

November, 2017

Far West Ski Association

WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2017-2018

Mountain Solitude in Huts and Yurts: Heading into the backcountry transports skiers and rider into a world of powder, mystery and quiet – especially if the trip includes a night or two out in the woods. More than 200 huts and yurts in North America lie under the tall peaks of the Rocky Mountains. Trail systems lead to single nights or connect to a multi-day hut-to-hut adventure for groups large and small. Check out the many trails throughout Colorado, Utah, Idaho, and Oregon for lodging that caters nightly dinners, or merely house comfy beds, a cook stove, fireplace and a warm cozy place to stay for the night.

Happy Anniversary Beech Mountain Resort: *Beech Mountain Resort* marks 50 years of skiing on the highest elevation, lift-served slopes in eastern America. The resort had a new vision for Southern skiing when it debuted in the winter of 1967-68. It was the only North Carolina resort built around an alpine village, and remains so today. To celebrate their 50th year, Beech Mountain will have “throwback” pricing throughout the season, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during their night sessions. Tuesdays are “ladies’ night” with \$9 lift tickets, and “mens’ night” is on Wednesday with \$9 tickets. Thursday will be “couples’ night” for \$14 first ticket and \$8 for the second. Come join us.

Women’s Ski Clinics for 2017-2018: Ladies, are you looking for a ski clinic to get you into that “ready for the season” shape? From Alyeska to Alta, and Big Sky to Killington, there are many clinics to choose from. While they aren’t a one-size-fits-all answer, there should be one for. Everyone’s learning style is different, and a co-ed clinic might be fine for you. But if you’ve been looking for a women’s-only venue, check out *Women’s Clinics* as posted on the Ski Federation website.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

Far West Annual Ski Week 2018: *Space still available*....February 3-10, 2018 are the dates set for the Far West Ski Week, which will be held in *Banff*. Known for its exceptional natural beauty, wildlife, and incredible landforms, Banff is an awesome place to ski. Whether you ski at Sunshine, Lake Louise, or Mount Norquay, you will get an event-packed week of skiing, apres parties, a Welcome Party, Awards Dinner and much, much more. Contact Nancy Ellis @ fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net, or your own council Trip Leader.

Far West International Trip 2018: The 2018 International Trip will be to *Les Trois Vallees*. The dates are March 3rd to 11th, 2018 for the main part of the Ski Week. The optional extension, to *Lyon, Beaune, and Paris*, will begin March 11, and end March 18, 2018. Contact Debbie Stewart @ fwsaintltrvl@prodigy.net, to be placed on the *Wait List*.

Far West Annual Mini Ski & Adventure Week: *Space still available*...February 25-March 4, 2018 are the dates set for the next Mini Ski Week at *Alyeska Resort*, and in Anchorage, at the *Captain*

Cook Hotel. Located 40 miles southeast of Anchorage, Alyeska is set in the Chugach Mountain wilderness. A fun place to ski, and the hotel Alyeska, a wonderful ski in/ski out place to stay.

Anchorage is the site for the ceremonial start of the Iditarod dog sled races and the Fur Rendezvous. Many optional events will be made available, such as a wildlife tour, dog sledding, glacier walk, glacier cruise, heli-skiing/cat skiing, sleigh rides. Contact Gloria Raminha @ garski2011@gmail.com.

Far West International Adventure Trip, 2018: Far West has executed a contract for an adventure trip to India. The dates are set for October 5-21, 2018. We will be visiting all the must-see places while in Delhi, Jaipur, and Agra. Of course, we'll be visiting the UNESCO world heritage site of the Taj Mahal. We'll also be traveling by air, motor coach and by train to get the true experience of India. Included will be Ranthambore National Park where we'll be on 2 animal safaris. Contact Debbie Stewart: fwsaintltrlv@prodigy.net.

This trip is limited to 35 participants, so mark your calendars now as the marketing materials are currently being prepared.

FAR WEST CONVENTION

SEVEN Months And Counting: *The Bay Area Snow Sports Council and Sierra League and Council* are very busy planning the 2018 Convention, to be held June 7-10, 2018 at the Atlantis Casino and Resort Spa. We'll have kayaking on the Truckee River, our Annual Michael German Golf Tournament, a day hike in South Lake Tahoe, a Spa Day at the beautiful Atlantis Spa, and other fun things planned, along with our usual Silent Auction, Travel Expo, Educational Seminars, Panel Discussions with local experts on forestry, ski areas, and other issues, a great Keynote Speaker, and just a good time for everyone. Make your reservations now: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/98418?groupID=2016540>.

It takes a village to host a convention and we are asking our FWSA family to help us. If we can get a lot of volunteers to help out with the myriad of tasks, it will spread out the work and make the convention fun for all of us. We need volunteers beginning with registration and pub crawl sign in on Thursday afternoon, helping get optional event participants onto busses Friday morning and registration on Friday afternoon. Helping hands are needed throughout the convention to take meal tickets, staff hospitality suite events and many small tasks that will take only a short amount of time and help to lighten the host councils' load. Contact the convention host coordinators: Jo Simpson, jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net and Paul Vlasveld, pvlaveld@comcast.net.

Sigrid Noack is the Chairman of Charities and Our Community. **FWSA** encourages all clubs and councils to get involved with charities and community service. The Charities and Community Service Recognition Program has been recognizing clubs for their charitable work at each convention for the past eleven years. We have two different levels of application for Clubs. We now have the Diamond and Double Diamond award. Any club that has won first place in this wonderful Recognition Program in a past year, will apply in the Double Diamond category. All other Clubs will be in the Diamond category. The two separate levels will give ALL groups an added incentive to apply, and then to apply again. Each Club category will have a first and second place winner. The Council category will recognize a first-place winner. The top two Clubs in each category and the winning Council will be invited to display a picture board at Convention. All groups that apply will be recognized at Convention. Application deadline is in **March, 2018**. Information and applications can be obtained on the Far West website: www.fwsa.org regarding this wonderful program, and how easy it is to apply for this recognition. For any Charity & Community Service questions, contact Sigrid Noack at skisig@gmail.com.

FAR WEST COUNCILS

Los Angeles Council: Congratulations to Hannah Nishimotoa (Unrecables) and Dennis Leon (Wailers), LA Councils Man and Woman of the Year for 2017-2018. These two were recognized at the annual Snow Gala, held November 4th. LA's clubs are going on a lot of trips this coming season. Four Seasons West Ski & Snowboard Club will be hosting 2 international trips in 2018..one to Morocco, and 1 trip to Japan. Conejo Ski & Snowsports Club are off the Whitefish in March, and Century City Ski Club will be hosting a cycling trip to Croatia in 2018.

FAR WEST SKIERS GUIDE

Skier's Guide Now Available: The 2017-2018 Far West Skier's Guide has been printed and distributed to affiliated FWSA Councils. Check with you Council for copies. The Digital Edition, complete with a 28-page insert has been sent to Nextbook Media for uploading. It will be uploaded to the Far West Ski Association and the National Ski Club Federation, as well as council and club websites soon. The Digital insert includes more information and articles not available in the printed version: Lots to do in the Reno Tahoe area in the summer. Read all about it. Why are the 1950's and 1960's so important in the history of skiing? Most enthusiasts are familiar with chairlifts and gondolas. But....there are other ways to reach the peaks. Plus, updates for the FWSA International adventures to India and Hakuba Valley are included. Access the 2017-2018 Far West Skier's Guide Digital Edition from the Far West site (www.fwsa.org), or directly at: www.nextbook.com/nxtbooks/farwestskiersguide/2017-2018.