild the area in the fall of 1950. The *Seattle Times* cancelled its ski school that operated since 1938, teaching more than 20,000 students the fundamentals of controlled skiing. This set back Alpine skiing in Washington for a decade, and the loss of the Ski Bowl's Olympic caliber jumps was a major blow to Northwest ski jumping.

The Leavenworth Winter Sports Club continued to host ski jumping tournaments until 1978, including national championship tournaments in 1959, 1967, 1974, and 1978. Between 1965 and 1970, three North American distance records were set there, and the club hosted several try-outs for the U.S. teams for the Olympic Games. In the early 1960s, Leavenworth native Jim Brennan won the national jumping championships, equaled the national distance record, and competed internationally. In 1972, Leavenworth's Ron Steele was on the U.S. Olympic team, and competed in Sapporo, Japan.

Three Washington skiers were on the 1952 Olympic team that competed in Oslo, Norway - Jack Nagel, Janette Burr (later Johnson), and Dorothy Surgenor (who was also on the 1956 Olympic team). In 1952, a poma lift was installed at Snoqualmie Summit Ski Area, and in 1955, the first double chairlift on Snoqualmie Pass was installed there, the Thunderbird, along with the Thunderbird Lodge on the top of the area's highest hill.

In 1954, "a hardy group of Norwegian ski jumpers", led by Olav Ulland, Gustav Raaum and others, formed the Kongsberger Ski Club after the Seattle Ski Club lost interest in ski jumping. The club built a ski jump at Cabin Creek east of Snoqualmie Pass, held competitions, gave jumping instructions, and assisted with jumping competitions at Olympic Games and international competitions. Ragnar Ulland, Olav's 17 year old nephew, was on the 1956 U.S. Olympic Jumping Team coached by Olav, but was hurt and did not compete. In 1958, Olav coached the U.S. team at the World Championships in Finland, and Gustav Raaum was team manager. In 1960, the Kongsbergers ran the jumping events at the Squaw Valley Olympics. At the 1980 Lake Placid Olympics, Raaum was Chief of Competition and Olav Ulland and Magnus Bakke were measurers.

In 1959, the Hyak Ski Area opened. In 1967, Alpentel opened as the fourth ski area on Snoqualmie Pass. Alpine skiing grew as Washington ski areas expanded or were started in the 1950s and 1960s. Major investments were made at Stevens Pass, Mount Baker, Hurricane Ridge (opened in 1957), Mission Ridge (opened in 1962), Crystal Mountain (opened in 1962), White Pass, Mount Spokane, 40 Degrees North, Badger Mountain, Bluewood and elsewhere, as skiing became more popular. In 1965, Crystal hosted the National Alpine Championships that attracted the world's top skiers, including Jean Claude Killy, Jimmie Heuga, and Billy Kidd.

Interest in ski jumping diminished in the 1960s, dropped further in the 1970s, and funding for the sport dried up. The last Leavenworth tournament took place in 1978, (a National Championship). In 1982, the *New York Times* said ski jumping's popularity had nosedived and the sport was struggling.

Washington ski resorts have changed ownership over the years. Ski Lifts, Inc., owned by the Webb Moffett family, purchased the three other Snoqualmie Pass ski areas, bringing all four under single management (1980, *Ski Acres*; 1983, *Alpentel*; and 1992, *Hyak*). In 1997, Ski Lifts, Inc. was sold to Booth Creek Holdings and the ski areas were renamed. In 2007, CNL Investment Properties bought the properties, and Boyne USA managed the four areas until 2018, when Boyne Mountain Resorts purchased them. Mission Ridge was purchased in 2003, by Washington's Larry Schrivanih. Crystal Mountain was sold to Boyne Mountain Resorts in 1997, then sold in 2018, to Alterra Mountain Company. Vail Resorts bought Stevens Pass Ski Area in 2018, for \$67 million. The Mt. Spokane Ski Area is operated by a non-profit, Mt. Spokane Ski & Snowboard Park.

The ski industry has long been an important part of Washington's economy. By 1938, skiing was a \$3 million industry bringing 20,000 skiers to the mountains every weekend. According to the Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association, from 2011 to 2014, there was an average of 2,102,488 annual visits to Washington ski resorts. According to a 2015 report prepared for the Washington State Department of Recreation and Conservation Office, in 2013, expenditures for Alpine skiing in Washington were \$840,706,347, and \$110,327,122 for cross-country skiing, for a total of \$951,033,346, spent by 1,956,469 participants.

Washington's ski industry is thriving today. There are nine Alpine ski areas, six Community ski areas, 24 Nordic Ski Centers, and one helicopter and snowboarding center. Information about these and Washington's 18 "Lost Ski Areas", as well as, the state's 39 Olympians (15 medalists), can be found at the Washington State Ski and Snowboard Museum on Snoqualmie Pass (WSSM).

See www.wssm.org. ■

A Short History of the Sun Valley Ski Resort

by John W. Lundin
Lawyer, Historian and Author



Austrian Count Schaffgotsch, who found the location for Union Pacific's ski resort in the remote mountains of Central Idaho, and Union Pacific Board Chairman Averell Harriman, whose idea it was to build a destination ski resort to restore train passenger service during the Depression, stand in front of the new Sun Valley lodge, 1937



RIGHT: Some of the world's best skiers taught for the Sun Valley Ski School. Here, US Olympian Jack Reddish, Norwegian Olympian Stein Eriksen, Ski School director Sigi Engl, and Austrian Olympian Christian Pravda ski on Baldy, circa 1953. "Nobody skied better on ice than Stein Eriksen" and Christian Pravda could

"go down a hill of extreme bumps and make it look as smooth as a floor." Stein said Sun Valley was "one of the most desirable resorts in the country," with a beautiful mountain and a "certain romance."

photos provided by Center for Regional History Community Library, Ketchum, ID

In December 1936, Sun Valley opened in the remote mountains of Idaho, built for \$1.5 million by Union Pacific Railroad. It was the pet project of U.P. Board Chairman, Averell Harriman, designed to stimulate passenger service decimated by the Great Depression and to generate publicity to add luster to rail travel in the winter. Sun Valley was the country's first destination ski resort, with an ultra-modern lodge and big city amenities, a ski school with Austrian instructors that made skiing sexy, and chair lifts invented by U.P. engineers based on a system to load bananas onto boats, so skiers could ride up mountains quickly and in comfort. Chairs were installed on Proctor and Dollar Mountains, but not on Bald Mountain until 1940, because Baldy was seen as too challenging for most skiers at the time.

Skiing in this country was in its infancy when Sun Valley opened. There were few lifts so one had to be physically fit enough to hike, herringbone, or use skins to climb up hills before skiing down. Equipment was rudimentary, there were few formal ski lessons, and the sport involved more back-country mountaineering than downhill skiing, limiting the sport's appeal.

Called the "St. Moritz of America", Sun Valley began modern skiing in this country. It attracted the carriage trade, Wall Street barons, the Chicago social set, Hollywood stars and producers, and serious skiers from all over the world. Ski racer, Dick Durrance, said it was "the most important influence in the development of American skiing...Its concentrated and highly successful glamorization of the sport got people to want to ski in the first place." It had a monopoly on skiing grandeur for several decades and influenced ski areas that developed later.

Steve Hannagan, Sun Valley's brilliant publicist, said the key to establishing a "chic image" was to use celebrities, attractive women, Olympic stars and monied families. Hannagan convinced *Life* magazine to publish an eight page spread on Sun Valley in March, 1937, giving the resort millions of dollars of free publicity. Articles about the resort appeared throughout the country in many different magazines and newspapers, making it a cultural icon embodying fun and affluence while the country struggled with the effects of the Depression..

Sun Valley was never intended to make a profit, and required a significant yearly subsidy from Union Pacific, ranging from a quarter million to three quarter million dollars. Harriman said Sun Valley operated with a deficit, but "we didn't run it to make money; we ran it to be a perfect place...and the publicity I thought was worth very much more than the deficit".

Harriman used ski racing to make his new resort an international destination and the country's center of skiing. Sun Valley offered young, talented skiers room and board, jobs and coaching, and hosted major ski tournaments. Harriman Cup Tournaments were the country's most prestigious and competitive events, attracting the best skiers in the world. The American Ski Annual 1943 said, "just as it is the dream

Dartmouth's Dick Durrance, winner of three Harriman Cup tournaments, demonstrates his distinctive skiing style on Bald Mountain, 1940.

photos courtesy of Center for Regional History Community Library, Ketchum, ID



U.S. Olympic teams for the 1948 and 1952 Games were selected at Sun Valley, and trained there afterwards. Best known is Gretchen Fraser, who in 1948, won a gold and silver medal at St. Moritz, the first American to win an Olympic medal in skiing.



Norwegian Stein Eriksen, winner of an Olympic gold medal in the 1952 Olympics, taught at Sun Valley after the Games. Eriksen had been a gymnast as a child, and he performed somersaults every Sunday on Bald Mountain's Ridge Run on the flat area before reaching Rock Garden, entertaining many interested spectators, circa 1953. Warren Miller filmed Stein teaching Christian Pravda and Jack Reddish how to do a forward somersault on skis."

of every tennis player to compete once at Wimbledon, it is every skier's hope to participate in the famous Harriman Cup Races at Sun Valley". U.S. Olympic teams for the 1948 and 1952 Games were selected at Sun Valley, and trained there afterwards. Best known is Gretchen Fraser, who in 1948, won a gold and silver medal at St. Moritz, the first American to win an Olympic medal in skiing.

Averell Harriman began full time war service in June 1940. After the war, he became President Truman's Secretary of Commerce, severed his ties with Union Pacific, and never again played a major role in its management. This was a turning point for Sun Valley, since the resort was Harriman's pet project, never fully supported by railroad management. After serving as a Naval Rehabilitation Hospital during WWII, Sun Valley reopened in December 1946, but it never regained the status it had before the war. It attracted skiers from a broader range of social and economic levels, not just the rich and famous, and focused on convention business. Increasing competition from airlines and cars caused rail passenger traffic to plunge, and Union Pacific began to reduce its subsidy to the resort during the 1950s. Its glory began to fade, although Sun Valley continued to be the country's primary destination ski resort and center of ski racing, and employed some of the world's best skiers in its ski school, such as Stein Eriksen, Christian Pravda and others.

Sun Valley brought European skiing ambiance to America. Illustrating its international influence, in 1950, an Austrian newspaper said with the help of the Marshall Plan, its Arlberg region could become "Austria's Sun Valley".

Sun Valley has had three owners since December, 1936. Each showered the resort with love, support and money (at least for Union Pacific when Harriman was involved), with each owner taking it to a different level. The Janss Company, and later Bill Janss who acquired the resort from his family's company, made significant investments into the Sun Valley Village and the mountain, and developed condominiums, making it a year-around attraction. However, Janss lacked the capital to take it to the next level, and sought a buyer who had the resources to continue development of the resort.

In 1977, Janss sold Sun Valley to the Holding family, owners of Sinclair Oil Company, who made Sun Valley one of the premier year-around resorts in the country and restored its international status. However, unlike the 1930s and 1940s, when Sun Valley was the only high-end ski destination resort, it shares its position in a highly competitive business with other resorts started after WWII.

Ski Magazine's 2020 Resort Guide rated Sun Valley the number two resort in the West for the fifth year in a row, one of the most consistent resorts in its survey, with "an impressive" seven No. 1 category rankings - Lifts, Service, Lodging, Down Day Activities, Family, Charm, and Overall Satisfaction. That's the most No. 1s of any resort - West or East. "If there was a ranking for ski history, Sun Valley would be No. 1!" ■

**The Intermountain Ski Council
joined the
Far West Ski Association
in 2007. States within ISC include
Idaho, Utah, Wyoming and
South Dakota.**

About the Author:

John W. Lundin's great-grandparents moved to Bellevue, Idaho, in 1881. They were early pioneers in the Wood River Valley, and John has done extensive research about the history of the area. His two books about Sun Valley and the Wood River Valley were published in 2020. *Sun Valley, Ketchum and the Wood River Valley*, an images of America series book, describes the history of the Wood River Valley from its mining days and the arrival of the railroad, through the sheep raising and agricultural era, to the development of the Sun Valley Resort, using 200 historic pictures. *Skiing Sun Valley: a History from Union Pacific to the Holdings*, is an in-depth history of the Sun Valley Resort using original Union Pacific materials, oral histories from people involved with the resort from its beginning, other contemporaneous documents, and 180 historic pictures. The books are available from local and national bookstores. John was scheduled to give the First John Fry Memorial lecture on *Early Sun Valley, Union Pacific, Averell Harriman and Alf Engen*, to the joint meeting of the US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame and International Ski Hall of Fame in Sun Valley in March 2020, but the meeting was cancelled because of COVID-19.

John is helping to prepare an exhibit on the history of ski jumping in Washington with the National Nordic Museum and Washington State Ski and Snowboard Museum, scheduled to open in January, 2021. John's book, *Ski Jumping in Washington - a Nordic Tradition*, published by History Press, will be part of the exhibit, with profits going to both museums.



Two early rope tows provided skiers transportation up the mountain in the 1940s. Many skiers took advantage of this new mode to ascend the slopes. photo from the Richard Vandenberg Collection

Bogus Basin is the Nation's Largest Non-Profit Ski Area

by Eve Brassy Chandler
Author

During the depth of the Great Depression in the late 1930s, members of the Boise Ski Club and the Boise Jaycees joined together to create a ski area for Idaho's largest city. Motivated by the popularity of Sun Valley, the group had two goals: to increase commerce and make skiing accessible to their community.

In March and April of 1938, Alf Engen, ski champion and Winter Sports Director of the Wasatch National Forest, led several searches for the valley's new recreational area. Eventually, Engen and his cohorts reported back to the Forest Service, the Boise Junior Chamber of Commerce's Winter Sports Committee, and local and state officials that the best site, with the most dependable winter snowfall, was Bogus Basin at the base of Shafer Butte.

Engen, who had skied across the United States, Norway and Switzerland, was thrilled with Bogus Basin and the various runs radiating out in the form of open ridge tops from the rim of the basin. He described the area as almost perfect.

With the ski location selected, the local businessmen and government employees backing this idea needed to come up with the financial resources to build a recreational area — a difficult challenge as the country tried to pull out of the Great Depression. President Franklin D. Roosevelt had created the Works Progress Administration (*WPA*) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (*CCC*) for developing projects like Bogus Basin. The Boise Junior Chamber of Commerce successfully applied for a WPA grant, and 195 men were assigned to build a road to Bogus Basin. As soon as the road was finished in 1940, CCC workers began to build barracks and a lodge, to serve initially as their training center and later as the area's first ski lodge.

The CCC workers also installed water and sanitation systems, cleared hillsides for ski runs and created a parking lot for the new ski area. Members of the Boise Ski Club organized work groups to help clear brush from the first ski run and build the first rope tow for the area.

In 1866, the basin where Bogus Basin Mountain Recreation Area resides today was home to a small group of swindlers who melted silver, sand and a slight amount of gold to create bogus gold dust. Locals named the area Bogus Basin after the fake gold dust that was produced in the area, and the name continues on today.

The nonprofit 501(c)(4) community ski area opened December 20, 1942, and served approximately 70,000 Treasure Valley residents. Bogus Basin was allowed to operate during the war years because it also served the servicemen at the local military base — Gowen Field.

Bogus Basin became a 501(c)(3) charitable organization in 2005. Today, it serves over 800,000 residents living in Idaho's largest metropolitan area known as the Treasure Valley and is the largest community-owned ski area in the nation. Owned by the Bogus Basin Recreational Association (BBRA) and directed by a volunteer board, it has been recognized as one of the best-operated winter

recreational areas in the country.

The area opened with a rudimentary rope tow, added a T-bar, graduated to Poma lifts, and installed a fixed-grip double chairlift in 1959. Today Bogus Basin offers four high-speed quads, three fixed-grip chairlifts and two magic carpets. An 800-foot tubing hill provides fun for non-skiers. The 4,251 foot Glade Runner Mountain Coaster offers an exhilarating ride both in winter and summer.

Bogus Basin Recreational Area encompasses two mountain peaks in the southern reaches of the Bitterroot Mountains: Deer Point and Shafer Butte. Skiers can descend Shafer Butte from points radiating 360°, catching the morning sun on Paradise, and heading to the north slope of Matchless for colder, lighter powder after a storm. The ski area covers 2,600 skiable acres and provides 165 acres for night skiing. The Nordic Center offers 37 kilometers of groomed trails. Today, Treasure Valley residents can use Bogus Basin as their playground every month of the year. Skiers, snowboarders, Nordic skiers, Telemark skiers, snowshoers, and snow tubers appreciate the close proximity of Bogus Basin's slopes, just 16.5 miles from the city. Hiking, mountain biking, concerts, conferences, weddings, and day camps are just a few of the activities offered during the summer season. The founders' dream of creating a year-round recreational area has been realized.

Excellent year-round programs exist to teach children about their environment. Bogus Basin has teamed up with the Boise and Meridian Parks and Recreation departments to let kids explore the forests, hike, and follow animal tracks on the mountain during summer months through Mountain Discovery Camp. The Nordic Group, the Boise National Forest, Winter Wildlands Alliance, and Bogus Basin partnered to create SnowSchool, in which students come to Bogus to snowshoe and learn about the winter habitat, animal and plant winter adaptations, and environmental science concepts while recreating safely in a winter environment. Last year 19,888 kids participated in winter and summer programs on the mountain.

Bogus is close enough to downtown for office workers to sneak to the mountain at lunch time, ski two runs, and return in less than two hours. Many locals brag of skiing in the morning and returning to town in the afternoon for a round of golf.

Bogus Basin has been credited as an innovator in the ski industry. In 1948, the Bogus Basin Ski Club hosted the first National Junior Ski Championships, drawing skiers from across the country. The same year, Bogus sought to attract women to skiing, and Wednesdays became Ladies Day on the mountain. The program provided bus service, babysitting, lessons and lunch for women in the Treasure Valley.

In 1971, Bogus Basin named Irene La-Marche, the first woman to direct a large full-time

ski school in the United States. In the late 1960s and early 1970s Bogus Basin skiers, including instructor Ed "Airborne Eddie" Ferguson, helped invent the sport of freestyle skiing, also known as hot dog skiing, by combining spread eagle jumps, front and back flips, ballet moves and jumping off bumps.

The ski school created the Mogul Mouse program in 1982, to teach children ages three through five to ski. Bogus Basin was the first to offer lessons to three year olds; at the time, the youngest instructional program in the country began at five years of age.

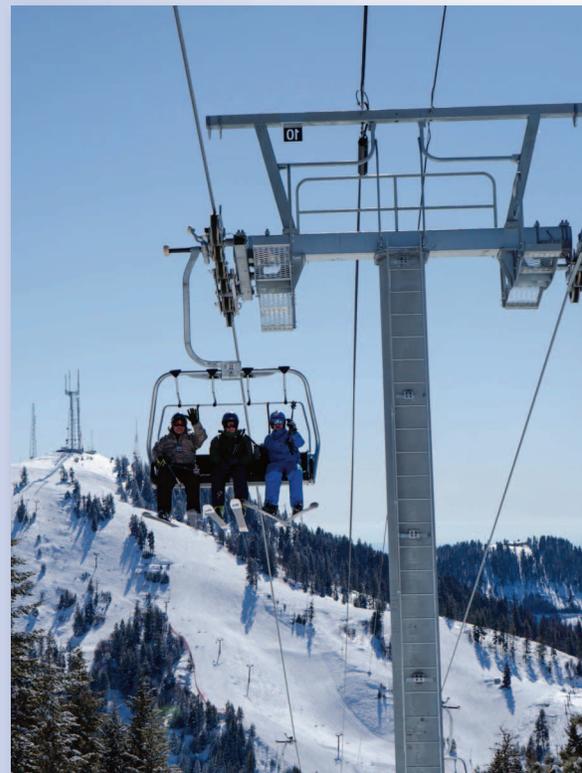
In 1998, the Bogus Basin management and board offered a revolutionary pricing plan to lower season pass prices to \$199. Across the country skiing had become a high-priced sport, attracting fewer and fewer skiers and boarders. Bogus Basin was the first ski area to significantly reduce the cost of season passes from \$550 to \$199 for an adult. Pass sales jumped from selling 2,854 to 25,000 season passes. Prior to the \$199 season pass sale, Bogus Basin recorded 192,000 skier visits. The following year 300,000 skier visits were recorded due to the reduced cost of season passes. Ski areas around the nation took notice and lowered their season pass prices.

In the last five years, Bogus Basin has created a master plan with the help of SE Group. Construction on summer season improvements began in the summer of 2017, adding additional mountain bike trails, a bike skills park and pump track, a mountain coaster, a 12,000 square foot heated patio, one acre lawn, base area activities, and new terrain that is designated for beginner bikers. The base area activities popular with summer guests include the Glade Runner Coaster, tubing, a climbing wall, mining for gems and trampoline bungee jumping.

A 13-million-gallon pond and 24 snow guns were added in 2018 to bring snowmaking to the mountain. Snowmaking covers runs on the Deer Point and Morning Star chairlifts. The snowmaking operation guarantees a December opening for skiers and boarders. During the last five years Bogus Basin hosts an average of over 317,000 guests during the winter season.

The increasing popularity of Bogus Basin in both the winter and summer is spurring management to cut new trails within the current boundary and look at adding additional lift-served skiable acres in cooperation with the Forest Service. Bogus Basin is providing more summer bike trails for beginner-to-expert riders.

Bogus Basin is dedicated to fulfilling their mission statement: To engage the community in affordable, accessible, and fun year-round mountain recreation and education. The management and Bogus Basin Recreational Association aims to give every child in the Treasure Valley an opportunity to ski, snowboard, mountain bike, or otherwise enjoy the outdoors at Bogus Basin. ■



Modernized high speed quads take skiers to the top of Pine Creek. photo from the Bogus Basin Photo Archives



Mountain biking is a popular summer sport at Bogus. The Around the Mountain Trail was listed as one of the top ten mountain bike trails in the nation. photo from the Bogus Basin Photo Archives

About the Author:

Eve Brassey Chandler is the author of *Building Bogus Basin, Brundage Mountain: Best Snow in Idaho*, and in 2017, Eve received the Western Ski Heritage Award from the Far West Ski Association. During her writing career, she has primarily focused on writing histories for hospital, university and non-profit organizations. A native Idahoan, Eve has served on many local and statewide boards and is currently a Bogus Basin Recreational Association board member.

Timeline: Utah Ski History

1870s– Miners used skiing for transportation

1912 – Wasatch Mountain Club (*recreation*) formed

1915 – Norwegian Young Folks Society stages ski jumping events at Dry Creek Hill and Becker Hill

1930s – World class ski jumping tournaments on Ecker Hill draw many thousands of spectators

1936 – Rope tow at Brighton starts operation

1939 – Utah’s first chairlift starts operating at Alta. It was the second such skier conveyance in the country with Sun Valley, which opened the season before, having the first

1941 – Snowbasin opens in Ogden Canyon

1941 – The U.S. Forest Service names Sverre Engen, ski jumper, coach, film-maker, resort manager and avalanche control pioneer as the nation’s first snow ranger

1942 – 10th Mountain Division paratroopers train in winter warfare at Alta

1944 – Timp Haven (Sundance) opens in Provo Canyon

1946 – Snow Park (*later Deer Valley*) opens

1946 – Little Mountain (*Emigration Canyon, night skiing, tubing*) opens

1949 – Beaver Mountain opens in Logan Canyon

1954 – Gorgoza opens below Parleys Canyon summit with short single-chair lift, tubing

1957 – Solitude opens in Big Cottonwood Canyon

1960 – Utah’s iconic “*Greatest Snow on Earth*” winter sports promotional slogan first appears as a headline over a ski story written by my older brother, Tom Korologos, for *The Salt Lake Tribune* on Dec. 4

1961 – Brian Head (*southern Utah*) opens

1963 – Treasure Mountain Resort (*now Park City Mountain*) opens

1966 – Salt Lake City makes its first of five Olympic Winter Games bids in Rome, Italy

1968 – Robert Redford and a group of investors buy Timp Haven in Provo Canyon, change its name to Sundance

From Silver Mines to Olympic Gold

by Mike Korologos

Veteran writer on matters of skiing in Utah

The International Olympic Committee has decided to award the organization of the Olympic Winter Games of 2002 to the city of Salt Lake City!

— Juan Antonio Samaranch,
President, International Olympic Committee, June 16, 1995, Budapest, Hungary.

That announcement ignited a spark that burst into an Olympic flame seven years later when Salt Lake City staged the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games of 2002, by any measure the marquee event in the annals of winter sports in Utah, if not in the history of the state.

That extravaganza between February 8 and 24 was so well executed (*ie. 50,000 volunteers and a profit/legacy fund of \$78 million*) that Salt Lake City is the choice of the U.S. Olympic Committee to compete internationally to host the Winter Olympic/Paralympics Games in 2030 or 2034.

What’s more, those standard-setting games put a high gloss on Utah’s image as a world-class wintertime tourist destination, a games afterglow that continues to shine today.

But wait. We’re getting ahead of the story.

Depending on what metric one uses, Utah’s long and colorful winter sports history features many other highlights and heroes in addition to the Olympic Games. One can argue the silver miners in the gloves-off mining towns of Alta and Park City in the 1870s-80s were the originators of winter sports in the area.

They rode in rusty ore buckets affixed to rickety tram systems that carried them to their mountainside mine jobs and at the end of the shift would scoot down the snow-covered hills straddling wide-mouth shovels or riding, arms a-flaying, atop barrel staves. On payday, those antics often lead to rowdy competitions among mining camps.

Also in the late 1880s and early 1900s, away from the raucous mining camps — way away — the straight-laced early-day Mormons would escape the summer heat of Salt Lake City by heading up Big Cottonwood Canyon, 25 miles southeast of the capital, where many had built cabins (*site of today’s Brighton Ski Area*). To access their cabins in the winter, the hearty city folk strode atop the snows on long boards or snowshoes.

Then there was the Wasatch Mountain Club. It was the first to have organized backcountry ski outings in Utah. And it’s still at it today.

With some 1,000 members, this backcountry skiing and winter-summer outdoor recreation and conservation group traces its recorded start to 1920, but it had a less formal structure as early as 1912. To commemorate their club’s centennial milestone, members observed the anniversary with a series of special events and ceremonies throughout 2020.

The ski jumping frenzy of the Scandinavian and Norwegian countries (*home for numerous Mormon immigrants*) was replicated in Utah by the Norwegian Young Folks Society, which staged jumping events in the foothills east of Salt Lake City and east of Ogden in 1913.

Those competitions became the warm-up acts for the ski jumping extravaganzas of the late 1920s and 1930s when barnstorming “yumpers”, many from Europe, chased world jump records and attracted several thousands of spectators to Rasmussen Ranch, later known as Ecker Hill, near the summit of Parleys Canyon. Creole Hill in Park City, Dry Canyon Hill in northeast Salt Lake City and Becker Hill in Ogden Canyon were other popular jumping sites of the period.

But there’s more than that hodge-podge of events that buttress Utah’s world-renowned skiing and riding emporiums of today (*read the cushy mega lodges, the six-pack chairlifts, high-tech snow-making and the ultra-groomed cruisers*).

Today’s purveyors of powder can hitch their existence to several visionaries, luminaries, fortunes and flops sprinkled throughout the history of Utah’s snow sports industry.

One of the most prominent and influential visionaries was S. J. “Joe” Quinney, a wealthy Salt Lake City lawyer and state legislator who was committed to public causes. In the late 1930s, he rallied 10 business entities to form the Salt Lake Winter Sports Association. Initiation fee: \$10,000 each. The group included the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, Walker Bank and Trust Co., the Rio Grande Railroad and New York publisher James Laughlin.

In the rear-view mirror of today, what the association accomplished was monumental. It bankrolled construction of the first chairlift ever operated in Utah. It was the Collins chair at Alta, at the head of Little Cottonwood Canyon, 25 miles southeast of Salt Lake City and site in the 1870s of a freewheeling silver mining town that housed 3,000 inhabitants who quenched their collective thirst at 25 saloons and five breweries.

With minimal fanfare, on January 15, 1939, Quinney and Alf Engen, a Norwegian native, expert



The first chairlift built in Utah, the Collins chair, opened at Alta Ski Area for the 1938-39 ski season. Rides were 25 cents and a day pass cost \$1.50. This chairlift was only superceded by the one built at Sun Valley.

*photo courtesy of the University of Utah
J. Willard Marriott Library Special Collections*

skier/jumper and U.S. Forest Service advisor on winter recreational sites, cranked up the lift for the first time and watched it as it hauled skiers uphill in red single-seat chairs hanging from droopy cables strung from wooden framed towers. The fee: 25 cents a ride.

Little did Quinney and Engen realize they had started something much greater than a chairlift at Alta that today garners high accolades from skiers worldwide for its storied powder runs, its skiers-only policy notwithstanding? For that storied lift start-up and for pioneering skiing techniques that followed, Quinney has been bestowed the name of “*The Father of Utah Skiing*” and Engen as “*The Father of Powder Skiing*”.

There’s more. Lots more.

Enter Utah’s five efforts to host the Olympic winter games, a campaign begun in the 1960s primarily to generate and garner publicity for the fledging skiing industry. The state’s fifth try won the day in 1995 when Samaranch made his monumental announcement to the world that Salt Lake City would host the 2002 games.

Enter Utah’s \$1 billion-plus ski/ride industry of today, touted worldwide by the stalwart efforts of the Ski Utah, the industry’s promotional arm.

Enter 15 ski/ride areas and resorts, many within an hour’s drive of sparkling new \$4.1 billion-plus Salt Lake City’s international airport. The ski and board emporiums range from up-scale Deer Valley (*can you say \$200-plus day pass during the holidays?*) to Beaver Mountain, a low-key, hideaway in northern Utah’s Logan Canyon, operated since its opening in 1949 by the Harry Seeholzer family, longest such ownership in the country.

Enter Snowbird. It gets the credit for putting Utah skiing on the international ski scene when it opened in 1971, thanks to its 120-passenger gondola and hitherto rare contemporary commodious lodging offerings.

Enter the behemoth Park City Resort, carrying the name of its hometown – another mining town-turned winter sports haven. This resort opened in 1963 as Treasure Mountain. It drew ohs and ahas for offering skiers two double-chairlifts, the longest gondola in the country and a 3-mile long mine tunnel tramway with a 1,800 ft. vertical hoist, which originally ferried miners. Over the ridge, Park City West (*later named Canyons*) opened in 1968. It was morphed into Park City Mountain in 2015 when Vail Resorts bought Park City Resort to form the largest ski resort in the U.S., serving shredders and skiers with 41 chairlifts.

Enter Deer Valley, adjacent to the bustling town of Park City and neighbor to mega-million dollar homes, lodges and hotels. This gem etched its name on Utah’s resort map in 1981. Despite its skiers-only edict, it draws huzzahs, not for its size, but for its limited skier counts, its meticulous slope grooming, exceptional dining, white glove service and five-star accommodations. Its cream d’ la cream niche resonates throughout the world, as evidenced by its perennial perch high — or atop — winter resort rankings in surveys by national publications.

And, enter the 1985 launching of the Ski Utah Interconnect Adventure that affords advanced/expert skiers the opportunity to take a guided trek for up to 25 miles and visit as many as six resorts – Alta, Brighton, Snowbird, Solitude, Deer Valley and Park City Mountain – in one day!

Indeed, one can select which is his or her most important point in history and which area was the first or the best and there would be no wrong answers. Each has its rightful place in Utah’s winter recreation lore.

While the origins of skiing in the state are open for discussion, there’s one thing Utah skiers and riders know for certain: There’s lot of skiing and sliding going on in Utah’s “*Greatest Snow on Earth*”. ■

About the Author:

Mike Korologos has been writing about skiing for more than 60 years. His articles have appeared in publications worldwide. He was communications director for both the Bid and Organizing Committees for the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the Olympic Winter Games of 2002. He is a member of the Intermountain Ski Hall of Fame, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Ski History Association and recipient of Ski Utah’s Ski Journalist of the Year Award. He is an honorary member of the Alta Ski School and the PRSA/Intermountain. He lives, writes, skis and golfs in or near his hometown of Salt Lake City.

1968 – Park West (*Wolf Mountain, Canyons and ultimately Park City Canyons*) opens

1971 – Snowbird opens

1972 – Powder Mountain, east of Ogden, opens (*limits lift passes to 1,500/day - originally opened with rope tow service in 1959*)

1974 – U.S. Ski Team moves headquarters to Park City

1975 – The state’s various skiing promotional efforts are combined and begin being coordinated by Ski Utah

1981 – Deer Valley opens

1988 – Dr. Greg Thompson, Associate Dean for Special Collections at the library and Sue Raemer, a library staffer, launch the Utah Ski Archives at the University of Utah’s J. Willard Marriott Library. Today it is one of the country’s largest collections of skiing history

1993 – Utah Olympic Park opens at Bear Hollow - site of luge, skeleton, bobsled, and ski jumping venues for 2002 Olympic Winter Games. Public rides/tours are available; athlete training site for jumping, freestyle, luge/bobsled

1999 – Alf Engen, ski jumper, ski instructor at Alta and powder skiing legend, is named Utah Athlete of the Century by The Salt Lake Tribune

2002 – Salt Lake City and adjacent venues host Olympic/Paralympic Winter Games of 2002

2002 – Alf Engen Ski Museum opens in the S. J. “Joe” Quinney Winter Sports Center at Utah Olympic Park, showcasing history of skiing in Intermountain West

2015 – Cherry Hills Resort opens, east of Richmond, Utah, near the Idaho border

2015 – Vail Resorts buys Park City Resort and obtains Canyons, merges them into Park City Mountain, largest resort in U.S.

2019 – Woodward Park City opens (*year-round action sports facility at base of Parleys Canyon summit, site of the one-time Gorgoza tubing area.*)

2019 – University of Utah ski teams win 12th NCAA skiing championships. Previous National Championships won by Utah were in 1981, 1983, 1984, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2003, and 2017.

Since 1970, the FWSA has produced an annual ski week for members and it also led in the development of USSA National Ski Weeks.

USSA National Ski Week started as a membership benefit with reduced room rates at off season times – but was converted to a meeting of councils featuring an Alpine Council Challenge Cup in 1970 by Packard Anderson, Bruce Bell and John Watson. The idea of a meeting of council travel groups with their racing teams was the core idea for national ski weeks through 2002. USRSA changed the name in 1985 to the Nation's Ski Weeks.

NATIONAL SKI WEEKS

1970 Vail
 1972 Sun Valley
 1973 Snowmass
 1974 Sun Valley
 1975 Vail
 1976 Big Sky
 1977 Keystone
 1978 Sun Valley
 1979 Crested Butte
 1980 Steamboat Springs
 1981 Snowmass
 1982 Sun Valley
 1983 Crested Butte
 1984 Snowmass
 (first under USRSA)
 1985 Vail
 (USRSA Nation's Ski Week)
 1986 Sun Valley
 1987 Steamboat springs
 1988 Keystone
 1989 Jackson Hole
 1990 Snowmass
 1991 Banff
 1992 Steamboat Springs
 1993 Banff
 1994 Sun Valley
 1995 Keystone
 1996 Whistler
 1997 Big Sky
 1998 Sun Valley
 1999 Taos
 2000 Banff
 2001 Telluride
 2002 Park City

See the right hand column ►

FWSA Travel History

Compiled by Nancy Ellis and Debbie Stewart

Year	Trip Type	Trip/Destination	Date
2024	Int'l Adventure Trip	Galapagos Islands	Fall, 2024
2023	TBD		
2022	Int'l Adventure Trip Int'l Ski Trip Extension trip	Central/Eastern Africa Madonna di Campiglio Italy	Fall, 2022 Feb. 2022
2021	Int'l Adventure Dive Trip Int'l Adventure Trip Int'l Ski Trip Extension N. Am. Adventure Trip N. Am. Mini Ski Trip Int'l Ski Week Extension Trip N. Am. Ski Week	Roatán, Honduras Croatia Valle Nevado, Chile & Santiago Atacama Desert Alaska Cruise/Denali Tour Zermatt Utah Resort Sölden, Austria Southern Spain Sun Valley, ID	Oct. 9 - 16, 2021 Sept. 10 - 19, 2021 TBD TBD June 19 - 30, 2021 Mar. 21 - 26, 2021 Feb. 19 - 27, 2021 Feb. 27 - Mar. 7, 2021 Jan. 30 - Feb.6, 2021
2020	Int'l Adventure Dive Trip Int'l Adventure Trip N. Am. Mini Trip Int'l Ski Week Int'l Adventure Trip N. Am. Ski Week	Cozumel, Mexico Croatia Adventure Tip Big White, BC Canada Davos, Switzerland Lisbon & Ponto, Portugal Big Sky Resort, MT	Cancelled - COVID-19 Postponed to Sept. 2021 Cancelled - COVID-19 Feb. 28-Mar. 7, 2020 Mar. 7-13, 2020 Jan. 25-Feb.1, 2020
2019	N. Am. Adventure Trip Int'l Adventure Trip Pre-Trip Ski Int'l Ski Week Post Adventure Trip N. Am. Mini Trip N. Am. Ski Week	Windjammer British Virgin Islands Philippines Niseko, Japan Hakuba, Japan Kanazawa, Kyoto & Tokyo Winter Park, CO Steamboat, CO	May 19 - 26, 2019 Sept. 28 - Oct. 12, 2019 Mar. 4 - 9, 2019 Mar. 9 - 16, 2019 Mar. 16 - 23, 2019 Mar. 24 - 29, 2019 Feb. 2 - 9, 2019
2018	Int'l Adventure Dive Trip Int'l Adventure Trip Int'l Ski Week Extension N. Am. Mini Adventure Trip N. Am. Ski Week	Grand Cayman India - Golden Triangle & Kerala Region Les Trois Vallee, France Lyon, Beaune & Paris Iditarod - Alyeska, AK Banff/Lake Louise, AB Canada	Sept. 15 - 22, 2018 Oct. 5 - 21, 2018 Mar. 2 - 11, 2018 Mar. 11 - 18, 2018 Feb. 25 - Mar. 4, 2018 Feb. 3 - 9, 2018
2017	Int'l Adventure Dive Trip N. Am. Mini Trip Int'l Ski Week Extension Trip N. Am. Ski Week	Roatán, Honduras Cahilty Lodge at Sun Peak, BC, Canada St. Anton, Austria Vienna, Austria & Budapest, Hungary Breckenridge, CO	Sept. 23 - 30, 2017 Mar. 21 - 26, 2017 Mar. 12 - 19, Mar. 19 - 26, 2017 Jan. 28 - Feb.4, 2017
2016	Int'l Adventure Dive Trip Int'l Adventure Trip N. Am. Mini Trip Int'l Ski Week Extension Trip N. Am. Ski Week	Fiji - Week 1 Fiji - Week 2 England/Ireland Ireland Bicycling Tour Crested Butte, CO Cortina de Ampezzo, Italy Florence & Rome, Italy Telluride, CO	Sept. 24 - Oct. 1, 2016 Oct. 1 - 8, 2016 Sept. 11-22, 2016 Sept. 22 - 26, 2016 Mar. 21-26, 2016 Mar. 5 - 12, 2016 Mar. 12 - 19, 2916 Jan. 30 - Feb. 6, 2016
2015	Int'l Adventure Dive Trip N. Am. Adventure Trip N. Am. Mini Trip Pre-Trip Int'l Ski Week Extension Trip N. Am. Ski Week	Plaza Resort - Bonaire Mississippi River Cruise - New Orleans Whitefish, MT Paris Val d'Isere, France Provence/French Riviera Whistler/Blackcomb	Sept. 26 - Oct. 3, 2015 June 19 - 25, 2015 Mar. 30 - Apr. 4, 2015 Mar. 10 - 14, 2015 Mar. 14 - 21, 2015 Mar. 21 - 28, 2015 Jan. 31 - Feb.7, 2015
2014	Int'l Adventure Dive Trip Int'l. Adventure Trip Extension - Adventure	Cozumel African Safari - South Africa Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe	Oct. 11 - 18, 2014 Sept. 5 - 16, 2014 Sept. 16 - 20, 2014

Year	Trip Type	Trip/Destination	Date
2014	Int'l Ski Week	Zermatt, Switzerland	Mar. 6 - 15, 2014
	Post Int'l Trip	Barcelona & Madrid, Spain	Mar. 15 - 23, 2014
	N. Am. Mini Ski Trip	Snowbasin, UT	Feb. 22 - 27, 2014
	N. Am. Ski Week	Beaver Creek, CO	Jan. 25 - Feb. 1, 2014
2013	N. Am. Adventure Trip	Caribbean Cruise	Nov. 9 - 16, 2013
	Int'l Adventure Dive Trip	Ramon's Village - Ambergris Caye, Belize	Sept. 7-14, 2013
	N. Am. Summer Trip	Mammoth Mountain, CA	June 27 - 30, 2013
	N. Am. Mini Trip	Mt. Bachelor, OR	Mar. 25 - 30, 2013
	Int'l Ski Week	Innsbruck, Austria & Garmish-Partenkirchen, Germany	Mar. 2 - 10, 2013
	Extension Trip	Munich, Germany	Mar. 10 - 17, 2013
2012	N. Am. Ski Week	Aspen/Snowmass, CO	Feb. 2 - 9, 2013
	N. Am. Adventure Trip	Panama Canal Cruise	Sept. 28 - Oct. 12, 2012
2011	Int'l. Adventure Dive Trip	Cayman Brac	Sept. 1 - 8, 2012
	N. Am. Mini Ski Trip	Big White, BC Canada	Mar. 27 - Apr. 1, 2012
	Int'l Ski Week	Chamonix, France	Mar. 9 - 7, 2012
	Post Trip 1-week	Morocco	Mar. 17 - 25, 2012
	Post Trip 2 weeks	Morocco	Mar. 17 - 31, 2012
	N. Am. Ski Week	Jackson Hole, WY	Jan. 8 - 15, 2012
	Int'l Adventure Trip	New Zealand / Australia	Oct. 25 - Nov. 9, 2011
	Int'l Adventure Dive Trip	Roatan, Honduras	Oct. 22-29, 2011
2010	Int'l Ski Week	Engleberg & Interlaken, Switzerland	Feb. 26 - Mar. 7, 2011
	Ski/Adventure	Bansko, Bulgaria	Mar. 7 - 12, 2011
	Post Trip	Bucharest & Transylvania, Romania	Mar. 12 - 16, 2011
	N. Am. Ski Week	Sun Valley, ID	Jan. 22 - 29, 2011
2009	Int'l Adventure Trip	Antarctic	Dec. 29, 2010 - Jan. 14, 2011
	N. Am. Adventure	New England/ Canadian Cruise	Sept. 25 - Oct. 2, 2010
	Int'l Adventure Dive Trip	Cozumel (1st Dive Trip)	Sept. 5 - 10, 2010
	Int'l Ski Trip Pre-Trip	Venice, Italy	Feb. 27 - Mar. 2, 2010
	Int'l Ski Week	Cortina, Italy	Mar. 2 - 9, 2010
	Extension Trip	Klagenfurt, Budapest and Vienna	Mar. 9 - 12, 2010
2008	N. Am. Ski Week	Keystone, CO	Jan. 30 - Feb. 6, 2010
	N. Am./Int'l Adventure trip	Baltic Cruise	Sept. 13 - 23, 2009
	Int'l Ski Week	Bad Gastein, Austria	Feb. 27 - Mar. 6, 2009
	Extension	Munich, Germany & Prague	Mar. 6 - 13, 2009
2007	N. Am. Ski Week	Big Sky, MT	Jan. 24 - 31, 2009
	Int'l Adventure Trip	Greek Isles	Oct. 1 - 7, 2008
	Int'l Adventure Extension	Turkey	Oct. 17 - 24, 2008
	N. Am. Adventure Trip	Alaska Cruise	Jun. 8 - 15, 2008
	Int'l Ski Week	Les Trois Vallees, France	Mar. 7 - 15, 2008
2006	Extension	Aix-en-Provence & Paris,	Mar. 15 - 20, 2008
	N. Am. Ski Week	Whistler/Blackcomb, BC	Mar. 3 - 11, 2008
	Int'l Adventure Trip	China & Tibet by train	Oct. 29 - Nov. 11, 2007
	Int'l pre-Trip	Rome, Italy	Feb. 24 - Mar. 3m 2007
	Int'l Ski Week	Bormio, Italy	Mar. 3 - 11, 2007
	Extension	Interlaken, Switzerland	Mar. 11 - 16, 2007
2005	N. Am. Adventure Trip	Panama Cruise	Mar. 19 - 26, 2007
	N. Am. Ski Week	Steamboat Springs, CO	Jan. 1 - 8, 2007
	Int'l Adventure Trip	Galapagos/Machu Picchu	May 22 - Jun 6, 2006
	Int'l Pre Trip	Davos/ Zermatt	Mar. 6 - 11, 2006
	Int'l Ski Week Trip	Zermatt	Mar. 6 - 18, 2006
	Extension	Egypt/Zermatt	Mar. 18 - 27, 2006
	N. Am. Adventure Trip	Hawaiian Cruise	Feb. 16 - 9, 2006
N. Am. Ski Week	Telluride, CO	Feb. 4 - 11-2006	
2005	Int'l Ski Week Trip	St. Moritz, Switzerland	Mar. 12 - 19, 2005

FWRA OFFICERS

President

1984 - 85	Ellen Loe
1986 - 89	George Eachus
1990	John Catozzi
1991 - 00	George Eachus
2000 - 03	Rob Margrave
2004 - Present	Bob Ellis

FWSA VP - Rec Racing

Alan Christian

Championship Chairman

1884 - 85	George Eachus
1989 - 90	John Catozzi
1990 - 00	George Eachus
1991 - 00	Ken Calkins
2000 - 03	Bob Ellis
2003 - Present	* See NOTE

Rules Chairman

1984 - Present Bob Warzynski

Secretary

1984 - 2002 Lynnell Calkins
2002 - Present Debi Phelps

Treasurer

1984 - 85 Jack Gaar
1986 - 2003 Marty Purmort
2004 - Present Nancy Ellis

*NOTE: Starting in 2004 the Championship Chairman was no longer an elected office. It was changed to Chief of Race and appointed by the FWRA President. Since 2004, George Eachus has been Chief of Race for the FWRA Championships.
Compiled by George Eachus

► By request of its members, the FWSA wanted to provide more travel opportunities. In 2002, the organization also ran a trip to Copper Mountain, CO. In 2003, their annual trip was to Big Mountain, MT with an International Ski Week to Austria and a summer Safari to Africa. With the success of these trips, the organization officially split their travel program into Domestic (*North American*) and International in 2004. On 2004, FWSA ran trips to Lake Louise (Domestic) and to the French Alps, plus offered a post-trip cruise along the Rhone River. In 2005, FWSA took skiers to Aspen/Snowmass, CO. (See FWSA Travel History / 2005 forward.

FWSA CONVENTION INDUSTRY SILENT AUCTION/TRAVEL EXPO PARTICIPATION

Industry Participation in the Annual Convention Silent Auction & Travel Expo

compiled by *Debbi Kor and Jane Wyckoff*

A total of 884 industry participants have participated in the Silent Auction/Travel Expo since its inception in 1986. This list shows all participants of 5 years or more. Our appreciation is extended to these industry partners for their generous donations, which have assisted greatly in funding FWSA programs for the past 34 years.

30 or More Years

Aspen Skiing Company, CO
Creted Butte Mountain Resort, CO
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, WY
Mammoth Mountain, CA
Mt. Bachelor, OR
SkiBig3 / Ski Banff-Lake Louise-Sunshine, AB Canada
Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation, CO
Sun Valley Resort, ID
Taos Ski Valley, NM
Telluride Ski Resort, CO
Vail Resorts, CO
Whitefish Mountain Resort, MT (Big Mountain)

25-29 Years

Big Sky Resort, MT
Deer Valley Resort, UT
Grouse Mountain Lodge, MT
Heavenly Ski Resort, CA
Jackson Hole Resort Lodging, WY
Mammoth Mountain Inn, CA
Northstar-At-Tahoe, CA
Park City Mountain Resort, UT
Ski.com, CO
Snakedance Condominiums & Spa, NM
Snowbird Ski & Summer resort, UT
Sunriver Resort, OR
Winter Park resort, CO

20-24 Years

Alpine Meadows Ski Area, CA
Banff Lodging Company, AB Canada
Big White Ski Resort, British Columbia, Canada
Breckenridge Resort, CO
Copper Mountain Resort, CO
Fairmont Hotel & Resort - Banff Springs, AB Canada
Fairmont Hotel & Resorts - Chateau Lake Louise, B
Canada
Holidaze Ski Tours, NJ
Keystone resort, CO
Kirkwood Mountain Resort, CA
Lakeland Village Beach & Mountain Resort, CA
Purgatory at Durango Mountain Resort, CO
Salt Lake Convention & Visitors Bureau, UT
Silver Star Mountain resort, BC Canada
Ski.Group.Net
Sports America Tours, CA
Whistler/Blackcomb, BC Canada

15-19 Years

Betty Donnelan, Industry Distributor SeneGence
Brian Head resort, UT
Brundage Mountain, ID
Daman-Nelson Travel, CA
Fernie & Kimberly Alpine Resort, BC Canada
Forrest Suites Resort, CA
Inn of the Seventh Mountain, OR
Kandahar Lodge, MT
Lake Louise Ski Area, AB Canada
Miracle Springs Resort & Spa, CA
Mt. Rose - Ski Tahoe, NV
Ogden Weber Convention & Visitors Bureau, UT
Powder Mountain Ski Resort, UT
Red Resort, British Columbia, Canada
Resorts of the Canadian Rockies, Inc. (Fernie/Kimberly)
Santa Fe Ski Company, NM
Schweitzer Mountain resort, ID
Sierra-At-Tahoe, CA
Solitude Mountain Resort, UT
The Canyons Resort, UT
The Lodge at Whitefish Lake, MT
The Riverhouse Hotel & Resort, OR

10-14 Years

Alyeska Resort, AK
Atlantis Casino Resort, NV
Beaver Creek Resort, CO
Bogus Basin Mountain Recreation Area, ID
Canadian Pacific Hotels*, Banff Springs, AB Canada
Canadian Pacific Hotels*, Chateau Lake Louise, AB
Canada (*Canadian Pacific Hotels now known as Fairmont Hotels*)
Central Holidays, CA
Diamond Peak, NV
El Dorado Ranch, Baja, Mexico
Enchanted Forest Cross County Ski Area, NV
Grand Targhee Ski & Summer Resort, WY
Hotel St. Francis, NM
Huntley Lodge, MT
Moguls Mountain Travel, CO / Ski Group.Net
Mountain Resorts, CO
Nancy Green's Cahilly Lodge, BC, Canada
Ogden Marriott, UT
Panorama Mountain Village, British Columbia,
Canada
Park City Peaks Hotel, UT
Quail Ridge Inn Resort, NM
Red River Chamber of Commerce, NM
Red River Ski Area, NM
Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority, NV
Schure Sports/Karbon
Silver Mountain Resort, ID
Ski Dazzle
Snowbasin Ski Resort, UT
Snowmass Tourism
Squaw Valley / Alpine Meadows, CA
Sugar Bowl Ski Resort, CA
The Cliff Lodge, UT
The Cruise Company, Modesto, CA
Tortuga Express Tour Company, Anaheim, CA
Trickle Creek Residence Inn by Marriott, Canada
U.S. Recreational Ski Association, Anaheim, CA

5 - 9 Years

Adventures on Skis, Westfield, MS
Air Canada
Alaska Airline / Horizon Air
Alta Ski Resort, UT
American Whitewater Tours, Sunland, CA
Apex Mountain Resort, BC Canada
Aspen Highland Ski Corp., CO
Austria Ski / Ski Europe
Avis Rent-A-Car Systems, UT
Badger Pass-Yosemite Park & Curry Co., CA
Bear Mountain Ski Resort, CA
Bear Valley Ski Resort, CA
Beaver Run, CO
Bike Tours Direct, NJ (*Bike Tours.Com*)
Brighton Ski Resort, UT
Cal Neva Resort, Spa & Casino, NV
Canyon (Park City) Transportation, UT
Cedar Breaks Lodge, UT
Chateau Lake Louise, Canada
Club Med, FL
Coast Blackcomb Suite, BC Canada
Comfort Suites Hotel, Ogden, UT
Crested Butte Mountain resort Properties, CO
Davis Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, UT
Delta Air Lines
Delta Whistler Village Suites, BC Canada
Destination Hotels & Resorts Mountain Collection,
Vail, CO
Destination Resorts Snowmass, CO
Dollar Rent-A- Car, NM
Doubletree Hotel, UT
El Monte Sagrado resort & Spa, NM
Elk Meadows Ski & Summer Resort, UT

Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, Reno, NV
High Mountain Properties, UT
Hilton of Santa Fe, NM
Homewood Mountain Resort, CA
Hotel Santa Fe, NM
Lake Tahoe Accommodations, NV
Lewis Brothers Stages, UT
Lifts West Resort, Red River, NM
Madronna Inn, CA
Mammoth Mountain Race Department, CA
Mont Tremblant, Quebec, Canada
Mont-Sainte-Anne, Stoneham, La Massif, QC Canada
Morris Air Service, SLC, UT
Mountain Chalet, FL
Mountain Lodge, Telluride, CO
Mt. Bachelor Village, OR
Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Resort, OR
New Horizon Tours, CA
Ogden Hampton Inn & Suites, UT
Oegon Trail of Dreams, OR
Organizers, Etc., Inc
Park Station Condominium Hotel, UT
Peppermill Hotel Casino, NV
Perimeter Transport, BC Canada
Pioneer Condominiums, ID
Powderhorn Mountain Ski Resort, CO
Premier Resorts at Sun Valley, ID
PRW Sports Luggage, OH
Purgatory Village Condominium Hotel, CO
Quality Inn City Center, UT
Ramada Inn - Hotel Colorado, CO
Ranch at Steamboat (The), CO
Red Dawg Snowmobile Tours, Red River, NM
Red Property Management, BC Canada
Reno Air / American Airlines, CA
Reno Hilton, NV
Residence Inn by Marriott, Santa Fe, NM
Resort at Squaw Creek, Squaw Valley USA, CA
Riverside Lodge (The), NM
Roatan Charters, FL
Rocky Mountain Tours, NJ
Santa Fe Courtyard, NM
Selkirk Lodge, ID
Silver Legacy Resort, CA
Ski Santa Fe, NM
SkiCan Ltd., Canada
SkiEurope / Ski Canada, TX
Snow Summit Mountain Resort, CA
Snow Tours, NJ
Southwest Airlines, CA
Spring Creek resort / Wort Hotel, Jackson Hole, WY
Sun Peaks Lodge, BC Canada
Sun Peaks Resort Corporation, BC Canada
Sun Valley's Elkhorn Resort, ID
Swiss Tourism, Los Angeles, CA
Tamarack Resort, ID
Telluride Resort Accommodations, CO
The Gant Lodge, CO
The Radisson Inn Park City, UT
The Sunshine Inn, Alberta, Canada
The Village at Squaw Valley, CA
Tourism Whistler, BC, Canada
United Airlines, CA
United States Adaptive Recreation Center, CA
Uplander Hotel, BC Canada
Val d'Isere Condos, CA
Village at Breckenridge Resort, CO
Wolf'a Den Lodge, BC Canada
Wylie Laboratories
Wyndham Vacation Rentals, CO
Yellowstone Tour & Travel, MT
Yosemite Park & Curry Company, CA

FWSA Scholarship Recipients

compiled by Randy Lew

Jake Baker	Sugar Bowl Ski Education Foundation	Quentin LeFrancois	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Brandy Barna	Sugar Bowl Ski Education Foundation	Jessica Liu	Northstar Race Team
Linnea Baysinger	Team Alpental Snoqualmie	Ashley Lodmell	Mt Bachelor Ski Education Foundation
Julia Bjorman	Diamond Peak Ski Education Foundation	Georgie Lonza	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Hannah Bodily	Mission Ridge Ski Team	Haley Louis	Sugar Bowl Ski Education Foundation
Luke Bradbury	Northstar Race Team	Teegan Lowe	Team Alpental Snoqualmie
Dylan Brooks	Sugar Bowl Ski Education Foundation	Nahanni Lukes	Mt Ashland Racing Association
Cheyenne Brown	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Macaulay Lyon	Team Lyon Alpine Race Club
Elyse Burandt	Schweitzer Alpine Racing School (Spokane Ski Team)	Kayleigh MacGregor	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Samantha Busby	Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation	Erin Maidman	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Ian Calaway	Flathead Valley Ski Education Foundation	Cole Matteson	Squaw Valley Ski Team
Kevin Caravelli	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Riker McClaskey	Sugar Bowl Ski Education Foundation
Kirk Carlson	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team	Frances Melby	Mt Hood Academy
Rose Caston	Park City Ski Education Foundation	Chilli Messner	Sugar Bowl Academy
Scott Cooper	Sugar Bowl Ski Education Foundation	Keith Moffat	US Ski Team
Kaylee Cortopassi	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team	Kye Moffat	Squaw Valley Ski Team
Austin Dean	Mission Ridge Ski Team	Nicolo Monforte	Squaw Valley Ski Team
Garret Driller	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Michelle Morozinski	Sugar Bowl Academy
Tenaya Driller	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Morganne Murphy	Squaw Valley Ski Team
Mark Durant-Bender	Sugar Bowl Academy	Dylan Murtha	Sugar Bowl Ski Education Foundation
Addison Dvoracek	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Carl Noges	Crystal Mountain Alpine Club
Korbyn Edmondson	Schweitzer Alpine Racing School (Spokane Ski Team)	Danny O'Neal	Mission Ridge Ski Team
Mark Engel	Sugar Bowl Ski Education Foundation	Alexandria Oseland	Crystal Mountain Alpine Club
Michael Estrella	Spokane Ski Racing Association	Mitchell Parsons	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Forrest Ferguson	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Jake Perkins	Squaw Valley Ski Team
Jillian Ferre	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Foreste Peterson	US Ski Team
Valerie Festavan	Park City Ski Education Foundation	Brianna Piper	Snow Summit Race Team
JP Fourie	Sugar Bowl Ski Education Foundation	Riley Plant	Sugar Bowl Academy
Bruno Amon-Franceschi	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team	Keely Podosin	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Sheldon French	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team	Jetta Rackleff	Mt Bachelor Ski Education Foundation
Guthrie Goss	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Charles Regelbrugge	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Harrison Goss	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Madeline Riffel	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Madison Gumerman	Flagstaff Alpine & Snowboard Team	Luca Robillard	Squaw Valley Ski Team
Ali Gunesch	Mt Hood Ski Education Foundation	Erin Ronald	Team Alpental Snoqualmie
Nathan Gunesch	Mt Hood Ski Education Foundation	Tucker Scroggins	Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation
Johanna Gur	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Jordan Schweitzer	Mt Bachelor Ski Education Foundation
Haley Hanseler	Mission Ridge Ski Team	Anatasia Seator-Braun	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Martin Harris	Heavenly Ski Foundation	Matthew Smallhouse	Diamond Peak Ski Education Foundation
Shannon Hartmann	Auburn Ski Club	Stephan Splitstoser	Multnomah Athletic Club
Amelia Henry	Team Alpental Snoqualmie	Sophia Staudenmayer	Sugar Bowl Academy
Anton Hilts	Mt Bachelor Ski Education Foundation	Zackary Staudenmayer	Sugar Bowl Academy
Chris Hinkley	Sugar Bowl Ski Education Foundation	Hunter Stuercke	Rowmark Ski Academy
Zazie Huml	Northstar Race Team	Dalton Swallow	McCall Winter Sports Club / Park City Ski Team
Hannah Hunsaker	Park City Ski Education Foundation	Hayden Terjeson	Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation
Ryan Herhusky	Sugar Bowl Academy	Mary Totten	Bogus Basin Ski Team
AJ Hurt	Squaw Valley Ski Team / US Ski Team	Cody Underkoffler	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Hanna Johnson	Diamond Peak Ski Education Foundation	Lucas Underkoffler	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Allene Kennedy	Squaw Valley Ski Team	Andrea Wallace	Mt Bachelor Ski Education Foundation
Patricia Kerslake	Crystal Mountain Alpine Club	Sydney Weaver	Park City Ski Team
Tea Kiesel	Sugar Bowl Academy	Alexa Wehsener	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Sierra Kim	Sugar Bowl Academy	Jimmy Wehsener	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
Walter Lafky	Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation	Kris Westman	Stevens Pass Alpine Club
Devan LaMere	Jackson Hole Ski Club	Noah Williams	Squaw Valley Ski Team
Lila Lapanja	Diamond Peak Ski Education Foundation	Calvin Wilson	Diamond Peak Ski Education Foundation
Tyler Larson	Stevens Pass Alpine Club	Kenny Wilson	Squaw Valley Ski Team
Molly Leavens	Park City Ski Team (USSA Academy)	Drew Wingard	Squaw Valley Ski Team
Cassell LeFevre	Mt Hood Race Team & Academy	Max Wingard	Squaw Valley Ski Team
Aidan LeFrancois	Mammoth Mountain Ski Team	Cai Yamamoto	Mission Ridge Ski Team

INDUSTRY PROGRAM SPONSORS

Compiled by Debbi Kor

Far West Councils' Man and Woman of the Year

Big White Ski Resort,
Since 2001

Western Ski Heritage Award

Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp., *Since 2000*

Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year

Aspen Snowmass,
2000-2014
Telluride Ski Resort and Mountain Lodge
Telluride, *2015-2019*

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, *Since 2020*

Environment Award
Aspen Snowmass, *Since 2015*

Far West Athletic Scholarship Program

Whitfish Mountain Resort, *Since 2004*

Grouse Mountain Lodge,
2004 - 2008
Schure Sports, Inc., *Since 2005*
Averill Hospitality, *Since 2018*

COUNCIL PRESIDENTS: PAST & PRESENT

ARIZONA SKI COUNCIL

Year	President
1992 - 94	Steve Ziomek
1994 - 97	Ray Palmer
1997 - 00	Jeff Marvin
2000 - 04	Linda Westlund
2004 - 06	Elaine Cobos
2006 - 08	Marge Fons
2008 - 10	Arleigh Meiners
2010 - 12	Mike Rogers
2012 - 17	Arleigh Meiners
2017 - Present	Wanda Himler

Compiled by Jane Wyckoff

BAY AREA SNOW SPORTS COUNCIL

Year	President
(BASF)	
1941	Chris Snead
1946	Herbert Miller
1948 - 49	Carson White
1949 - 50	Hal Roberts
1950 - 51	Nate Emory
1951 - 52	Jack Carpentier
1952 - 53	Bill Caneilla
1953 - 55	DeWill Ault
1955 - 56	Ron Greig
1956 - 57	Art Wisson
1957 - 58	Tom Hale
1958 - 59	Dave Barr
1959 - 60	Axel Davidsen

1961 *Council joined FWSA*

1960 - 61	Alan Aspey
1961 - 62	Katharine Hardie
1962 - 63	Walt Bearden
1963 - 64	George Todoroff
1964 - 66	Ron Lyon
1966 - 68	Andy Andrews
1968 - 70	Lou Polaski
1970 - 71	Tony Day
1971 - 72	Bob Youngblood
1972 - 73	Len Rogalla
	Ethan Chickering
1973 - 74	Rolf Fromm
1974 - 75	Ethan Chickering
1975 - 77	Gill Ward
1977 - 78	Bob Barnes
1978 - 79	Dave Leone
1979 - 80	Steve Sosensky
1980 - 81	Billy Joy Wilson
1981 - 82	Joann Huston
1982 - 83	Rich McCoy
1983 - 84	Mike Favia
1984 - 85	John Cameron
1985 - 87	William Zschaler
1987 - 89	Paul Arrigo
1989 - 90	Gayle Grant
1990 - 91	Patrick McHugh
1991 - 96	Harry Davis
1996 - 02	Karen Davis
2002 - 03	Linda Yamaguchi
2003 - 15	Dennis Heffley
2015 - Present	Paul Vlasveld

Compiled Rolf Fromm and others

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

Year	President
1986 - 87	Jack Templeton
1987 - 89	Lauren Nagle
1989 - 91	Gloria Raminha
1991 - 92	H. Arquette
1992 - 94	Sandy Bane
1994 - 97	Marcy Osborne Campanele
1997 - 99	Lauren Nagle
1999 - 00	John Stineman
2000 - 04	Council Inactive
2004 - Present	Fran Long

Compiled by Fran Long and others

INLAND SKI COUNCIL

Year	President
1971 - 77	Unknown
1977 - 90	Robert Jimenez
1990 - 93	Debbie Warzynski
1993 - 99	Don Shore
1999 - 07	Bud Allie
2007 - 14	Dan Crawford
2014 - Present	Council disbanded, <i>clubs joined other councils.</i>

Compiled by Jane Wyckoff

INTERMOUNTAIN SKI COUNCIL

Year	President
2007 - 08	Mark Larsen
2008 - 12	Don Anderson
2012 - 14	Michael Bouton
2014 - Present	Paul Markowitz

Compiled by Randy Lew

LOS ANGELES COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS

(FSCSC until 1946. In 1946, it became Southern California Council - or Southern Council until 1974. In 1974, it became Los Angeles Council.)

Year	President
1940 - 41	Wyman Kiener
1945 - 46	Johnny Larsen
1946 - 48	Unknown
1948 - 49	Andrew Hauk
1949 - 50	Unknown
1950 - 51	Jim Chaffee
1951 - 53	Unknown
1953 - 54	Dick Cronon
1954 - 56	Unknown
1956 - 57	Jerry Fine
1957 - 58	Bob Reed
1958 - 59	Ed Kriskovic
1959 - 60	Bob Miller
1960 - 61	Unknown
1961 - 62	Chandler North
1962 - 63	Bob Calais
1963 - 64	Cloyde Howard
1964 - 64	Karl Unger
1964 - 65	Don Silverman
1965 - 66	Hal Hirsch
1966 - 67	Carl F. Grover
1967 - 68	Dick Goetzman
1968 - 69	Bob Calais
1970 - 71	Ron Lee
1971 - 73	Dick Croft
1973 - 75	Bob Clinco
1975 - 77	Jane Wyckoff
1977 - 79	Linda Habermehl

1979 - 81	Bob Dunagan
1981 - 83	Howard Wickersham
1983 - 85	Gene Fulkerson
1985 - 87	Muri Blake
1987 - 89	Steve Smith
1989 - 90	Grady Smith
1990 - 91	Hal Richey
1991 - 93	Ray Craig
1993 - 94	Clarence Ballenge
1994 - 96	Ray Craig
1996 - 98	Sigrid Noack
1998 - 00	Bonnie West
2000 - 03	Ed Knott
2003 - 05	Jacque Nemor
2005 - 06	Rinda Wohlend
2006 - 08	Judith Miller
2008 - 10	David Krupp
2010 - 13	Norbert Knapp
2013 - 15	Sandra Knapp
2015 - 17	Kathleen Byrnes
2017 - 18	David Krupp
2018 - Present	Sandra Blackwell

Compiled by Catherine Ohl

NATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF SKIERS - WESTERN REGION (NBSWR)

Year	Vice President
1975 - 77	George Phillips
1977 - 79	Ben Finley
1979 - 80	Don Pilkington
1980 - 84	Joe Lewis
1984 - 88	Joel Flood
1988 - 92	Paul Ray
1992 - 94	Len Barnhill
1994 - 02	Eric Sykes
2002 - 08	Haymon Jahi
2008 - 12	Frankie Moore
2012 - 18	Zeffie Bruce
2018 - Present	Todd Hood

Compiled by Todd Hood

NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL

Year	President
(Portland Area Ski Club Council)	
1979 - 80	Pat Fuller
1983 - 85	Marralene Stein
1985 - 87	Louie Kaech
1987 - 89	Linda McGavin
1989 - 90	Beth Peters
1990 - 92	Steve Coxen
1992 - 93	Dan Gomez
1993 - 95	Jim Craig
1995 - 97	Steve Coxen
(Northwest Ski Club Council) <i>name changed October 12, 1998</i>	
1997 - 99	Steve Coxen
1999 - 00	Ron Onslow
2000 - 03	Sheri Parshall
2003 - 05	Steve Coxen
2005 - 08	Mary Olhausen
2008 - 12	Sheri Parshall
2012 - 14	Mary Olhausen
2014 - 15	Steve Coxen
2015 - 17	Sylvia Kearns
2017 - 18	Barbara Bousum
2018 - Present	Christine Ciardi

Compiled by Linda McGavin

ORANGE COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS

Year	President
1971 - 83	Unknown
1983 - 85	Dan Collins
1985 - 86	Carol McCracken
1986 - 87	Terry Mayle
1987 - 88	Alison Sanders
2088 - 89	Bill Donahue
1989 - 91	Pat Nangle
1991 - 92	Reba Amish
1992 - 93	Shawn McBurney
1993 - 98	Maxine Hanlon
2098 - 01	Bea Van Sickle
2001 - 05	Nancy Sanford
2005 - 08	George Kish
2008 - 09	Nancy Sanford
2009 - 14	Judy Thurman
2014 - Present	Sheila Van Guilder

Compiled by Jane Wyckoff

SAN DIEGO COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS

Year	President
1963 - 71	Joseph Harris
1971 - 72	Harry Eastman
1772 - 74	Tom Becca
1974 - 75	Unknown
1975 - 77	Robert Vogel
1977 - 78	Arnie Anderson
1978 - 79	Larry Schallock
1979 - 80	Unknown
1980 - 81	Kathie Leach
1981 - 82	Unknown
1982 - 83	Don Stewart
1983 - 84	Linda Walker
1984 - 86	Tom Medvitz
1986 - 88	Jim Ortiz
1988 - 89	Glenn Hayashi
1989 - 91	Norm Cullen
1991 - 92	Susie Vetter
1992 - 96	Connie Smith
1996 - 99	Dick Wood
1999 - 01	Mike Sanford
2001 - 03	Michael German
2004 - 05	Judy Schultheis
2005 - 06	Bobbi Owen
2006 - 08	Cheryl Reiss
2008 - 14	Eileen Sanford
2014 - 15	Tom Bundgard
2015 - 20	Chris Gill
2020 - Present	Ira Lindenfeld

Compiled by Laura Meldrum and others

SIERRA LEAGUE AND COUNCIL

Year	President
1981 - 83	Dan Halcomb
1984 - 85	Jack Howard
1985 - 86	John Shein
1986 - 88	Unknown
1988 - 89	Rhonda Hudson
1989 - 90	Jim Williams
1990 - 91	Carol Weaver
1991 - 96	Heidi Hunter
1996 - 02	Joe Loader
2002 - 06	Barbara Bryant
2006 - 07	Cliff Young
2007 - 08	Pavel Bosin
2008 - Present	Jo Simpson

Compiled by Doug Ball and Joe Loader



n r t l t o s t h a e t

Congratulations to the Far West Ski Association for 90 years of outstanding leadership!



Bogus Basin Ski Club was honored to host the 2017 FWSA Annual Convention in Boise, Idaho

We are also proud to continue to sponsor the annual Warren Miller Film Festival as we have over the past 55 years and to support our ski community since 1938. The BBSC now has nearly 250 active members and growing!

Bogus Basin Ski Club supports and provides funding for:

- BBSEF– Bogus Basin Ski Ed. Foundation
- BASE – Boise Adaptive Snow Education
- BBSP – Bogus Basin Ski Patrol
- College of Idaho Ski Team
- Bob Greenwood Athletic Scholarship

For more information on our exciting year-round social, recreational, cultural and philanthropic activities please contact us at:

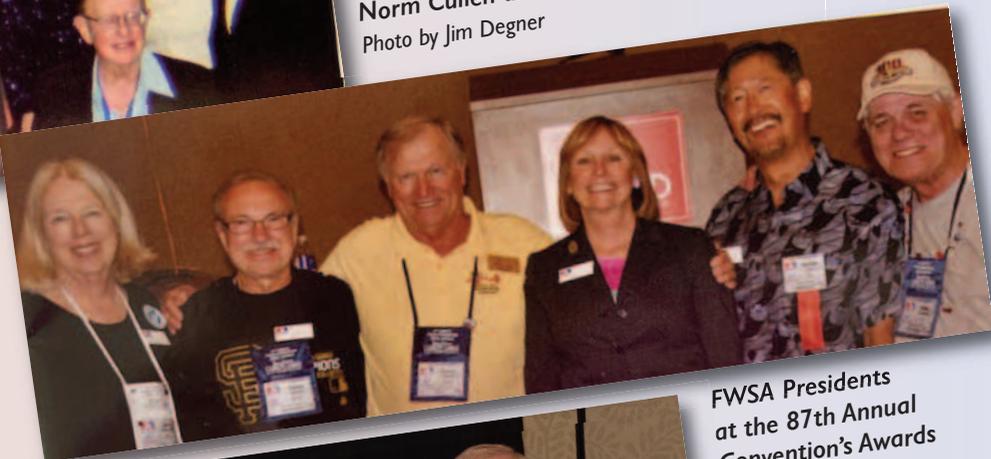
bogusbasinskiclub.org





FWSA Presidents gathered in Long Beach for the 73rd Annual Convention, and to celebrate FWSA's 75th Anniversary in 2005. L-R - Paul Arrigo, Steve Coxen, Harry Davis, John Watson, Jane Wyckoff, Mike Sanford, Norm Cullen and Dick Goetzman (seated).
Photo by Jim Degner

FWSA Presidents attending the 81st Annual Convention's General Session in 2013 in Reno, Nevada. L-R - Jane Wyckoff, Steve Coxen, Harry Davis, Linda Scott, Randy Lew and Mike Sanford.
Photo by Catherine Ohl



FWSA Presidents at the 87th Annual Convention's Awards Banquet in Indian Wells in 2019. L-R - Steve Coxen, Harry Davis, Jane Wyckoff, Gloria Raminha, John Watson, Mike Sanford.
Photo by Eric Van Pelt Photography



Congratulations to Far West Ski Association on their 90th Anniversary!

As Far West Ski Association presidents, we are proud and honored to have served our ski club members, ski industry partners and ski sport organizations. We have been blessed to work with an amazing team of volunteers to execute great programs to benefit skiers and riders, and make FWSA

“The Voice of the Western Skier”.

Gloria Raminha (2018-Present), Steve Coxen (2015-2018, 2000-2003), Linda Scott (2013-2015), Randy Lew (2006-2013), Mike Sanford (2003-2006), Harry Davis (1996-2000), Norm Cullen (1993-1996), Paul Arrigo (1991-1993), Jane Wyckoff (1981-1985), John Watson (1971-1973)

FWSA Council/Club Section

*We're getting our skis and snowboards out of storage in preparation for the upcoming 2020-2021 Ski Season. Excitement for all and the Celebrations begin!!!
photo courtesy of Aspen/Snowmass*



ABOVE: Phoenix Ski Club is very active. This trip was to Copper Mountain, Colorado.
photo / Phoenix Ski Club
RIGHT: Scottsdale Sea and Ski Club enjoy the Surf, Sand and Suds in Cozumel, Mexico.
photo / Scottsdale Sea and Ski Club



Always on the go!!! We have fun!!!



ABOVE: Members of Phoenix Ski Club visit Yellowstone National Park on a FWSA ski trip.

LOWER: Phoenix Ski Club also runs a family ski day at the Arizona Snowbowl.
photos provided by Phoenix Ski Club

Arizona Ski Council by Wanda Himler, ASC President

The Arizona Ski Council (ASC) was formed in 1991 and represents two active ski/activity clubs, totaling around 500 members, serving skiers, snowboarders, hikers, bikers, social members and all types of adventurers. The clubs are not limited to activities in the United States but all over the world. Our clubs share reciprocity between each other, so you only need membership in one of the clubs, to enjoy the benefits of both.

The council and our clubs typically plan activities throughout the year, but this year was brought to a halt with the COVID-19 lockdown and social distancing. We did participate in a number of ski trips and various activities, until everything started shutting down. With caution, we have now started providing and participating in outdoor activities; such as kayaking, hiking, camping and river rafting. If it's active in Arizona...we will be there.

Clubs that participate in ASC are the *Phoenix Ski Club* and the *Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club*. Follow the individual links for each club.



The *Phoenix Ski Club (PSC)* - is much more than just skiing. PSC is an active adult social club, whose focus is on going full speed ahead with year-round activities. PSC is always open to new suggestions for events, activities and adventures. They pride themselves in offering a variety of activities designed to appeal to everybody. Traveling out of the country or down the road to bike, hike, sail or ski, this group focuses on connecting with new friends and experiences. PSC is also involved in a number of charities.

The Phoenix Ski Club's newest initiative is offering family events to engage kids in winter activities. The hope is to engage more parents to get their kids involved in skiing. Come be a part of our group. Come Safari with us in Tanzania in 2021.

The *Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club (SSSC)* - is oriented towards active adults 21 years or older. SSSC provides year-round activities. Snow skiing and snowboarding is one of our passions. SSSC also provides many

events like hiking, biking, rollerblading, tubing, theme parties, camping, road trips, day and weekend outings, out of town trips, art walks, wine tasting, boating, water and jet skiing, scuba diving, kayaking, paddleboarding, as well as, weekly happy hours and monthly dinners at local restaurants. They are a club on the move. Watch out for the SSSC events. Look for exciting trips like a Greece Mama Mia Cruise, coming up. Don't just dream of having an exciting life. Join the Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club and make it happen.

The Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club has a cell phone app, for your convenience. Download it! Their website has the downloading instructions.

Follow the individual links, to connect to each club. Check out the activities, trips and social gatherings, on each website. See some of the amazing ski trips and adventures planned for 2020-2021. Be sure to check out their Facebook pages.

Arizona Ski Council
www.arizona-ski-council.org
President: Wanda Himler
president@arizona-ski-council.org

Arizona Ski & Social Clubs
Member Clubs & Contact Information

PHOENIX SKI CLUB
www.phxskiclub.org
President: Bill Behnke
b.behnke@hireztech.com

SCOTTSDALE SEA AND SKI CLUB
www.scottsdale-skiclub.com
Presidents: Becky Berry
president@scottski.org

Watch out 2021!
We are on the move. If skiing is your passion... come join us. If adventure is your passion... come join us. We look forward to meeting you!

Bay Area Snow Sports Council

by Paul Vlasveld, President

Bay Area Snow Sport Council has fun doing a variety of club and council activities on and off the snow. The BAC has 19 active member clubs based in the greater San Francisco Bay area which extends as far north as the Napa Valley, south to Monterey / Carmel and east to Modesto. We feature two separate leagues within the BAC. Our Open League has 17 clubs and welcomes individuals, couples, families and their children. Our Singles League is made up of two clubs with their full members being over 21 years of age and must be single to initially join one of their clubs. You'll find fun things to do all year long with our clubs.

There is the social aspect to the BAC clubs! Non-skiers and non-snowboarders find their way to our member clubs for activities such as dancing, hiking, camping, bike riding, tennis, golf, adventure travel, etc. In fact, we have members who have been on all seven continents of the world. Yes, that includes Antarctica!

You'll be amazed by the variety of trips available through the BAC, our various clubs, and the Far West Ski Association. The locations include many Tahoe venues, domestic locations, adventures to Europe and just about all points on a compass. You can find members of the BAC going to the slopes just about any time during the winter! As an example, in 2019, we had members skiing in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and many additional locations. During 2020, we have already scheduled trips to: Big Sky, Montana; Salt Lake City, Utah; France, and many other locations.

Another wonderful part of the BAC clubs and our members is how we volunteer our time and energy through community outreach and fund raising programs. Our main benefactors are



ABOVE: Bay Area Snow Sports Council delegates gather at the Awards Banquet at the 87th Annual FWSA Convention at the Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa in Indian Wells, California. BAC members are looking forward to attending the 88th Annual FWSA Convention in San Diego next June.

photo / Gail Burns

RIGHT: The views from Diamond Peak are breathe taking. photo courtesy of Reno/Tahoe

Achieve Tahoe (Formerly DSUSA) and the **Far West Ski Foundation Scholarship Program**. Over the years, we have raised over \$395,000 for their programs! Additionally, many of the clubs volunteer time and money to their designated charitable organizations.

The history of the Bay Area Snow Sports Council is just as amazing as what is taking place today. In mid-1940, the Bay Area Ski Federation was organized "For the welfare of Bay Area Skiers" and voted to join the Far West Ski Association as the Bay Area Council (BAC) of Ski Clubs in 1961. To embrace all snow sports activities, the current name of the BAC is "Bay Area Snow Sports Council". During all four seasons our BAC clubs are very active!

In November, BAC will hold the **13th Annual Winterfest** event where the BAC clubs can meet with our industry partners



in a relaxed and fun atmosphere to celebrate the coming winter sports season.

We, in the leadership of the BAC, are very lucky to have our clubs and their members associated with us along with having the Lake Tahoe area in our "backyard". Our members are amazing and the amount of history and diversity of local places to ski / snowboard is a true gift.

Our Recreational Race Schedule for 2019 - 2020 will be featuring Alpine Meadows, Sugar Bowl, and Heavenly Valley (venues subject to change). In addition, there are the Far West Championships at Mammoth Mountain! Become one of our "racers". Come out and have a great time! Even if you don't race, please join us at the slopes during any of our on-mountain events. Cow bells are encouraged!

In our continued efforts to share information with our BAC

members, we have a monthly BAC General Meeting where we welcome and look forward to having guest speakers who talk about their resorts, products and/or travel opportunities. This year, we are also putting a great deal of energy into sharing information on how to improve our various clubs through informative and interactive conversations!

If you have any questions or need more information about the BAC, please contact me at bac.president@skibac.org or look at our website at www.skibac.org.

To our members, clubs and those who donate and support our efforts, I always like to say - "Thank You for Being the One Who Makes the Difference!"

Please check out the clubs near you, come to the slopes with us and have fun with our Volunteer Non-Profit Organization!



ABOVE: The 2020-2021 ski season will be very different from past seasons in terms of health and safety issues imposed by the pandemic that has surfaced throughout the world. The travel industry has been strongly affected, although resorts, lodging facilities, airlines and other aspects servicing travellers are doing what they can to maintain a quality and memorably fun experience. Members of Far West Ski Association councils and clubs are fortunate to live near numerous, highly rated ski areas that they are able to reach via their vehicles. Californians can drive to the San Gabriel Mountains, Mammoth and June Mountains, as well as the fabulous resorts around Lake Tahoe. Those living in the Northwestern states of Oregon and Washington have a wide choice as well. Inter-mountain club members also have a wide selection as they stay closer to home. Although obstacles exist this year, the slopes can still be enjoyed! Northstar photo courtesy of Reno/Tahoe

Central Council of California

by Fran Long,
President

From the rugged Sierra Mountains, to the pristine Central California Coast beaches, and through the fertile Salinas and San Joaquin Valleys Central Council Ski Clubs have something to offer any and all outdoor enthusiasts.

Our four largest clubs each have comprehensive winter and summer adventure programs. Traditionally, each club offers one or two week-long ski trips to a variety of destinations all over the western United States, with an occasional trip out of the country. The 20-21 destinations include Taos, New Mexico, Sun Valley, Idaho, Mt. Bachelor, Oregon, Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado, and Mammoth, California. Summer programs include camping, hiking, bike riding, and water sports. Pretty much, if it can be done outdoors (*and it is fun to do*), at least one of our clubs will offer that activity!

While our four smaller clubs don't run week-long trips, they do offer some short ski trips to our local resorts, as well as, summer fun within their geographical areas.

Central Council does not currently offer any ski trips or ac-

Bay Area Snow Sports Council

www.skibac.org

President: Paul Vlasveld

(408) 314-4649

pvlasveld@comcast.net

Bay Area Snow Sports Council Ski and Social Clubs Member Clubs & Contact Information

APRES SKI CLUB

www.apres.org

President: Kimberly Lacrosse

president@apres.org

BLADERUNNERS SKI CLUB

(Lockheed Martin Employee Club)

bladerunnersskiclub@yahoo.com

President: Monique Huygen

mhuygen@comcast.net

CASTRO VALLEY SKI CLUB

www.cvskiclub.org

President: Claudia Fernandes

claudia.fernandes4108@gmail.com

FIRE AND ICE SKI CLUB

www.fireandiceskiclub.net

President: Michael Cunningham

Mikealpha06@gmail.com

GOLDEN GATE TOP OF THE HILL GANG

www.ggtothg.org

President: Roger Avery

president@ggtothg.org

INSKIERS SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

www.inskiers.com

President: Marci Lyzun

president@inskiers.com

MARIN SKI CLUB

www.marinskiclub.org

President: Kurt Burkhard

kurtburkhard@comcast.net

MODESTO SKI CLUB

www.modestoskiclub.com

President: Sharon Wolinski

srwbvf@gmail.com

MONTEREY SKI & SOCIAL CLUB

www.montereyski.org

President: Greg Robinson

gregrobi333@gmail.com

NISEI SKI CLUB

www.niseiskiclub.org

President: Armand Gutierrez

president@niseiskiclub.org

OAKLAND SKI CLUB

www.oaklandskiclub.org

President: Bernhard Ludewig

bluewig@gmail.com

THE OLYMPIC CLUB

(Private - Member Sponsored)

www.olyclub.com

RUSTY BINDINGS SKI CLUB

www.rustybindings.com

President: Karen Halpin

president@rustybindings.com

SANTA ROSA SKI CLUB

President: Scott Wilkinson

scottw4318@gmail.com

SNOWCHASERS SKI CLUB

www.snowchasers.org

President: Karen Davis

harrykaren@comcast.net

SOUTHBAY SKI CLUB

www.southbayskiclub.org

President: Susan White

skysierra@yahoo.com

SUNBURST SKI CLUB

President: Jeff Mulligan

jbnull@gmail.com

RIGHT: Carolayne, Lloyd, and Linda have fun during the SLO Skiers Telluride Ski Week.
photos provided by Fran Long



LEFT: Avalanche Ski Club members get together for their annual Christmas Party. RIGHT: Ladies are having fun after hiking Bishop's Peak. It was a Bike and Brunch SLO Skiers auction item. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Carolayne Holley, Jana Favalora, Bonnie Long, Pam Stanley, Barbara Collins and Laura Hyde.

tivities directly. Rather, we support our clubs in their endeavors to provide exciting trips for their members. We also encourage all our member clubs to support one another, offering all our snow sports enthusiasts more options and opportunities for fun. Many of our members seek out a club going to the destination of their choice, contact that club, and enjoy traveling with them and making new friends.

As an active member of the Far West Ski Association and the National Ski Council Federation, Central Council distributes information to all member clubs regarding member benefits, travel options, and current trends in snow sports. These travel options include: FWSA North American Ski Week, FWSA Mini Ski Week, FWSA International Ski Week and Adventure Trips, plus FWSA Dive trips. Club leadership, in turn, offers this information to members, furthering all members' options for outdoor fun. If you are a club member, and you are not getting this information, inquire at your next meeting, con-

tact your club president, or contact your council president. The Council president, as well as club presidents' contact information is available in this publication.

For an avalanche of year-round fun, check out *Avalanche Ski and Sports Club* in Bakersfield. Avalanche is a small club that is 100% dedicated to outdoor FUN! Other than their main focus, skiing on snowy slopes, they also enjoy camping, golfing, hiking, kayaking, diving and monthly dinners. Members promote cooperation with other sports-oriented clubs that also participate in various recreational activities. Whenever you might be in Bakersfield, contact Avalanche. You just never know what they can recommend for FUN!

The *SLO Skiers, Inc.* is a ski, sports and social club located halfway between Los Angeles and San Francisco in the town of San Luis Obispo aka the "Happiest Place In America". San Luis Obispo is more commonly known as SLO - hence the name SLO Skiers, and they have many happy members!

So, what is it about the SLO Skiers Club that entices people to

join? First, and foremost, it's all about the insanely awesome ski trips and making new friends. Each year, the ski trip organizers diligently plan two, week-long ski trips to fabulous ski resorts. They also have shorter ski trips for those looking for a quick snow-getaway. The off-season brings camping trips, wine downs, barbecues, and much more. SLO Skiers is a great place to have fun and meet new people all while having the convenience of group travel at great prices.

Philanthropy is an important part of the SLO Skiers. They make it a point to reach out to local organizations by either making financial donations, gathering products needed for homeless programs, or volunteering time to help. Club members feel it is extremely important to give back to our community.

Check out Central Council of California, Inc. If you live in the Central California area, chances are we have a club near you. Look around, join as a stranger, and plan to leave with many life-long friends.

Central Council of California

www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org

President: Fran Long

(805) 712-5781

francat87@gmail.com

Central Council of California

Member Clubs & Contact Information

AVALANCHE SKI AND SPORTS CLUB

Serving Bakersfield, Kern County

www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org

President: Donna Webb

dblazekwebb@gmail.com

CAMBER SKI CLUB

Serving the Salinas Valley and

parts of Monterey County

Activities: Jayne Camic

camicski@aol.com

CLOVIS SKI AND TRAVEL CLUB

Serving Clovis and Fresno County

President: Kim Riehl

kimriehl18@gmail.com

FRESNO SKI CLUB

Serving Fresno County

www.fresnoskiclub.com

President: Mark Vester

markvesterski@att.net

OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS

Serving Fresno County

Facilitator: Chuck Nacino

cnacino@gotsky.com

SANTA BARBARA SKI AND SPORTS CLUB

Serving Santa Barbara County

www.sbski.org

President: Ginny Nixon

president@sbski.org

SLO SKIERS, INC., A SKI SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Serving San Luis Obispo,

Southern Monterey and

Northern Santa Barbara Counties

www.sloskiers.org

President: Stacey King

president@sloskiers.org

SNOW TRACKERS

Serving Exeter, California

www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org

President: Helen Salisbury Jacobsen

helenzz@aol.com

*Skis are waxed & ready.
Made my reservations to ski!*



Intermountain Ski Council

by Michael Bouton,
Past President

Intermountain Ski Council is looking forward to the year ahead, with a wonderful and dedicated group of volunteers. Joe Coles from Northern Utah will help with the website and communications for the council. Lynda Clark of the Bogus Basin Ski Club will help with future Zoom meetings and scheduling. Jennifer Coutts is the new President of the council and Paul Markowitz is the Past President.

A great bunch of new club representatives will guide the council into 2021. A Zoom meeting was held September 12 with 12 members of the council and three FWSA board members. It became clear that no one wanted to see the council faze out of existence.

The ISC will be hosting a ski week at Sun Valley, ID January 4-10, 2021. This time frame offers the council half price lodg-

Members still stayed active with summer bike rides and hiking within their beautiful nearby terrain.

photo provided by Bogus Basin Ski Club

ing and lift tickets at a wonderful resort. The new Cold Springs lift is in and it will be great to explore new terrain. We will have social gatherings, we hope, during the week. Any member of FWSA is invited and you can make your own reservation by calling Sun Valley Resort direct. Please call President, Paul Markowitz (208-850-9962) with any questions.

I am excited to continue helping to build and strengthen the council over the next few months. We are 11 clubs strong and need the input from all. I want to encourage all clubs to consider the FWSA Ski Week at Sun Valley this January as well.

Check out the www.fwsa.org website for details. It will be a lot of fun! Please feel free to contact me about the council at mbouton0559@msn.com.

Forty-one members of the Bogus Basin Ski Club and four others from the ISC attended their trip to Club Med in the world renowned ski area of St. Moritz, Switzerland from March 1-7, 2020. The area offers three diverse ski areas: Corviglia, Corvatch and Diavolezza - Legalb; all known for excellent lifts, pistes and freeride adventure possibilities. A 6-day post-trip to London was also enjoyed. They made it home just prior to the imposed pandemic travel ban. *photo provided by Donald Pribble*

Intermountain Ski Council

www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org

President: Jennifer (Jenn) Coutts
(817) 832-5364
jcoutts29@yahoo.com

Intermountain Ski Council

Member Clubs &
Contact Information

BLACK HILLS SKI CLUB

www.bhskiclub.com

Serving the Rapid City,
South Dakota area

President: Rich Emerson
bhskiclub@gmail.com

BOGUS BASIN SKI CLUB

www.bogusbasinskiclub.org/

Serving the Boise, Idaho area

President: Lynda Clark
president@bogusbasinskiclub.org

CHEYENNE SKI CLUB

www.cheyenneskiclub.com

Serving the Cheyenne, Wyoming area

President: Jodee Pring
cheyenneskiclub@hotmail.com

IDAHO FALLS SKI CLUB

www.ifskiclub.com

Serving the Idaho Falls, Idaho area

President: Martin Plum
skibiz@ida.net

McCALL WINTER SPORTS CLUB

Creating World Class Kids Through Winter Sports

Executive Director: Chris Costa
(208) 918-0234

mccallwintersportsclub@gmail.com

NORTHERN WASATCH SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB

Serving the Ogden, Utah area

President: Jenn Coutts
jcoutts@yahoo.com

PARK CITY MOUNTAIN SPORTS CLUB

www.pcmsc.org

Serving the Park City, Utah area

President: Dan Albano

POCATELLO SKI ASSOCIATION

www.pocatelloskiandsnowboardassociation.com

Serving the Pocatello, Idaho area

President: Bryan Tilalsky
(208) 478-6516

PRIMETIMERS SKI CLUB

Serving male skiers at the Bogus Basin Ski Resort

President: Ben Doty
bdoty80826@aol.com

SUBLETTE COUNTY SKI AND SOCIAL CLUB

Serving the Western Wyoming area

President: Cassy Johnson
scsaclub@gmail.com

LA Council members dine together on the Council Night Dinner during the FWSA Big Sky Ski Week held in early 2020.

photo courtesy of Sandra Blackwell

Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

by Sandra Blackwell, President

The Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs, Inc. has 24 snowsports (*skiing, boarding, and social*) clubs that cover almost all of the Los Angeles County. LAC is one of the largest of the ten councils of the Far West Ski Association, and is included in the National Ski Council Federation. There are many, many very active, very enthusiastic members in these clubs. Summer finds many of the clubs out for hiking, biking, kayaking, sailing, and up to Mammoth for their summer programs. Winter, of course, sets the mood for wonderful snow covered mountains, with trails that twist and turn, or - *Yikes* - just go straight down the hill! California and our western states ski resorts have some of the best winter snow that can be imagined, and there are lots of opportunities for our clubs to go skiing. Due to the large population and number of ski clubs in the L.A. area, the clubs' make up is so diverse with small clubs, large clubs, winter and summer sports programs, and a number of the clubs get together for better pricing on their trips, different events to do, and more people just makes for more fun.

The main ski resort for ski trips, be they bus or drive up, is Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort, a five hour drive from central Los Angeles. Mammoth offers a myriad of year round outdoor activities (*skiing in winter; mountain biking, hiking and camping in summer*). This is also where most of the council races happen, and are part of Far West Racing Association. Los Angeles supports two race leagues: **ROKKA** and



ULLR chaired 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 Racing Association Championships.

Los Angeles Council participates in the FWSA's Annual Ski Week each season, and this past year was up in Big Sky, Montana. Its name is also "*the Big Sky State*", and it shows with the wide open spaces, the beautiful blue skies that just stretch upward, and some of the nicest people I've ever met. As in the past years, **Todd Hood**, our VP of Travel, did his always fabulous wonderful job of hosting, connecting, checking, and leading or keeping up with all the groups in our council that attended. And, LAC WON the costume contest this year. The theme at Thursday night's awards banquet was "*Wildlife Safari*" and LAC had the most wildlife at the banquet (either by costume or happenings). We had lions, tigers, giraffes, a giant lizard, a gorilla, a few butterflies - you guessed - we had the most of everything.

In 2021, we will be heading up to Sun Valley, Idaho for some of the best skiing that money can buy. Sun Valley has done some renovations to their ski hills, and lifts and lots of upgrading to the Inn and the Lodge. So, this will be a wonderful trip all around.

LAC also takes advantage of FWSA's international trips; and the "mini week" ski trips, typically held in mid March that have become popular for their in-

teresting ski resort choices and great pricing. We also have a combined group of clubs going to Alta/Snowbird, and another trip to Taos, New Mexico; while another group of clubs is headed to Jackson Hole and Aspen.

Paula Hazard, VP of Programs, will be working with our current LAC Man and Woman of the Year: **Peter Smith** (Wailers) and **Soo Lee** (Unrecables), for their participation in the 2021 Convention to be held in San Diego in early June. At the 88th FWSA Convention, it will be fun to attend all the events typically: a golf tournament on a championship course; the Friday night Silent Auction (where many a ski trip or other great travel bargain can be had); the Saturday night banquet where the awards are given out; and then the Sunday morning breakfast, with the last few awards and your last chance to say hi to those you have not had a chance to catch up with over the weekend.

Los Angeles Council continues to be represented within Far West Ski Association as members of the Board of Directors, Board of Trustees, and its various committees. There are three members currently who are FWSA officers that continue on after the June Convention, or as appointed Committee Chairs:

■ **Sigrid Noack** (Unrecables), *Charities and Our Community Chair*

■ **Todd Hood** (Snowbusters), *Succession Planning Chair*; and

■ **David Krupp** (Century City), *Athletic Scholarship Program Chair*; and

LAC also supports the Far West Ski Foundation, which provides sponsorships for young skiers trying to earn their place on our US Ski Teams. Over the last three years, we have proudly sponsored a young man, **Bruno Amon-Franceshi** and he did very well, as he is a bright young man with a promising future. He leaves us now to attend college. He will be missed.

I would like to thank my LAC Board members for their continuing hard work, diligent efforts, and in making the council a great team to work with:

- Treasurer, **Dan Haste** (Wailers);
- Secretary, **Sandra Knapp** (Grindelwald)
- VP Membership, **Iris Williams** (Executive Board);
- VP Programs, **Paula Hazard** (Edelweiss)
- VP Travel, **Todd Hood** (SnowBusters)
- Past President, **David Krupp** (Century City); and our newest Board member,
- **Gordon Cardona** (Unrecables), our VP of Communications.

Other than Gordon, all these board members have stayed even though their terms were up. So, my great thanks to every one of them that has continued on.

For details regarding all of the Los Angeles clubs and activities, please visit us at: www.la-council.org.



▶ **Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs**

▶ www.lacouncil.org
 ▶ President: Sandra Blackwell
 ▶ (818) 441-6191
 ▶ President@lacouncil.org

**Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs
 Member Clubs &
 Contact Information**

LEFT: LAC's Racing Medal Winners: From left: Don Shafe, Dave Mashaw, Michele Shafe, Joyce Rodela (front), Rick Harrington and Larry Gowing
 ABOVE: Big Sky Ski Week racers and skiers enjoying the mountain.
 RIGHT: Big Sky "Wildlife Safari" Award Banquet - AND LAC WON THE COSTUME CONTEST!!!
 photos provided by Sandra Blackwell

AEA (AEROSPACE) SKI CLUB
 South Bay
www.aeacclubs.org/ski
 President: John Nolan
aeaskiPres@gmail.com

ASIAN SKI & BOARDING CLUB OF LOS ANGELES
 Los Angeles
www.asbcla.org
 Contact: Warren Tanaka
Asian@LACouncil.org

AUSLICH SKI CLUB
 Belmont Shore/Long Beach
 President: Joe Vanderhoof
Auslich@LACouncil.org

BEACH CITIES SKI CLUB
 Beach Cities
www.bcskiclub.org
 President: Bruce Lee
BCSkiClub@LACouncil.org

BUCKHORN SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB
 Angeles National Forest
buckhornlodge.org
 President: Dan Scott
Buckhorn@LACouncil.org

CCSC SPORTS
 West Side Los Angeles
www.ccscsports.org
 President: Kay Collins
CCSC@LACouncil.org

CONEJO SKI & SPORTS CLUB
 Thousand Oaks
www.conejoskiclub.org
 President: Margaret Barnett
Conejo@LACouncil.org

EDELWEISS SKI & SPORT CLUB
 San Fernando Valley
www.edelweissclub.org
 President: Wendy Goldzband
Edelweiss@LACouncil.org

EXECUTIVE BOARD SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION
 Los Angeles
 President: Keith Green
EBSA@LACouncil.org

FOUR SEASONS WEST SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB
 Los Angeles
www.4sw.com
 President: Clifford Simms
4SW@LACouncil.org

GRINDELWALD SKI CLUB
 Los Angeles
www.grindelwaldskiclub.org
 President: Philip Grant
Grindelwald@LACouncil.org

INLAND EMPIRE SKI AND SPORTS CLUB
 Riverside
www.iessc.com
 President: Teri Allard
IESSC@LACouncil.org

KRONENSTADT SKI CLUB
 Pasadena
www.kronenstadtskiclub.com
 President: Bruce Bailey
Kronenstadt@LACouncil.org

LONG BEACH SKI CLUB
 Long Beach/South Bay
www.longbeachskiclub.org
 President: Barbara Nelson
LBSC@LACouncil.org

LOS PADRES SKI CLUB
 Simi Valley/Ventura County
www.lospadreskiclub.net
 President: Tom Reed
LosPadres@LACouncil.org

ON THE HILL GANG - LOS ANGELES
 Los Angeles
www.ohgla.org
 President: Annette Mann
OnTheHillGang@LACouncil.org

PACIFIC RIM ALLIANCE
 Southern California
www.pacificrimalliance.org
 President: Catherine Ohl
PacificRim@LACouncil.org

SAGA SKI CLUB
 Los Angeles
www.sagala.org
 President: Sal Veas
SAGA@LACouncil.org

SANTA BARBARA SKI & SPORTS CLUB
 Santa Barbara County
www.sbski.org
 President: Ginny Nixon
SantaBarbara@LACouncil.org

SNOWBUSTERS SKI CLUB
 Pasadena
www.snowbusters.com
 President: Yolanda Lockhart
Snowbusters@LACouncil.org

SPACE PARK SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB (TRW)
 South Bay
www.spaceparkskiandsnowboardclub.org
 President: Robert Shepard
SpacePark@LACouncil.org

THE UNRECABLES
 Los Angeles
www.unrecables.org
 President: Michelle McCarthy
Unrecables@LACouncil.org

WAILERS SKI, SNOWBOARD & SOCIAL CLUB
 San Fernando Valley/Los Angeles
www.wailersskiclub.org
 President: Regina Reilly
WailersSkiClub@LACouncil.org

WESTWOOD SKI CLUB
 West Los Angeles
www.westwoodskiclub.org
 President: Scott Peer
Westwood@LACouncil.org

WINTER FOX SKI & SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION
 Los Angeles
www.winterfox.org
 President: Ida Cochrane
WinterFox@LACouncil.org

LOS ANGELES COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS

Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs is looking forward to the SnowGala (and honoring our clubs' Men and Women of the Year) in 2021.



NBS Members at FWSA Annual Ski Week, Big Sky Montana LEFT TO RIGHT: Frank Robertson - Winter Fox, Berenice Wilkinson - LA Council, Deborah Jenkins - Onyx Ski Club, Todd Hood - SnowBusters Ski Club, Janet Tucker - Four Seasons West, William Haynes - Thrillseekers, Barbara Roberts - Four Seasons West. photo: provided by Todd Hood

National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region (NBSWR)

by Todd Hood
Vice President

The 2019-20 snow season started off with great promise at **Urban Winterfest 2020 Vision!** The Western Region hosted “2020 Vision: I See the Dream Clearly Now” at Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel in South Lake Tahoe, CA. There were 150 attendees, which included families with youth, who convened for an action-packed weekend with days at each of Kirkwood, Northstar and Heavenly. The MLK Weekend trip included a Welcome Party at Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel, an Après Ski at Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel, a Mountain Lunch at Heavenly’s California Lodge, a Casino Royale Party at the Hard Rock Hotel, the Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Breakfast Program featuring Urban Winterfest 2020 Vision Youth, and an NFL Playoff Viewing Party at Lake Tahoe Resort

Hotel. We greatly appreciate New Belgium Brewing for sponsoring bottomless Fat Tire beer at the events at the LakeTahoe Resort Hotel.

Within a week of the Urban Winterfest trip six NBS faithfuls joined the LA Council of Ski Clubs and just under 400 registrants for the Far West Annual Ski Week in Big Sky, Montana. Everyone had a great time with the daily breakfast buffet at the Huntley Lodge, the Wild Life Safari Party, and the sunny days and moderate temperatures on the mountain. And to top it off, the NBS attendees learned about a special comedy show at the end of the week with a special guest comedian visiting Big Sky for the weekend.

The Western Region of the National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBSWR) continues to recover from the illness of hundreds and the loss to COVID-19 related illnesses of four active members after our return from the NBS Black Summit in Sun Valley, Idaho the first week of March 2020. Approximately 150 reg-

istrants from the Western Region had joined 450 others from across the country and Great Britain for the full week. The pandemic, the resulting economic shutdown, and all the remnant impact has been real for the members and member clubs of the NBS Western Region, and the National Brotherhood of Skiers.

Much like so many others in the industry, the level of activity of our member clubs has come to a screeching halt as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the response to the health crisis. Some clubs have reimagined their concept of coming together, and are mastering the technique of ZOOM and online video meetings, happy hours, and webcasts. Some clubs have recently begun to host physically distanced activities like hiking, and cycling trips. Amid all these changes, the NBSWR is proud to be acknowledged with the following honors:

- *The FWSA Community Outreach Grant for our participation in Ski Dazzle LA, and*
- *Third place in the Council class of the Far West Ski*

Association (FWSA) Wentworth Outstanding Publications Award.

As a result of COVID-19 closures, the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame induction ceremony for the NBS Founders Art Clay and Ben Finley that was moved to December 9-13, 2020 in Sun Valley, ID has been changed to a virtual ceremony with in-person recognition potentially being held in 2021. Many other club trips and events have been cancelled with the hope for brighter days to come.

Once again, we see upfront and personal, the consequences of decades of societal injustice. The most profound issue around the killing of George Floyd is not merely the actions of the police officer, the chokehold, or the disdain for human life. More importantly the issue is that this incident and ALL the others would not be reported accurately were it not for video; no one was immediately held accountable; days later co-conspirators/accomplices were free; and much of America continues to be focused

▶ on the symptoms and not the cause. We need positive, smart, insightful, and committed leadership to sift through the distraction, and not to be the distraction.

On behalf of the Western Region of the National Brotherhood of Skiers, I would like to thank and show appreciation to **Jane Wyckoff, Steve Coxen, Jane Gutierrez,** and **Gloria Raminha** for their vision, outreach, and commitment to diversity and inclusion in the Far West Ski Association. Without that team, the NBS Western Region would likely have not been invited, nor joined Far West. Since 2015 in San Diego, I personally have met hundreds of great leaders through my involvement with FWSA. That said, we would be remiss and underserving the organization and the snowsports industry if we do not stand for what we know is true.

The member organizations of the FWSA have much in common, yet we have differences that we hesitate to share and speak about freely. To date, we have all peacefully co-existed, but we have truthfully not shared our worlds. I am asking the clubs of the NBS Western Region and the clubs and councils of the Far West Ski Association to step out of our comfort zone and seek opportunities to have difficult discussions in order to cultivate cultural harmony. In an effort to have true cultural harmony, it is my belief that open and honest channels of communication are key. Neither the clubs and councils of the Far West Ski Association, nor the NBS Western Region have social activism as a mission or a priority. We all came together, not to change the world, but to share our world of fun with others, which in time, can change the world.

Much of the world has

wrestled with terms like “playing the race card”, racism, anti-racism, diversity, inclusion, reparations, Affirmative Action, Black Lives Matter, All Lives Matter, Black on Black Crime, Blue on Black Crime, Defund the Police, etc. Although these concerns are easily politicized, it is not a political issue. It is a societal issue. What is most important to understand is, while nearly every one of us is ingrained with cultural biases, it is up to each of us to recognize our biases, and manage them for fruitful living. Until we face it, the issue lurks below the surface and is swept under the rug or placed in the corner. The fourteen organizations that comprise the NBS Western Region are in support of a concept of serving as a resource for members of the clubs and councils of the Far West Ski Association to increase all of our mastery of cultural differences (Cultural Quotient), and to achieve a greater sense of “welcome” in snowsports.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard recently hosted a panel web meeting regarding race in snowsports. Please see the link to the recording at <https://youtu.be/1zLMXTtCaLk>.

Snowsports Industries America is also hosting panel discussions <https://snowsports.org/inclusion/>.

We are all here for fun, so it is our belief that fun for all of us is increased through cultural harmony. To that end, a resolution is pending for the Far West Ski Association to regularly pursue and provide opportunities to help members of clubs and councils of the Far West Ski Association recognize and manage cultural biases in order to cultivate cultural harmony in snowsports for all participants on and off the slopes.

See you in the snow soon!

In 2021, the NBS will host a virtual NBS Black Summit. Check the website for more information - <http://www.nbs.org>.



Leaders of NBS Western Region at Presidents' Meeting hosted in San Diego, CA L to R: Keith Green - Executive Board Snowboard Association, Teri Allard - Inland Empire Ski and Sports, Skip Roberts - U2 Can Ski, Brenda Holden - SnowBusters Ski Club, Ida Cochrane - Winter Fox, Gary Garrett - All Seasons Ski Club, Yolanda Lockhart - SnowBusters Ski Club, Shaurna Kinsey - SnowBusters Ski Club, Cliff Sims - Four Seasons West, Shirley Wallace - Mountainview Ski Club, Todd Hood - SnowBusters Ski Club, Frank Robertson - Winter Fox, and Michael Cunningham - Fire & Ice. photo provided by Todd Hood

National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region

www.nbswr.org

Vice President: *Todd Hood*

(203-570-5733)

vicepresident@nbswr.org

NBSWR

Member Clubs & Contact Information

ALL SEASONS SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

Oakland, California

www.asscskiclub.org

President: *Gary "G Money" Garrett*

AllSeasons@nbswr.org

BLADERUNNERS SKI CLUB

Los Angeles, California

President: *Gale Frazier*

BladeRunners@nbswr.org

CAMELLIA CITY SKI CLUB

North Highlands, California

camelliacityskiclub.homestead.com

President: *Charles Ward*

CamelliaCity@nbswr.org

EBONY SKI & RACQUET CLUB

West Sacramento, California

www.facebook.com/EbonySkiClub

President: *Sharon Sargeant*

Ebony@nbswr.org

EXECUTIVE BOARD SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION

Los Angeles, California

President: *Keith Green*

EBSA@nbswr.org

FIRE & ICE SKI CLUB

San Jose, California

President: *Michael Cunningham*

FireAndIce@nbswr.org

FOUR SEASONS WEST SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

Los Angeles, California

www.4sw.com

President: *Clifford Sims Jr.*

4SW@nbswr.org

INLAND EMPIRE SKI & SPORTS CLUB

Riverside, California

President: *Teri Allard*

IESSC@nbswr.org

MOUNTAIN VIEW SKI CLUB

San Diego, California

President: *Shirley Wallace*

Mountainview@nbswr.org

SIERRA SNOW GLIDERS, INC.

Las Vegas, Nevada

www.sierrasnowgliders.com

President: *Carolyn Haywood*

Sierrasnowgliders@nbswr.org

SNOWBUSTERS SKI CLUB

Pasadena, California

www.Snowbusters.com

President: *Yolanda "Yoli" Lockhart*

Snowbusters@nbswr.org

SNOWPROS SERVICE CLUB*

Pasadena, California

President: *Forrest King-Shaw*

SnowPros@nbswr.org

U2 CAN SKI CLUB

Stockton, California

President: *Steven "Skip" Roberts*

U2canski@nbswr.org

WINTER FOX SKI ASSOCIATION

Los Angeles, California

<https://www.facebook.com/winterfox1>

President: *Ida Cochrane*

Winterfox@nbswr.org

* Probationary Club through 2020-21



A group photo of Mountain High club members during a pause in the bike ride along the Columbia River in August, 2020. Everyone wore a face mask for this photo, but we removed the masks during the bike ride and maintained social distancing instead. photos by Emilio Trampuz

Northwest Ski Club Council

by Christine Ciardi,
NWSCC President

Northwest Ski Club Council continues with approximately 30 clubs and non-profit organizations. We don't just ski or snowboard, although that's how we start the fun. Having the great northwest as our back yard lets Northwest Ski Club Council members enjoy a wide variety of natural beauty. Our council includes clubs in the beautiful states of Oregon, Washington and Hawaii. Everyone is out in nature and the great outdoors.

Our clubs enjoy many activities and with social events. Clubs organize trips, both single day and multiple day. Activities include hiking, golfing, biking, camping, backpacking, sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, canoeing—you name it. Some trips include several activities in the same trip. Other events include brew festivals, wine tastings, happy hour gatherings, game nights, the list seems never ending. Thanks to our clubs, members can add camaraderie and fun competition to their lives while enjoying the outdoors. Often clubs share events



The Glade Trail connects Timberline with the town of Government Camp. It is 3 miles long and it is out of bounds. But, it is groomed and patrolled only once a year, on the first Saturday in March, for the Glade Trail Day, to re-live how skiing was done before the ski areas were built. People would climb up from Government Camp and then ski down. The Glade Trail is part of Oregon's history. This special day is organized by the Mt. Hood Museum in Government Camp, with the cooperation of Timberline Ski Area and the Forest Service. Shuttles are provided for an unlimited number of runs during the day.

to other club members to spread the fun.

NWSCC was scheduled to be the host of the 2020 FWSA Convention and planning was well underway for an exciting weekend in Portland. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions by the Oregon Governor, FWSA decided to postpone the Portland Convention to 2022. We continue planning for a fantastic weekend.

PACRAT League, part of NWSCC, has provided the exciting opportunity to participate in recreational alpine racing for skiers and snowboarders at several Mt. Hood resorts. Due to resorts closing early, only half of the races actually happened this year.

Tough for many, but we'll be back at it in the 2021 ski season. Planning is already underway.

NWSCC invites member clubs to select representatives to attend council meetings and act as liaison between the club and the council, although any individual club members are welcome. NWSCC meetings are held at least four times a year in the Portland Metropolitan area. We support our industry members by holding several meetings at their locations. We invite guest speakers from the ski and snowboard industry, regional ski areas, media, and resort properties. Sometimes we feature someone in the health, fitness, or safety industries, to keep us updated. We also allow time for clubs to spotlight events and trips to help encour-

age additional participation. Council meetings begin with an informal social time, followed by presentations. Everyone is invited to attend and encouraged to get involved.

Check out our website <https://nwskiers.org/>. Our website includes information about each club with links to their websites. We update our calendar with club and council events/trips and it includes a search function. Many clubs organize trips and offer spaces to individuals belonging to other clubs. The 2021 ski season trips and events are still in the planning stages. Please continue to check out our website as the updates are done throughout the fall.

▶ **Northwest Ski Club Council**
 ▶ www.nwskiers.org
 ▶ President: *Christine Ciardi*
 ▶ (503) 819-3128
 ▶ president@nwskiers.org

Northwest Ski Club Council
Member Clubs & Contact Information

Hawaii

HAWAII SNOW SKI CLUB
 Location: Aiea, Hawaii
<http://www.hawaiiiskiclub.com>
fmain.htm
 President: *Toby Kravet*
pres@hawaiiisnowskiclub.com

Oregon

ALTAIR SKI & SPORTS CLUB
 Location: Eugene, Oregon
<http://www.altairsports.org>
 President: *Erich Kaufman*
erichKaufman@yahoo.com

BEND SKI CLUB
 Location: Bend, Oregon
<http://www.bendskiclub.net>
 President: *Eric Hansen*
emh1951@gmail.com

BERGFREUNDE
 Location: Portland, Oregon
<http://bergfreunde.org>
 President: *Jean Yates*
jeanyates@comcast.net

CABERNET SKI & TRAVEL CLUB
 Location: Portland, Oregon
www.nwskiers.org
 President: *John Reinhardt*
johnreinhardt@hotmail.com

CASCADE PRIME TIMERS SKI CLUB (50+)
 Location: Portland, Oregon
<http://cascadeprimetimers.org>
 President: *Dennis Alexander*
dkdtalex@msn.com

CASCADE SKI CLUB
 Location: Government Camp, Oregon
<http://www.cascadeskiclub.org>
 President: *Jackie Lane*
president@cascadeskiclub.org

INTERLACHEN SKI CLUB
 Location: Portland, Oregon
 President: *Sheri Parshall*
cougskier@aol.com

MOUNTAIN HIGH SNOWSPORT CLUB
 Location: Portland, Oregon
<http://mthigh.org>
 President: *Debbi Kor*
info@mthigh.org

MULTNOMAH ATHLETIC CLUB
 Location: Portland, Oregon
<https://themac.com>

NWXVENTURES
 Location: Government Camp, Oregon
 President: *Don Mancuso*
pdxdanman@yahoo.com

OREGON NORDIC CLUB - PORTLAND CHAPTER
 Location: Portland, Oregon
<https://onc-pdx.org>
 President: *Kenneth Wenzel*
oncpdxpresident@gmail.com

SCHNEE VOGELI SKI CLUB
 Location: Portland, Oregon
(men only)
<http://www.schneevogeli.com>
 President: *Bob Brown*
robertbrown@gmail.com

SKIYENTE SKI CLUB
 Location: Portland, Oregon
(women only)
<http://www.skiyente.com>
 President: *Barb Presentin*
president@skiyente.com

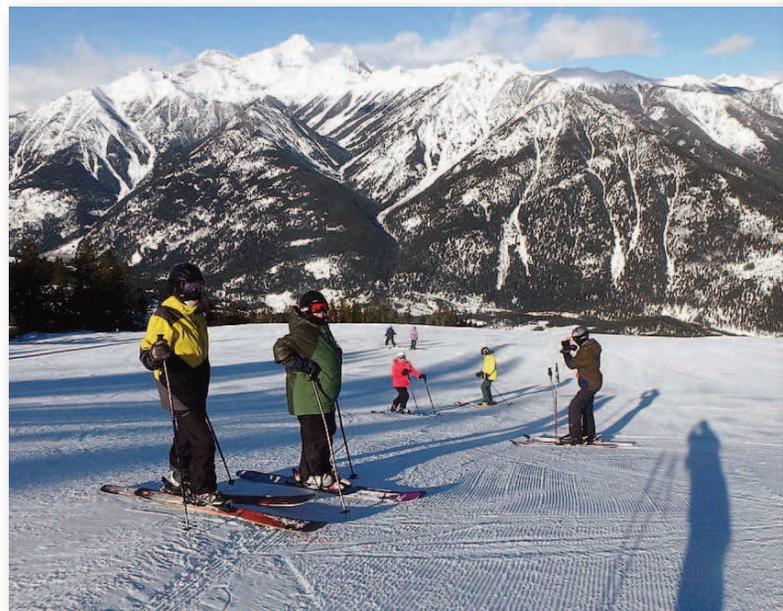
Washington

ALP DU LAKEMONT SKI CLUB
 Location: Seattle, Washington
<http://adlskiclub.com>
info@adlskiclub.com

DESERT SKI CLUB
 Location: Tri-Cities, Washington
<http://desertskiclub.org>
 President: *Joe Cruz*
info@desertskiclub.org

LONGVIEW SKI CLUB
 Location: Longview, Washington
<https://www.facebook.com/longviewskiclub>
 President: *Steve Mackey*

SKIBACS SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB
 Location: Seattle, Washington
(Boeing Employees)
<http://www.skibacs.org>
info@skibacs.org



Mountain High Ski Club members take a trip to Panorama Mountain Resort, in beautiful British Columbia during the early months of 2020. One of the largest resorts in terms of area, it also has one of the largest vertical drops in North America. photo by Kurt Wilke

SKIHAWKS SKI CLUB
 Location: Seattle, Washington
<http://www.skihawks.org>
 President: *Guy Moyer*
guymoyer@hotmail.com

S'NO JOKE SKI CLUB
 Location: Seattle, Washington
<http://www.snojoke.org>
 President: *Jim Anderson*
president@snojoke.org

WIHSKI CLUB
 Location: Seattle, Washington
<http://www.wihski.com>
 President: *Beryl Simpson*
simber206@gmail.com

Charitable Associate Members

MT. HOOD CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM
 Location: Government Camp, Oregon
www.mthoodmuseum.org
 President: *Alene Davis*
aleneuwe@gmail.com

MT. HOOD SKI EDUCATION FOUNDATION
 Location: Portland, Oregon
www.skiandrideforacure.org
 President: *Jason Spadaro*
ispadaro@earthlink.net

MT. HOOD SKI PATROL
 Location: Portland, Oregon
www.mthoodskipatrol.org
mhsp@onebox.com

NORTHWEST TRAIL ALLIANCE
 Location: Portland, Oregon
www.nw-trail.org
 President: *Bob Lessard*
president@nw-trail.org

OREGON ADAPTIVE SPORTS
 Location: Bend, Oregon
www.oregonadaptivesports.org
info@oregonadaptivesports.org

OREGON CANCER SKI OUT
 Location: Portland, Oregon
www.cancerskiout.org
cancerskiout@gmail.com

OUTDOORS FOR ALL FOUNDATION
 Location: Seattle, Washington
<http://outdoorsforall.org>
info@outdoorsforall.org

SKI & RIDE FOR A CURE
 Location: Seattle, Washington
www.skiandrideforacure.com
 President: *Dave Ludwig*
ed@skiandrideforacure.org

SKIDUCK
 Location: Seattle, Washington
<http://www.skiduck.org>
 President: *Clint Lunde*
clintLunde@hotmail.com

Skiing with masks on will be a new experience! But, we're still looking forward to being on the slopes!



Orange Council of Ski Clubs
by Maxine Hanlon, OCSC, Past President

The Orange Council and its clubs have so many special anniversaries to celebrate this year. Clubs in Orange County started in 1955, 16 years before our Orange Council beginning in 1971. Next year we will be celebrating our Orange Council of Ski Clubs's 50th anniversary on May 2. Balboa Ski and Sports Club was organized in 1955. Snowbounders Ski Club began in 1962. Orange County Ski Club was started in 1964.

Over the years many of our clubs have joined the FWSA ski trips, as we are this season, by going to Sun Valley, January 30-February 6, 2021 on Far West Ski Week. We all rejoice in planning ahead for the 2022 trip to Aspen/Snowmass on January 22-29.

Another club offers frequent tennis court challenges. What a great way to get through the warm summer months as we wait for the snow to cover the nearby slopes once again. July, 2020 - Sunday Tennis - and Balboa Ski and Sports Club! Yes, we are wearing our masks! And social distancing as we play and watch others!!! photos provided by Maxine Hanlon

Schuski Race League (Orange Council Race League) members will join ROKKA Race League at Mammoth December 19, March 27 and for the FWRA finals on April 10, 2021. Check online for further information on race clinics. Our website is www.orangecouncil.org.

Fountain Valley Ski Club has planned a trip to Telluride, as well as, their Mammoth program. They are keeping in shape with their "Wet on Wednesday" kayaking. Huntington Beach Ski Club also has a summer/ fall kayaking and paddleboard program called "Let's float on Saturdays" going this year along the bay waterways. Besides Mammoth trips, they plan to go to Park City.

Ski or Sea? Members of Orange Council keep busy through out the year even with the COVID -19 pandemic. Their members are fortunate to live so close to the ocean and the mountains. Some days, they can head to the slopes. On other days, they can get out their kayaks and paddle in the bays. These Huntington Beach Ski Club members enjoy the cool summer breezes. photos provided by Maxine Hanlon

Orange Council of Ski Clubs
www.orangecouncil.org
President: Sheila van Guilder
(714) 656-6032
svanguil@yahoo.com

Orange Council of Ski Clubs
Member Clubs & Contact Information

AUSLICH SKI & SPORTS CLUB
Belmont Shore/Long Beach
President: Joe Vanderhoof
sailorjv13@aol.com

BALBOA SKI & SPORTS CLUB
www.balboaskiandsportsclub.com
President: Connie Peacock
949-645-6086
sailingpeacock@yahoo.com

FLATLANDS SKI CLUB
President: Dan Crawford
816-805-0384
macrci@aol.com

FOUNTAIN VALLEY SKI CLUB
www.fountainvalleyskiclub.org
President: Jim Wisenbaker
714-841-7814
president@fountainvalleyskiclub.org

HUNTINGTON BEACH SKI CLUB
www.hbskiclub.com
President: Eric Lang
hbskiclub@yahoo.com

ORANGE COUNTY SKI CLUB
www.ocskiclub.org
President: Anne Barneson
pres@ocskiclub.com

SNOWBOUNDERS SKI CLUB
www.snowbounders.org
President: Roger Philips
949-258-3491
enrapt@gmail.com

SNOWFLIERS SKI CLUB
President: Jim Hughes
562-593-9905
James.hughes@boeing.com

UNITED STATES ADAPTIVE RECREATIONAL CENTER
mail@usarc.org
Program Coordinator: Sara Rosell
909-584-0269
sara@usarc.org

Balboa will continue into the fall with its tennis program, which has been active since the 1950's. Their Mammoth bus program is not to be missed. And, they will join FWSA on the Sun Valley Trip. Our clubs have been keeping in touch with members through newsletters, emails and Zoom meetings.

We are all planning for a great snowy ski season and hope you will join us.

Lots of plans being made to get back to the slopes, too!

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

by Ira Lindenfeld,
President

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs has a great variety of offerings from our unique group of clubs. Some San Diego clubs focus primarily on skiing, while others offer skiing, snowboarding, racing, biking, hiking and local fun activities. We offer something for everyone!

Our goal as a council is to keep our local skiers engaged and aware of industry changes and news. We share anything that affects their snow adventures with safety, equipment, and resort information with individual club representatives at our monthly meetings.

Our council offered some amazing trips this past year domestically and internationally.

Mike and Eileen Sanford celebrated their 25th trip to Aspen by hosting 64 skiers! They always make this a wonderful trip and a great way to kick off the holiday and ski season. Our thanks to the Sanfords and Ski.com for their assistance.

International travel hosted by the Sanfords included a 28 day Grand Circle Tour trip in September 2019 to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji and was enjoyed by 38 people. The five-night pre trip was to Melbourne and included the rugged Australian Outback and the mystical Ayers Rock. We then travelled to Cairns, Australia. We went to Hartley's Crocodile Adventures, where we had an up-close visit with kangaroos, koalas and crocodiles. The group travelled to the Great Barrier Reef, one of the "Seven Natural Wonders of the World", to experience snorkeling and/or a semi-submersible vessel. What a beautiful spot! Next, we visited the Rain Forest and enjoyed a boomerang performance at the Aboriginal Culture Park. Cairns was a great way to start our adventure!

Our next stop was Sydney, where we stayed for four days. During our time there, we enjoyed an extensive harbor cruise and a visit to the Sydney Opera House. We then flew to Queenstown on the South Island of New Zealand. Back to Queenstown where we went to a winery, a sheep shearing demonstration and saw many other barnyard animals. On to the North Island to the city of Rotorua, home to the Maori culture. Our next stop was Auckland, known for its beautiful harbor and called the "City of Sails". Some of us returned home after Auckland and others went on to the Fiji Islands for four nights. A spectacular trip of a lifetime!!

Alan Godwin led a group to Big Sky, Montana during FWSA Ski Week in January 2020 with 36 people. San Diego Council had several racers participate including Lynn Kramer, Erin Barber, Jeff Myerson, Julie Mena, Dawn Nguyen, and Julie Gallardo. Congratulations, racers!

San Diego Ski Club was founded in 1935! They own and maintain a private chalet in Mammoth for their club members. In the early 1950's club members transported a World War II Quonset hut to Mammoth. This Chalet has been expanded through multiple modifications and maintained by annual work parties by club members and their families. This is a very dynamic, family-oriented club offering many activities including holiday parties, Warren Miller ski movie events, an annual member-appreciation barbecue, end of year beach party and potluck in June. The club's altruistic efforts include: *Adopt a Highway* program and contributions to food drives for enlisted military families. San Diego Ski Club is open to skiers and snowboarders. They are very proud of their successful race team.



ABOVE: The Don Diego Hornblower dinner cruise is an annual event in San Diego Bay. This one took place in 2019. RIGHT: The SDCSC trip to Australia included a visit to the Sydney Opera House.

photos provided by
Ira Lindenfeld



Get Off Your Rockers has found creative and safe ways to escape COVID cancellations by staying connected and offering outdoor and COVID-free-friendly activities. In mid-April the club started ZOOM gatherings to get reacquainted with our Charitable members and WEXERS (*Wednesday evening exercisers*). Those events kept members engaged and connected. Since mid-May we reintroduced our weekly Monday morning Bike Rides. Soon thereafter, we added WEXERS, kayaking, and volunteering at the San Diego Food Bank. In June/July we added Long Bike Rides on Thursdays, and golfing opportunities. We look forward to adding more events as COVID restrictions lift. Check us out on Facebook and at www.getoffyourrockers.org!

Torrey Pines Ski Club members enjoy theatre and music, and attended several concerts at Symphony Hall including the Farewell Tour of The Chieftains and an Abba Concert! The club had their twice a year game nights including the annual Halloween Game Night with a costume contest. Local tours included The SeaWorld Research Center, San

Diego Humane Society and IFly Indoor Skydiving. They took a bus trip up to northern California to board a train and ride through the Heritage Valley and have lunch onboard. In addition to monthly meetings, monthly dinners at various locations are held around San Diego and participants enjoy a few walks in various locations. As with everyone, COVID has put the club on a break but it is anxious to get back to socializing once it is safe. Midweek ski trips to Mammoth are hosted with Don Diego Ski Club.

Don Diego Ski Club was founded in 1959 and is still going strong, having added 31 new new members last season. The club celebrated its 60th Anniversary last year with a cruise around San Diego Harbor.

Sunday-Friday ski trips are offered every January, February, and March, where participants enjoy the uncrowded slopes of Mammoth Mountain. Year-round activities include hiking, biking, picnics, and dinners. Check us out: www.skidondiego.org.

North Island Snowdrifters: The club was formed over 40 years ago. Many of the same founding members are still active in this close-

knit group. In addition to skiing, the group remains close by attending plays, camping, hiking and biking. We had our traditional holiday trolley tour with Mexican dinner in Old Town. Members enjoyed a wonderful end of year pool party (summer of 2019). Our 2020 fly away trip was to Jackson Hole. Our season was cut short but not before we enjoyed several ski trips to Mammoth until we were shut down.

Action Ski Club: The 2019 Season was a busy one for Action and included trips to Utah, Mammoth, Banff and Copper Mountain. This group keeps it interesting! Action will resume their monthly meetings when conditions allow.

Crossing our fingers...Action's ski trip to Zermatt, Switzerland scheduled for March 17 to 28, 2021, when we obtain confirmation for safe travel, lodging and open ski slopes. We are definitely not giving up on our 2021 ski season just yet, but we will be taking a conservative approach, with our foremost concern being the health and safety of all Action members.

Pacific Rim Alliance has been active in San Diego in skiing, snowboarding, sight-seeing, photography, travel and public awareness. They offer many other events including water skiing, wake boarding and bike rides. They offer trips to Cabo San Lucas and travel to Big White, B.C., Canada annually.

San Diego Council: Throughout the year, SDCSC hosted fun meetings, day at the Del Mar Horse Races and a well attended Gala with a pirate theme for all San Diego members. At our end of year Council Gala, we honored our San Diego Man of the Year, **John Walsh** and Woman of the Year, **Eileen Weiner**. The recipient of the Joe Harris Award was our former SDCSC President, **Chris Gill**. Well-deserved honors!

Stay safe and see you on the mountain!

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

www.skisandiego.org
President: *Ira Lindenfeld*
inljel@cox.net

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

Member Clubs & Contact Information

ACTION SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB

www.actionski.org
President: *Roger Hiltbold*
prez@actionski.org

DON DIEGO SKI CLUB

www.skidondiego.org
President: *Ed Offstein*
offstein@gmail.com

GET OFF YOUR ROCKERS SKI CLUB

www.getoffyourrockers.org
President: *Ellen Williamson*
president@getoffyourrockers.org

NORTH ISLAND SNOWDRIFTERS

www.nisnowdrifter.com
President: *Kris Watkin*
president@nisnowdrifters.com

PACIFIC RIM ALLIANCE

www.pacificrimalliance.org
President: *Catherine Ohl*
ohl@acatmeowz.com

SAN DIEGO SKI CLUB

www.sdskiclub.org
President: *Jim Payne*
jrpayne_sdsc@sbcglobal.net

TORREY PINES SKI CLUB

www.tpscsc.org
President: *Hobe Schroeder*
858-336-0539
hobeschr@aol.com

The Digital Only Insert can be found between pages 40 and 41 online.

It will include the 90th Anniversary Booklet which celebrates the founding of the FWSA. www.fwsa.org



Reno Ski & Recreation Club members enjoyed a gala New Year's Eve party at the National Automobile Museum to celebrate the beginning of a new decade. Little did they know what 2020 would bring. Let us hope that when they get together again to bring in the next New Year, that 2021 will be a banner year. photo submitted by RS&RC

Sierra League and Council

by Jo Simpson, President



Here's to 2021! Let's Ski, Hike, Bike & more...

Our eight Sierra Council clubs and race teams enthusiastically welcome new members to join in our snowsports and other activities. The larger member clubs offer a variety of year-round activities, including golf, tennis, campouts, hiking, bike riding and trips to summer outdoor productions. Their membership meetings provide additional opportunities for social interaction, as do their parties and happy hours. Our members enthusiastically participate in the Far West Ski Association trips and we are looking forward to the North American Ski Week at Sun Valley. We also look forward to welcoming new members to join in trips, snowsports and social activities.

Our council spans a large geographic area in Nevada and Northern California. There are two Sierra Council ski clubs in Las Vegas - the **Las Vegas Alpine Ski and Snowboard Club** and the **Las Vegas Ski, Snowboard and Sports Club**. They both offer winter ski trips, hiking, and year-round social activities.

The **Tahoe Donner Senior Alpine Ski Club** members mostly

live in Tahoe Donner. They enjoy group ski days at Lake Tahoe ski resorts throughout the winter, as well as, social activities.

The **RU Ski Club** draws primarily from the Bay Area. As the name indicates, many of their members are Russian.

In northern Nevada, the **Reno Ski and Recreation Club** offers a full schedule of social activities throughout the year, as well as summer camping trips and group ski days at Lake Tahoe resorts.

The **Top Gun Club** members include mostly active and retired military members and airline employees in northern Nevada and the Lake Tahoe area who enjoy racing.

The **Sugar Bowl Ski Club's** members live in the San Francisco Bay area and call Sugar Bowl their home resort.

Sierra offers a direct membership option to area skiers who want to race and travel with our council but are not interested in joining a year round social club.

Recreational ski racing is a key activity of our council. We share the race courses with the

SIERRA LEAGUE AND COUNCIL



Sierra League and Council

www.sierraleague.com

President: *Jo Simpson*
(775) 787-7556
jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net

**Sierra League and Council
Member Clubs &
Contact Information**

ALPINE SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB
Las Vegas, Nevada
www.alpineskiandsnowboardclub.com

President: *Craig Cables*
alpineskiclub@embarqmail.com

LAS VEGAS SKI, SNOWBOARD AND SPORTS CLUB
Las Vegas, Nevada
www.lasvegasskiclub.com
President: *Mark McNeil*
mark42750@cox.net

RENO SKI AND RECREATION CLUB
Reno, Nevada
www.renoskiandrec.com
President: *Dianne Hilliard*
dihilliard@msn.com

RU SKI CLUB
Campbell, California
www.bosin.net/ruski
President: *Pavel Bosin*
pavel@bosin.net

SEQUOIA SKI CLUB
Visalia, California
www.sequoiaskiclub.com
President: *Woody Hogan*
wwhiii@hotmail.com



*TOP: Reno Ski & Recreation Club members also enjoy hiking in the Reno / Lake Tahoe area. Fresh air and an abundant number of uncrowded trails provide numerous opportunities to safely enjoy the outdoors.
photo submitted by RS&RC*

LOWER: Bobbie and Bob Beaudoin pose for a photo at the Reno Ski & Recreation Club's gala New Year's Eve party at the National Automobile Museum. photo by Susie Jacox

SUGAR BOWL SKI CLUB
www.sugarbowlskiclub.com
Norden, California
President: *Dan Gross*
dan@gross.name

TAHOE-DONNER SENIOR ALPINE SKI CLUB
www.tdski.com
President: *Bill Wang*
billwangesq@gmail.com

TOP GUN SKI CLUB
President: *Greg Peairs*
shifty@aol.com ▲▲

*TOP: Reno Ski & Recreation members enjoying a bike ride.
LOWER: Reno Ski & Recreation Club members held socially distanced happy hours at local parks during the pandemic.
photos submitted by RS&RC*

▶▶▶▶▶ SIERRA LEAGUE AND COUNCIL

Bay Area Snow Sports Council's Singles and Open Leagues and typically schedule six to eight races during the season. This collaboration keeps participation costs affordable and enhances the racing experience.

Sierra racers span all ability levels and all skiers and boarders are welcome. Any skier or boarder who can make linked turns can have a fun time on the race-course competing with skiers of similar ability. It's fun to meet and engage in friendly competition with members of other clubs. Junior racers are welcome if ac-

companied by a racing parent or guardian and they race for free.

Our racers are generous with their time to introduce new racers to the world of friendly competition.

Check out our clubs. Sign up for a trip or activity. Ski clubs are a great way to meet active adults who enjoy outdoor recreation and a wide range of social activities.

Visit our website www.sierraleague.com for links to our member clubs, racing information and Sierra Council activities.



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It's been months since we have been able to ride a chairlift up the mountain to ski down it! Can't wait! Snowfall in many areas is right around the corner. Ready? Get Set! Let's go!

Northstar photo courtesy of Reno/Tahoe

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



88th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention

June 10 - 13, 2021

at the
Marriott San Diego Mission Valley

Hosted by the *San Diego Council of Ski Clubs*



Marriott San Diego Mission Valley

8757 Rio San Diego Dr, San Diego, CA 92108

Reservations www.marriott.com/sanmv or
call **800-228-9290**, Group Name: **Far West Ski Association**.

Room Rates per night plus tax single or double occupancy —
\$159 per night

Room Registration Deadline May 13, 2021

Hotel Features

- Located a block from the San Diego River, near I-8 and I-805
- Stunning views and private balconies
- Heated outdoor Pool and whirlpool spa
- Private pool cabanas, a full bar and restaurant
- Restaurant & Lounge • Extensive concierge services
- Full-service business center, and notary public
- Fitness Center and jogging trail

Transportation

- Fly into San Diego International Airport (SAN)
- 8 miles to Hotel by taxi, bus, or Express Shuttle Service
- The hotel doesn't provide a shuttle service.

Convention Highlights

- Silent Auction & Trade Show
- Travel Expo
- Snowsports Leadership Academy
- Public Affairs Panels
- Celebrity Speakers
- Saturday Awards Banquet
- FWSA General Meeting & Elections

Optional Activities

- **Thursday**
 - Sail around the San Diego Harbor
 - Taste of San Diego Pub Crawl
 - Aqua Adventures
- **Friday**
 - 14th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament at Riverwalk Golf Course
 - Trolley tour La Jolla /Mt. Soledad Memorial
 - Bike Ride by the Beach

www.fwsa.org

Debbi Kor
FWSA Convention Chairperson
fwsadebbi@comcast.net
503-314-7078

For Silent Auction information:
silentauction@fwsa.org
503-314-7078

Chris Gill & Barbara Blasé
Host Council Coordinators
hostconventionchair@fwsa.org
858-382-1457

A portion of the Silent Auction proceeds will benefit the US Adaptive Recreation Center Big Bear Co.