



WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2016

Mt. Shasta is For Sale: *Mt. Shasta Ski Park* is available and for sale. The owners and operators of the Ski Park have decided to sell their ski and bike park. Mt. Shasta Ski Park opened in December 1985. With one exception (the non-winter for 2013-2014), the area has operated continuously. Ski and bike operations gross up to \$5.365 million, generates up to 167,000 visits and operate up to 137 days per season. If you're interested in finding out more, contact *Mike Krongel* at: krongel@mirusresortadvisors.com.

Former Olympian, Bill Johnson, Honored: *Mt Hood Ski Bowl* recently honored Olympian, Bill Johnson, by renaming one of their ski runs "*Bill's Gold*". Bill, who grew up in Idaho and Oregon, was a local hero who trained on Mt. Hood. He was the first U.S. male to win a gold medal in alpine skiing at the 1984 Olympics in Sarajevo. In 2001, at the age of 40, Bill attempted to make a comeback, but crashed and suffered a traumatic brain injury that erased nearly a decade of memories. He had to learn to walk, talk, and eat again. Bill passed away in January of this year. Look for "*Bill's Gold*" when you ski at Mt. Hood Ski Bowl.

Arizona Snowbowl Gets New Lift: The *Arizona Snowbowl* will get its first high-speed 6-pack lift, The Grand Canyon Express, this summer.

Whistler Blackcomb Extend Season: *Whistler Blackcomb* has decided to extend its ski season by an additional week. The closing date of Blackcomb Mountain to May 30, 2016. Whistler Mountain's last day of skiing will remain 17 April.

Snowbird Expanding: *Snowbird* was granted unanimous approval by the Utah County Board of Adjustment on two conditional use permits involving resort expansion in American Fork Canyon. The plans call for a new gondola, two new chairlifts, 500 acres of new terrain, and a zip line. Work will not begin, however, for another two years.

Vail Resorts' New Additions for 2017: *Vail Resorts* will continue investing in its mountain resorts this summer by installing a high-speed quad chairlift at *Vail* and building a new eating spot at *Breckenridge*.

In the Back Bowls of *Vail*, the Sun Up triple chair will become a high-speed lift, making every lift on the backside of Vail a high-speed chair. The new chair gives skiers and riders, coming off the High Noon Express into Sun Up Bowl, a quicker way back to the top of the ridge where it meets the Tea Cup Express out of China Bowl. It will cut riding time to about four minutes and increase capacity.

At *Breckenridge*, a new 500-seat restaurant will go up this summer at the top of the Independence Super Chair that serves Peak 7. This will improve the dining experience at the most visited ski resort in the United States with a modern restaurant located adjacent to the new Peak 6 terrain. In addition to providing a place to eat and rest on Peak 7, the new eatery will be a launching point for skiers and snowboarders heading to Peak 6. It will be done in time for the Far West Ski Week in January 2017.

FAR WEST CONVENTION

Far West Annual Convention – The Countdown is On: HEY, EVERYONE! This year's convention is only **TWO** months away. Do you have your room reserved? Have you completed your registration form and sent it to Karen James or for those industry partners..to Debbi Kor? **Arizona Ski Council** is expecting a good turn-out at the Far West Ski Association's 84th Annual Convention, June 9-12, 2016, in Scottsdale, Arizona, at the beautiful DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Paradise Valley-Scottsdale. Rooms are still available, so make that call or go on-line to get your reservation made **NOW!** May 9th is the cut off date for our room block. Call **1-800-498-7396**, reference our group name - **Far West Ski Association**, and you're in. You can also book on-line at the FWSA room reservation site <http://bit.ly/FWSA-2016-Lodging>. The Group Code is **FWS**. Room rates are just \$99 per night. Visit www.fwsa.org and select Conventions. Your friends from Arizona Ski Council have planned lots of fun activities for us, so come early, and stay late to take in all that's available in this beautiful city.

“NEW” Super Shuttle has offered all Far West Convention Go-er's a 10% discount from Phoenix Airport to the DoubleTree. Attendees will receive the discount if reservations are booked online using the group discount code: **TRPXL**. The discount is valid between June 7-14, 2016. **NOTE:** There is a \$2.00 reservation booking fee if the guest calls directly into reservations at 1-800-258-3826. There is **no booking fee** when making reservations online.

CHARITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION

Applications Received for 2016: The applications were received and the judges are busy judging and the winners will be announced at our FWSA Convention on Sunday, June 12th in Scottsdale, Arizona. If your club or council did not apply this year, you might work towards this recognition for next year. Supporting charities can be an enjoyable all-year activity.

DESCRIPTION: The intent of this recognition program is to encourage charity and community service involvement in all our FWSA councils and clubs and to recognize clubs and councils for their outstanding financial and/or volunteer support to one or more charitable organizations. All clubs and councils that apply will be recognized at the FWSA Convention. The top 2 clubs in each class and the top council will be asked to present a picture display board at convention showing their charity activities.

Feel free to CONTACT: Sigrid Noack, FWSA Charities & Our Community Chair, sig4ski@earthlink.net

FAR WEST ELECTIONS

Election of FWSA Officers: Election of officers will occur at the FWSA Annual Meeting and Convention

June 9-12, 2016 at the Double Tree Resort by Hilton, Paradise Valley – Scottsdale AZ. Delegates will elect their President, Secretary, and Treasurer to one-year terms and two (2) Trustee positions for two-year terms. In addition, the following functional Vice Presidents will be elected for two-year terms:

VP Communications - *Jim Nachbar* (incumbant)

VP International Travel – *Debbie Stewart* (incumbant)

VP Marketing – *Debbi Kor* (incumbant)

VP Membership – *Jane Guitierrez* (incumbant)

Trustee One – *Gloria Raminha* (incumbant)

Trustee Two - *Harry Davis* (incumbant)

Treasurer – *Randy Lew* (incumbant)

Secretary –

President – *Steve Coxen* (incumbant)

If you are interested in running for any of the above positions, please contact Sylvia Kearns, Nominating Committee Chairman, at Sylviakearns@outlook.com.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

Far West Adventure Trip 2016: The 2016 Far West Adventure Trip will be to **England and Ireland** September 12-22, 2016, with an extended bike tour in *Ireland* from September 22-26. If you haven't put this on your calendar yet, now is the time to do that. Your trip leaders, Debbie and George Stewart have a phenomenal trip planned for you. The trip includes nightly accommodations and most meals. Tour London, see the Roman Spas, ferry to Rosslare, Ireland from the Welsh town of Fishguard. Visit the Waterford Crystal Factory. Climb Blarney Castle to kiss the Blarney Stone. See the Ring of Kerry, the Guinness Storehouse and try a pint. Tour Dublin and much, more. For further information, contact Debbie at: FWSAintltrlv@prodigy.net. You can view a short video by clicking on: <https://www.dropbox.com/l/s/udeOiKPIUpM5Ng2K5DiyIt>

Far West Dive Trip 2016: Get ready for the trip of your life! Far West is going to **Fiji** September 24-October 1, 2016. We will be at the amazing Beqa Lagoon Resort, and/or October 1-October 8 at a second resort (yet to be secured). Register for either week of stay for both weeks. The land & dive package for Beqa Lagoon Resort is \$1916 (dbl occ), and roundtrip air from Los Angeles into Nadi, Fiji is \$1,578 per person. Cyclone Winston resulted in insignificant damage to Beqa Lagoon, with only minor landscape damage, which has already been cleaned up and they are operating at 100% capacity again. For other information, contact Randy Lew, your Dive Trip Leader at: fwsa13randy@telis.org.

Far West Annual Ski Week 2017: Ski Week 2017 has been set, and will be in beautiful **Breckenridge, Colorado**, January 28-February 4th, 2017. The town of Breckenridge has a colorful history full of gold mining, saloons, booms, and busts. There is much to do to keep skiers and non-skiers busy for the week. There are historical tours, shopping, spas, pubs, and plenty of restaurants to keep you active. We have lots of slope-side lodging with many close to town. Council trip leaders will begin promoting this trip in Spring, 2016.

Far West Mini Ski Week 2017: *Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge at Sun Peaks Resort*, boasting to being the second largest ski resort in Canada, is our destination for the 2017 Mini Ski Week, March 21-26, 2017. We will have an incredible trip with 133 runs to choose from, spread out over 3 mountains, a ski-in, ski-out village, and virtually no lift lines. We will have more information about this trip in the near future, so stay tuned.