



Who & What's New For 2014

Colorado Slopes Open

Arapahoe Basin has started turning its chairs for the public. On Sunday, October 13th, A-Basin fired up the engines on one of their main chairs to let guests make their first turns of the season. This was four days earlier than they have ever opened. When you get the chance, take it!

Ski Magazine Names #1 Resort

Ski Magazine has named Jackson Hole Mountain Resort as the leading resort in North America. Ranked number one in SKI Magazine's annual poll of North American ski areas, it is the first time that Jackson Hole has made it to the top of the list. Congratulations, JHMR.

Affects of Government Shutdown

Arizona Snow Bowl and Aspen/Snowmass got the better of the feds when they chose to spin their lifts in spite of parks being shut down. At Aspen, management ran its Silver Queen gondola for free on October 12-13 to allow Aspen tourists, hoping to get to the Maroon Bells, an opportunity to enjoy fall foliage on the mountain, while Arizona Snow Bowl extended its scenic chair lift operation through those same dates. Tourists in both locations were afforded beautiful autumn views all the way around.

FIS World Cup Race Season Begins

October 26-27, 2013 will be the kick off to the World Cup season. The first race will be held in Soelden, Austria. The women's GS will be on October 26th, followed by the men's GS on October 27th. Tina Maze is the women's defending champion, while Ted Ligety is looking for a three-peat in the men's race. It is not known yet if Lindsey Vonn will compete in the season opener. She does plan, however, to be at the World Cup meeting in Beaver Creek, Colorado November 29-December 1.

SIA & NSAA Boards Unite in Washington

On September 24-25th, 2013, board members from SIA and NSAA joined forces in Washington, D.C. to discuss how to grow participation and to lobby around regulatory and trade issues currently affecting the snow sports industry. They spent the day on Capitol Hill, meeting with members of Congress and their key staff members focusing on Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, Miscellaneous Tariff Bill, TSA Policy for Avalanche Air Bag Canisters, Water Rights for Land Resort and Immigration and Visas.

Board members were present at all of the Congressional visits, allowing both associations to appeal to Congress for support on critical issues affecting the Industry from a resort and product standpoint. "Time spent in Washington, educating public officials about the ski industry and our pressing concerns is incredibly valuable", said Michael Berry, NSAA president. "We were pleased to unite with SIA on delivering a powerful message in Washington about the impact that the ski industry has on the economy and jobs and our optimism for future success as well."

Women's Ski Jumping News

Lindsey Van won her 16th National Ski Jumping title October 13th in Lake Placid. Sixteen years ago, Lindsey moved to Lake Placid to live with her coach and his family while her hometown jumps in Park City were being rebuilt for the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics. "Lake Placid will always hold a special place in my heart", she said after her win.

Jessica Jerome placed 2nd and Alissa Johnson placed 3rd in the downhill jump.

Sarah Hendrickson, reigning World Champion and 2013 large hill National Champion, sat out the weekend's events recovering from surgery after an August knee injury. In a recent interview, Sarah spoke of her injury and the rehabbing of it. "My goal of Sochi is 100-percent the reason I am getting out of bed in the morning and going to the gym for six hours a day. It is the reason I still have a smile on my face and it is the reason I will put my head down and fight through anything thrown at me in the next four months. I have dreamed of walking into the Opening Ceremony representing Team USA way too many times to give up now."

The Visa Team is now headed to training camp in Europe and then back for a short stint in Park City before heading to Lillehammer, Norway, for the World Cup opener on Dec. 6 (mixed-team event) and Dec. 7 (individual event). There are seven World Cup stops (14 events) before the start of the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. The U.S. Olympic Trials for ski jumping takes place Dec. 29 in Park City; the winner gets an automatic spot on the Olympic Team. Remaining Olympic Team members (up to three more) will be announced mid-January.

Women Responsible for \$1B in Snow Sports Purchases

According to the 2013 Women's Snow Sports Market Intelligence Report, women are spending mega dollars on snow sport purchases each year, with 59% of their dollars going toward apparel. Sixty percent of female snow riders are in the 16 to 34 age range, and they all like to look good on the hill. According to the report, Alpine skiing brought out the most women, with a record 3.3 million women participating in the sport.

Far West Travel

Far West Ski Week

January 25 to February 1, 2014 are the dates set for Far West's 2014 Ski Week in Beaver Creek, Colorado. Lift tickets are included in the ski week package; however, EPIC passes will also be available and should be purchased from our Tour Operator at Skigroup.net by calling 1-800-500-2SKI (2754). Each member purchasing the EPIC Pass through Skigroup, will receive a \$25 discount off their lodging during our ski week. Check our [website](#) for additional information.

Far West Mini Ski Week

February 22-27, 2014 are the dates set for the Mini Ski Week to be held in Layton, Utah. Lodging will be at La Quinta Inn & Suites in Layton for 5 nights, with 3-4 day's skiing at Snowbasin Ski Resort, a welcome party and much more. Check our [website](#) for additional information.

Far West International Ski Week 2014

Things are moving at a swift pace for Zermatt & Spain signups. Whether you want one week in Zermatt, Zermatt & Barcelona and Madrid, Spain extension or just Spain as a stand-alone trip,

the time to make your decision is NOW! If you choose to not go to Zermatt, we'll make arrangements to fly you to Barcelona to join us just for the Spain adventure trip. We will spend the first 4 nights in Barcelona then we will take the high-speed train to Madrid for the next 4 nights. This will be an all-inclusive tour including charming four-star hotels, staying in unique and convenient locations. Most meals are included, giving us the opportunity to experience local restaurants with their cultural culinary delights. This tour is completely escorted which will include daily excursions that will be guided by local representatives. You will receive all the value and benefits of traveling to Spain with FWSA. This will be a unique, exciting and exceptional trip to be remembered! Contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel at: fwaintlrvl@prodigy.net. Check our [website](#) for additional information.

Lions, Rhinos and Elephants, Oh My!

FWSA's 2014 Adventure Trip will be to South Africa, in September (exact dates TBA), with an extension to Victoria Falls. This unique experience will offer much more than the normal gaming safaris. You will also travel through the garden route in South Africa, visit botanical gardens, travel through the Wine-lands area to enjoy wine tastings, view native birds in their natural habitat, experience animal viewing while river boat cruising and so much more. While traveling to South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana you will enjoy the true African safari experience. We will search to see the "Big 5" and many other animals and native birds in the wild. This trip is guaranteed to be an experience of a lifetime! More details to come, so stay tuned.

Far West Convention

A Volcanic Paradise is About to Erupt

Plans are moving along for Convention 2014. This is your chance to check out beautiful Central Oregon by coming early and staying late to take full advantage of all that Central Oregon has to offer while you attend the 82nd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention, June 12-15, 2014, in Bend, Oregon.

The high desert awaits you at The Riverhouse Resort, Hotel & Convention Center. To make your reservations call 800.547.3928 or 541-389-3111. Group Name: Far West Ski Association 2014. Hotel rates will be honored for three days before and after Convention. Convention offers up a variety of activities to entertain you----The Ski Day & Tailgater BBQ on Thursday on Mt. Bachelor; Pub Crawling on Thursday night; the 8th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament on Friday at River's Edge Golf Course; the Smith Rock State Park Adventure Day; Biking With Oregon Adaptive Sports-a community service event; and the ever-fun and outrageous Pool Party.

Attend the Silent Auction on Friday night and the Travel Expo on Saturday morning. Look for something new and different. Saturday night is black tie / shorts to celebrate the Volcanic Paradise. For more information, please contact Host Council Convention Coordinator Mary Olhausen at omary52@comcast.net. Below is a short list of some of the many things to do while in Central Oregon:

- Check out the Cycle Pub Tours & Bend Ale Trail
- Hike/walk Tumalo Falls Trail & Deschutes River Trail
- Visit the High Desert Museum
- Kayak or StandUp Paddle Board on a gorgeous mountain lake
- Mountain bike on Phil's Trail

Visit Crater Lake National Park
Check out the Lava Caves at Newberry National Volcanic Monument
See the Sisters Wilderness Area
Go rafting & floating down the Deschutes River
Try fishing in one of the numerous mountain lakes & rivers

Two websites to assist with your Central Oregon adventure are Visit Bend at www.visitbend.com and Central Oregon Visitors Association at www.visitcentraloregon.com.

Far West Clubs and Councils

Los Angeles Council

Los Angeles Council's Snow Gala is planned for Saturday, November 9, 2013. Instead of the usual silent auction for the evening, members will have the opportunity to bid, in a live auction, a chance at a California Gold Pass, which is honored at all 27 participating CSIA member resorts in California and Nevada. There are only 100 of these sold each year, the price ranging from \$2,150 to \$2,495. This pass is good every day of the season with no blackouts, and is transferable! Half of the proceeds will be presented to The Unrecables, and the other half will go to LA Council.

The Unrecables Keep Fit and Think Safety

Richard Lubin wrote in the latest Unrecables newsletter about things we should all be paying attention to on the mountain this coming season. Phone use and texting: People DO use phones to call and text friends while on the mountain. We see these folks stopped in the middle of a trail, doing these things, totally oblivious to approaching traffic. This often happens just after the exit off a ski lift. Keep your eyes peeled for this.

While it may be nice to ski and ride to your favorite tunes, it can also prevent you from hearing an approaching snowcat or snowmobile, or simply another skier coming up on your left.

Smart Goggles is one of the most exciting new developments in technology are high tech goggles. A small monitor inside the goggles allow you to look at your speed, elevation, music that's playing, your text messages, and even find emergency services. However, all this diverts your attention to what is really going on in front of you, and allowing you a chance to bail out of an accident that could be waiting to happen in front of you. If you are distracted, you place yourself and others at risk. So, have fun, but remember to ski and ride safely!

Far West Member Benefits

New Lodging Partners

Check out the Member Corner on the Far West Ski Association website for a listing of all of the great benefits you can receive simply by being a member of a Far West ski club. We've just acquired two new lodging partners in Bend, Oregon: The Doubletree by Hilton in downtown Bend, and Shilo Inns, near the Bend Convention Center. Keep these two in mind when planning your next trip to central Oregon. And, if you plan to come early or stay for a few days after Convention in June, take advantage of their discounted rates.

We also have a new lodging partner in Canada. Casa Alpina in Rossland, B.C., offering a 20% discount off rack rates.