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FWSA Receives Grant from State of California!

By Randy Lew



La Niña! The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said a "moderate to strong" La Niña looks to become one of the strongest on record throughout the winter. Pacific Northwest weather is expected to be colder and wetter than average this winter with increased mountain snow to the Pacific Northwest during the winter months. I wish you a very safe and enjoyable ski season and I hope to see you at our 2011 Ski Week in Sun Valley.

The July Board of Directors meetings were hosted by the **Grand Sierra Resort & Casino** in Reno, Nevada. These meetings were very productive in developing our current year programs and budget, along with approving our 2011 North American and International ski trips. FWSA is appreciative of the many sponsors who were a big part of the success of the FWSA summer meeting. Sponsors included: **Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, Alpine Meadows, Homewood Mountain Resort, Northstar-at-Tahoe, and Sierra-at-Tahoe.**

The FWSA Board of Directors held its winter meetings at Heavenly Mountain Resort and Harveys Lake Tahoe in South Lake Tahoe. I want to thank **Heavenly Mountain Resort, Harveys Lake Tahoe, South Tahoe Express, and Lakeland Village Beach & Mountain Resort** for their hospitality, excellent service, and partnership. We were able to conduct two full days of productive meetings and enjoyed skiing at **Heavenly Mountain Resort**. FWSA continues to thrive through its continued partnerships with the industry.

FWSA has received a grant from the California Skin Cancer *Randy Lew, FWSA President* Prevention Program to develop a program to inform young snowsports enthusiasts and their parents on the danger of skin cancer. The "Slip on your hat/helmet, slop on some sunscreen, slide on your sunglasses/goggles, and slither into the shade" will feature informative brochures, decals, and a sunscreen partner is being developed and administered by **Fran Long**, Trustee and Youth & Family Involvement Chair. We will be at the major ski shows in Los Angeles, San Jose, San Diego, and San Francisco and plan on being in Mammoth Mountain and Lake Tahoe area during school holiday periods.

The new 2010-2011 *Far West Skier's Guide* has been distributed to each Council and ski show that we have participated in. We are also distributing over 50% of these, utilizing Certified Folder Displays to reach the major metro areas that we serve. A big thank you to **Leigh Gieringer** for the outstanding job and tremendous effort that she put into it.

This year also marks the first fully interactive digital edition of the Skiers Guide that offers great articles and information on the ski areas and clubs. Please contact your Council President if you have not received your copies to distribute to your club members and go to www.fwsa.org for links to the digital edition. This is our major annual publication and it does a great service in advertising our many accomplishments and close relationship with our industry

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The 2010-2011 Far West Skier's Guide First Annual Digital Edition

Copies of the 23rd Annual Far West Skier's Guide have been sent directly to council presidents and Certified Folder distribution ski and sport shops within the region. Check with your council president to get your club's copies. The FWSA and I - as editor and publisher - are very excited to present the first interactive digital edition of the Far West Skier's Guide. It will be available by the end of the month on the www.fwsa.org website. Read the magazine online. Watch the videos. View the slide shows. And, link directly to numerous websites to find out the latest

information on resorts, council activities and more.

In addition, you will not want to miss Part Two of a feature article. Part One appears in the printed version. You can only find Part Two in the digital edition. Please go online to see our First Annual, and visit our advertiser's websites. Please include them in your future travel plans. Their sponsorships of the Guide make it possible to produce our fine publication. Thank you to all who contributed to this issue.

Councils or clubs wishing to have the FWSG link placed

directly on their websites, e-mail their request to me at fwsg@cox.net, or the FWSA webmaster at gwstewart@prodigy.net. Please feel



Leigh Gieringer
Skier's Guide Editor

free to get the word out. We encourage snowsport enthusiasts to tweet, add the link to their facebook pages and e-mail others all around the country to take a look. We sincerely hope you find the digital edition to be a valuable asset.

President's message

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partners. Please be sure your councils and clubs use them in recruiting new members.

I am very proud that our Athletic Scholarship Program under the leadership of *Dick Shawkey* has continued to grow. With the generosity of our industry partners **Whitefish Mountain Resort, Grouse Mountain Lodge, Karbon Skiwear and Canadian Mountain Holidays**; partnerships with Skiyente Ski Club, Mountain High Snowsports Club, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs, and San Diego Council of Ski Clubs; and a generous donation from Far West Racing Association; we were able to award \$12,050 in scholarships to 15 deserving junior racers. This year we had 36 outstanding young racers applying.

We also have a summer trip planned to New Zealand with a relaxing pre-trip to Rarotonga and a great post-trip extension to Sydney & Cairns, Australia. In addition, based on the success and participant response of the Cozumel trip,

we will look into doing another scuba dive trip in 2011!

Our 79th Convention, *Making History*, will be hosted by the Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs at the Pacific Palms Resort in Industry Hills, California June 9th – 12 2011. **David Krupp**, LAC Host Convention Chairman and **Jane Wyckoff**, FWSA Convention Chairperson have some very exciting activities planned for us including a pool party, Pub Crawl, Pacific Palms Spa Day, San Antonio Winery Tour and The Huntington Art Collection, Botanical Gardens". Also included is the 5th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament. They have been meeting regularly to plan all this fun. *Mike Sanford*, Past President is diligently working on lining up an all-star cast of celebrities and **Debbi Kor** is working on sponsorship for this great event.

Friday will include some optional activities and our industry show and Silent Auction. On Saturday, we will have our Travel Industry Expo, some professional panel sessions, and a session with

some very special guest speakers. We will also roll out the seventh and eighth modules of our very popular Snowsports Leadership Academy.

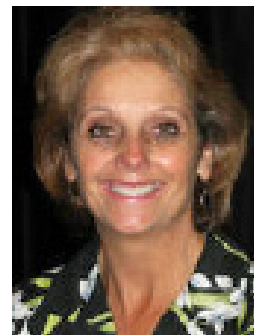
The 2012 Convention will be hosted by Intermountain Ski Club Council at the Ogden Eccles Conference Center, Ogden Marriott, and Hampton Inn in Ogden, Utah June 7 – 10, 2012. **Don Anderson**, Intermountain President is already planning a great event for us.

The success of FWSA is due to a significant number of volunteers who have contributed a tremendous amount of time and expertise. We have an ever increasing need for new volunteers. For those reading this article and want to get more involved, this is your opportunity. If you want more information on volunteering call (503-682-1563) or email (fwsa13randy@telis.org) me or one of our Functional VP's. All of our Functional VP's require a working committee to be truly successful.

Thank you for your continued support.

Viva La Nina

By Debbi Kor



*Debbi Kor
VP of Marketing and
Sponsorship*

The leaves are falling, the nights have turned cooler, and snow levels are coming down. You know what that means.....the ski season is just about here. People in the know are predicting a stellar year for on mountain sports, with lots of the fluffy white stuff!

As usual, our ski club councils are busy with their kick off events and working the various ski shows going on around the country. Everyone is getting hyped up about this incredible new ski season that has been promised to us. Warren Miller's *Wintervention* is a hit at the box offices, and the pre-season sales, and trip planning is in full swing. Clubs will be going to **Aspen/Snowmass, Big White Ski Resort/Silver Star Mountain Resort, Whistler/Blackcomb, Mt. Bachelor, Lake Tahoe resorts, and Steamboat Ski & Resort** to name a few places this coming season. And let's not forget the annual Far West Ski Week trip to Sun Valley Resort, as well as the international trip to Engelberg and Interlaken. Our industry partners are anxiously waiting for our club members to visit their ski areas for some good times.

In order to broaden our marketing spectrum, **Mary Olhausen** and I will be attending the Portland and Seattle Ski Shows again this year, as well as the Ski Dazzle show in San Jose in November. Our purpose is to continue to get the Far West name out there, and possibly entice some new Benefits Partners, and more attendees to our Silent Auction at convention in June.

Our list of Benefits Partners continues to grow. We now have everything from lodging and ski and board rentals, to discounted insurance rates, to low-cost Legal Service. How about that? **Prepaid Legal Service** is offering legal services for a reduced fee to all Far West members, with a portion of your signing fee, to

go to the Athletic Scholarship Program. **Sun River Resort** is offering reduced rates on their standard rooms and Lodge Suites again, while the **Grand Sierra Resort and Casino** in Reno have increased their discount to 25% for all FWSA members. **Ski Essentials** with us this year, with a 15% discount on ski rentals. **Liftopia.com** offers super discounts on advanced lift ticket purchases, and a little "extra something" for Far West Members. And, **KineSys** wants you to stay safe and sun-protected while wearing their sunscreen. They will give Far West members 15% off on any product ordered off their website. Not only are they offering lower prices on sunscreen products, they've partnered with Far West in the California Skin Cancer Prevention Program, and will be with us at several ski shows in San Diego, Los Angeles, Sacramento and San Francisco. They will also send their Solar Patrol to help us out with on-mountain samples later in the season. Check out the members benefits page for a complete listing of all of our Benefits Partners.

January brings the SIA show back to Denver for the second year. I will be there to check out all the fun and exciting new clothing, see what's new in hard lines, and talk with the vendors who visit the show from year to year. The show provides me great opportunity to meet with old friends, and make some new ones as I promote our wonderful organization and all the good things that we do. It also allows me some great contacts for many of the great door prizes we have at Convention. I'll bring back all that I can to share with you.

Packing a Ski Bag for Your Next Ski Trip

There are no two ways about it: going skiing requires a lot of "stuff." On top of your skis, boots and poles, you need to squeeze ski clothes, casual clothes, toiletries and dozens of other items into one or two suitcases that will fit in the overhead container on your flight

or the trunk of your car - and that's not including the rest of your family's gear. Cheer up. You don't need a moving van - just a few common sense tips for packing before your trip.

A great way to minimize what you have to haul around is to

rent your skis and poles at the resort - but not your boots. If it's a short trip like a long weekend, you should be able to easily fit everything into one or two carry-on bags. Most airlines allow you

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VP of North American Travel

550 to Attend Sun Valley Ski Week

By Gloria Raminha



*Gloria Raminha
VP of N American Travel*

Sun Valley, FWSA 2011 Ski Week

The Far West Ski Week for 2011 is just around the corner. Approximately 550 FWSA members will be attending our North American Ski Week in Sun Valley, Idaho, January 22 to 29. Our Travel Staff has been working with Steven Hall, Sandy Gaudette and Burt Witsil to prepare another spectacular FWSA ski week. The weeks activities will include racing, a welcome reception, pub crawl, mountain lunch, ice skating party, après awards party and a banquet and dance. Our theme for this ski week is: “Back to the “Fifties”, so bring your best fifties costumes and have some fun. I would like to thank all the Council Trip Leaders for doing such a fantastic job at promoting the ski week to their ski club members.

Our ski week participants will have two mountains to choose from. Bald Mountain is considered one of the world’s best ski mountains. The mountain offers consistent vertical form its 9,150 ft. peak down to the 5,750 ft. base. No flats, no plateaus—all downhill on a variety of slopes rated to your liking and ability. Dollar Mountain is considered by many to be the finest teaching mountain in the world and caters to the needs of beginner skiers.

If ski week participants wish to take some time off from skiing, their multi-day FWSA lift tickets may be redeemed for up to a \$40 value with activities such as: Ski or snowboard lessons, Nordic skiing, ice skating with lunch, Sunday Brunch in the lodge, a massage and much more. Check out the Sun Valley website for additional information.

Jackson Hole in 2012

Mark your calendars for 2012 North American Ski Week. Jackson Hole was selected for the FWSA Ski Week in 2012 which will be held January 28th to February 4th, 2012. Spencer Long with Jackson Hole and Mike Hibbard with Sports America Tours are excited to have the pleasure of hosting our 2012 ski week. As Spencer commented, “Our team worked hard to put together a competitive bid, and we’ll work even harder

to ensure the 2012 Ski Week is one of the most memorable that FWSA has ever had”.

I have been working with Spencer Long, Mike Hibbard and Sara Clemmons on putting together an itinerary for the Jackson Hole site inspection which is scheduled for February 10 to 13. Travel Staff and Council Trip Leaders will be touring a variety of lodging and facilities where we will hold the ski week activities.

With an impressive 2,500 acres of inbounds terrain and a diverse trail system, Jackson Hole allows both beginners and experts to enjoy everything from powder-filled chutes and bowls to long, wide-open groomers. Jackson Hole offers one of the most advanced lift systems in the country, which includes both an eight-passenger gondola accessing intermediate and family terrain and the iconic 100 passenger aerial tram leading to the expert’s winter playground. Jackson Hole sits at the gateway to Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park, which you’ll certainly find the sceneries breathtaking.

New England/Canadian Cruise

Ten participants (nine women and one man lucky guy) departed from New York harbor on September 25th on Carnival Cruise’s “Glory” ship. Our “ports of call” were Halifax in Nova Scotia, St. John in New Brunswick, Portland in Maine and Boston. There was so much history in all the areas we visited. The autumn leaves were just starting to turn and even though we didn’t get the full effect of the changing colors, the scenery was still awesome.

Our evening dining experience was entertaining. Every evening, we were seated together at a large round table. With Bob Kyser as our only man, he received lots of attention and was quite thrilled about it. Our group had lots of great conversations and fun times talking about the daily events that took place.

VP of International Travel

Chamonix - France for 2013

By Norm Azevedo

Antarctica Adventure and celebrate New Year's Eve in Buenos Aires is full....

FWSA with Holiday Ski Tours plans to leave December 29, 2010 for 15 days of cruise and three nights in Buenos Aires for New Year's Eve. After Buenos Aires we fly to Ushuaia and board the MS Fram for a 10 day Antarctica adventure. We will be joining other ski councils across the United States for this trip. Demand for this trip has been so successful that we will be doing it again in 2011/12.

Engelberg/Interlaken, Switzerland 2011 International Ski Week...Room Still Available

The cut-off date for the Switzerland trip is Nov. 24, 2010

Far West is going to spend five nights in Engelberg, Switzerland starting February 25, 2011. Engelberg is nestled beneath the 11624



foot Titlis Mountain. It's Switzerland's largest ski resort, and is one of the oldest mountain villages

in the country close to Zurich and Lucerne. After Engelberg, we bus to Interlaken for three nights. Interlaken lies between two lakes with castles, shops, great restaurants and is known for world-class chocolate. Interlaken Jungfrau winter sports region provides over 125 miles of runs within easy reach of Interlaken.

After Switzerland, we fly to Bansko Ski Area, Bulgaria (three nights) for a couple of days skiing, then on to Sofia for touring and staying two nights at the 5 star Hotel Anel. Bansko is 100 miles from Sofia. It's the biggest and most modern winter resort in the country. Bansko has archeological excavations and more. Sofia is Bulgaria's capital with over 250 historic landmarks and architectural monuments.

After Sofia, some will return to Zurich for a night and then home. Those who can afford more time will travel on to Romania for another week's adventure. Romania (Count Dracula's country) is the center of many cultures; we will tour feudal fortresses, Byzantine decorated monasteries and adorned village houses. We will trace "Dracula's Path" through Transylvania. Returning home from Budapest, we will spend a night and part of a day in Zurich before catching a Zurich flight.



*Norm Azevedo
VP of International Travel*

New Zealand Ski/Australia Tour – Starting July 24, 2011.....

We have a three part New Zealand ski and tour trip. It starts with a two nights pre-trip to the tropical island of Rarotonga (Cook Islands), then eight nights in New Zealand (Auckland, Wanaka & Queenstown) and finally an extension to Sydney/Cairns for a seven nights stay.



The New Zealand basic trip will begin in Wanaka, where you will stay two nights and enjoy skiing or sight seeing. We will then motor coach to Queenstown where you can ski again for four day. For those who do not ski, Queenstown has so much to see and do.

Take a riverboat or go across the lake for a New Zealand dinner and tour a sheep ranch with sheep shearing. You can experience white water rafting, bungee jumping, skydiving, a helicopter trip, or a

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Club Promotion: Time for That Winter Check-Up?

By David Krupp



David Krupp
VP of Membership

I don't believe I'm alone in thinking that the beginning of a club's annual year feels like it starts at about this time. Perhaps not the club's fiscal year, but, being that we are first and foremost *Snowsports Clubs*, it seems fitting that as we prepare for the coming winter season, it feels like the beginning once again. And, just like we will tune-up our gear and at least give a passing thought to working out, maybe it's time for a Club check-up. So, I thought I'd touch on an important topic as we rev up our engines for the coming season: Club Promotion.

I think the #1 issue facing many clubs today is the never ending quest to answer the question, "Why is our club membership dwindling?" I have thought about this issue for a number of years and being that I'm involved in membership, I can say that it is not due to any one reason, but rather, an amalgamation of several. But, I am not going to go into those here, mostly because it has more to do with a changing dynamic as opposed to something that needs fixing. Instead, the focus should be on promoting the club.

First, I would like to dispel a rumor. I have relayed the story more than once, of the time I was riding up a chairlift with a 20-something skier who announced to me that *ski clubs are kind of over*. That's like saying fan clubs are dead because the Beatles aren't around anymore. But he had a point. What has changed is that ski clubs are no longer a novelty. Members can't rely on the idea that ski clubs are the trend of the day. And therein lies the key.

We actually have to work to get and keep members. Once clubs *own up to that*, the rest falls into line. I know; I have seen it in action. So have you with the more successful clubs. We can learn a lot from the recent recession. Is Ford Motor Company going out of business? Nope. And they'll be a lean machine that will make a profit despite the fact that they likely will never see the market share they once had. And they'll have to work for it. As it should be. Things change, and we should embrace that.

With that, here are some points to consider:

1. What's the plan?
2. Do we have a marketing campaign? Who are we trying to reach?
3. What is our club about? Do we have a niche? What specific programs do we have?
4. Where are we conveying the message?
5. Are we prominent in the community?
6. What are we doing to promote snowsports?
7. Have we initiated relationships within the industry?
8. What happened to the members no longer in the club?
9. (To Councils) Are there clubs out there not members of our council?

To assist in these endeavors, there are a myriad of resources at your disposal. Here are a couple:

1. Snowsports Leadership CD put out by Far West (coming soon to the website)
2. The National Ski Council Federation web site www.ski federation.org

Address this topic head-on and I'm sure you'll see some fantastic results.

Questions?

Contact me at: membership@fwsa.org or sometime soon after November 13 at: Paranoid Flats, Chair 23, Mammoth Mountain, California.
See you on the slopes - DK.

VP of Communications

How Current is your Website?

By Linda Scott

In 2010, social media became mainstream. Ask yourself: Is your club and council doing everything possible, including using digital social-media, to reach new members, or are you still using the same old methods of communication and hoping for a better result?

Why not try all the social-media outlets out there in order to reach new members? Most of our member clubs now have websites, but, is the website truly functional? Is it updated regularly with current information? Can your group be found easily by a Google search? Has your group joined Facebook, Meetup, Twitter, LinkedIn and other electronic communication venues? Why not?

As leaders of organized snowsport groups, we all spend lots of time thinking about how best to communicate with our current members, as well as thinking about methods to attract new, young members to our clubs and councils. But consider this: A poll taken by the Harris Group concluded that the average person spends 13 hours per week on the internet, excluding checking email, outside of work. The study also concluded that the age group that spends the most time online per week is 30-39 year olds, at 18 hours per week.



*Linda Scott
VP of Communication*

So the question is: How can you best reach internet savvy, snowsports enthusiasts? I suggest that it's not going to be the old fashion way of communicating exclusively through newspaper ads and flyers. A static website won't get the job done either. So, how about reaching new members by using social-media outlets we know they already frequent?

Let's start using, and updating, our websites, Facebook, Meetup, LinkedIn, email and Twitter, while being alert for the next social-media outlet that gains popularity. There are lots of potential new members out there, but they have to know about you before they can join your group.

Our clubs and councils offer exciting and fun snowsport opportunities. Many of our member clubs and councils also offer year-round activities, so our job is to get the word out to come join us, have fun, and make new friends. So let's get busy, step up our social-media game, and start working on all the new and exciting ways to get our message out to the next generation of skiers and boarders!

Packing a Ski Bag

Continued from Page 2

to bring aboard one carry-on bag and another personal bag like a laptop case, diaper bag or purse.

Since coats and outer garments don't count as carry-on bags, consider wearing your ski parka on the plane. You can stuff your gloves, goggles, neck gaiter and a hat into the pockets. Underneath, wear your "evening" wear. At most resorts, you can get into the ritziest restaurants wearing jeans and a turtle neck.

To be ready for any type of weather, pack multiple layers such as long underwear tops and bottoms, turtlenecks, fleece middle-layer garments (both vests and those with sleeves) and sweaters. You can roll all of these up and stuff them into your carry-on bag. If you're bringing a laptop in a case, you'll probably have room in some of its storage compartments for things like toiletries, medications and a book to read on the flight.

Planning a longer trip? You'll probably have to check at least one of your bags - usually your ski bag. bring just one pair of skis. You can fill the rest of the bag with things like outer garments, iPods and extra clothes in addition to your ski equipment. If you're checking your bags, be sure to carry your ski boots onto the plane. store your medications, toiletries and at least one day's worth of ski clothes inside your boot bag, in case your checked baggage gets delayed.

Packing for your next ski trip isn't hard if you plan ahead. There are dozens of simple ways to cut corners and costs. Of course, if money is no object you can do what one affluent family did on a ski trip to: buy all of your ski clothes and gear at the resort, use it for a week, and then leave it behind for the housecleaning staff.

*By Allen R. Smith, Equipment
Editor: OnTheSnow.com*

IOC Stalls Again on Women's Ski Jumping for Olympics at Sochi in 2014

USSA Denies Funding until Inclusion in the Olympics

By John Watson

October 25 from WSJUSA and conference call same date. The Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee is looking favorably at adding women's ski jumping to the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, but said it needed more time to consider the outcome of the sport's World Championships in Oslo in February. IOC President Jacques Rogge will make the final decision personally by the end of April. The EB also said it is considering the inclusion of Ski Halfpipe, Ski Slopestyle, Snowboard Slopestyle, Biathlon Mixed Team Relay, Figure Skating Team Event and Luge Team Relay for the Olympic Winter Games in Sochi in 2014. The Executive Board didn't elaborate on the exact criteria that needed to be met at the World Championships in Oslo, but said they wanted to see *progress made* since the last Championships in 2009.

See IOC press release at <http://www.olympic.org/en/content/Olympic-Games/All-Future-Olympic-Games/Winter/Sochi-2014-winter-olympics/?articleNewsGroup=-1&articleId=104986>.

(Interestingly, none of the other six candidates have had a world championship event. Rules were revised that formerly required TWO world championships to be included in the Olympics. WSJ had a World Championship in 2009.)

The International Ski Federation has recommended twice to the IOC to include women's ski jumping in Sochi; three World Championships will have taken place before 2014; and a new World Cup circuit starts in 2011/2012. Since 2006, when the IOC turned down a women's ski jumping event for 2010, at least three more countries have women ski jumpers competing at the elite level including Romania, Russia and China.

"We consider this a win and are looking forward to Oslo, where we know we will show the world the strength and depth of the women's field and are even more optimistic about our inclusion in the Sochi 2014 Games," said Deedee Corradini, Women's Ski Jumping USA President. End release.

The Executive Board (EB) of the IOC will meet Oct. 24-26 in Acapulco, Mexico following a joint

meeting with the National Olympic Committees. According to an IOC release, "...the EB will ... decide on the disciplines and events that will be included in the sports programme of the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi." IOC rules require that new disciplines for an Olympics be approved three years before the Games. The IOC Program Commission, which met Sept. 30 at IOC headquarters in Lausanne, is expected to provide its recommendations to the EB on new disciplines for the Sochi sports program, a package rumored in the media to include women's ski jumping and ski halfpipe. (The process goes FIS-PC-EB-IOC. Stay tuned on FWSA.org and the FWSA News.)

The International Ski Federation has recommended twice to the IOC to include women's ski jumping in Sochi; three World Championships will have taken place before 2014; and a new World Cup circuit starts in 2011/2012. After hearing the jumpers' inspiring story, a New York fine-art photographer organized a benefit on Oct. 21 in New York City to help raise money to send the women's team to the World Championships in Oslo, Norway in February 2011. There will be 20 nations competing. Note that the jumpers will need support to compete in the championships in Oslo next February.

WSJUSA estimates that it requires \$200k/year to field a team, mostly for coaching. Go to FIS-ski.com/jumping/women for a jumping event schedule. USSA has waffled on financial support, delaying any support until women's jumping is in the Olympics, and that means no funding until Rogge makes his announcement. That's the whole season!

"I am hopeful that the IOC Executive Board will vote the women into Sochi 2014 because we have advanced women's ski jumping significantly since the decision was made not to include the women in Vancouver 2010," said Deedee Corradini, longtime women's jumping advocate and president of Women's Ski Jumping USA.

"Approval for Sochi 2014 is huge for the advancement of the sport — it will further bring many more young women and girls in to the sport that have stayed away because they haven't been welcome on

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“We’re taking extra legs, just in case”

...thus spoke Disabled Sports, USA Executive Director Kirk Bauer this summer as the climb began! Three American veterans from three different wars and two different generations had only one good leg among them. But that didn’t stop them from summiting Africa’s highest peak, Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Kirk Bauer didn’t need two legs to climb, Dan Nevins and Neil Duncan didn’t even need one. Appropriately called *Team Missing Parts in Action* the three men, veterans of Afghanistan, Iraq and Vietnam had only one good leg and more than 19,000 feet to climb.

They scrambled, clawed, plodded, skidded and fell. They removed their legs to adjust their shoes. And after

If I can do this, I can do anything

six days of climbing they stood at 19,340 feet, at the top of the highest mountain in Africa. Totally amazing!

Kirk Bauer, who lost his leg in Vietnam in 1969 put it this way: “The message we’re trying to send back to the USA is no matter what disability you have, you can be active. If three amputees with literally one good leg can climb Kilimanjaro, our other disabled friends can get out and go hiking or go biking or swim a mile, can get out and lead a healthy life.”



Three tough veterans keep on trekking



Neil Duncan, who lost both legs in Afghanistan



Sigrid Noack, Soo Jeong Lee, Steve Lefkowitz, Christiane Kosger. The Unrecables were named Ralphs Community Program favorite charity.



Kirk Bauer, who lost a leg in Vietnam

By Sigrid Noack

Charities & Our Community Chairperson

2010 Charity Challenge to all our FWSA Councils



*Sigrid Noack, Charities
& Our Community Chair*

Our *Community Service Awareness Program* is all about getting more involved with charitable activities. The challenge is to have every one of our clubs in every council be involved with at least one charity this year. I hope to reach this goal by convention 2011.

We need YOUR support! We know that most of our councils and clubs are already involved with charitable organizations, which is outstanding and quite phenomenal! But now ...

FWSA is aiming for 100% charitable involvement!

I'm looking forward to seeing every FWSA club involved with a charity.

Will YOUR council be the first to reach this 100% goal?

Club Charity Updates

Fire & Ice Ski & Social Club in BAC has been donating \$100 a month to the 'Help Save Haiti' effort. The club challenged all other clubs to participate and donate what they can. The club also suggested that Frequent Flier Miles can be donated toward this cause. For more information contact Michelle Toney at mstoney272001@yahoo.com.

Altair Ski & Sports Club of NWSCC held a Baked Goods

Auction at their club meeting raising \$1,031 for the American Cancer Society. Members baked the goods at home, then they were auctioned off at a club meeting. The humorous auctioneer livened up the delicious evening. Contact Diane O'Keefe at okeefe@uoregon.edu.

Bend Ski Club of NWSCC raised \$995 for Oregon Adaptive Sports (OAS). The club moved their regular meeting to Bend's first class Phoenix Hotel and sold raffle tickets 10 for \$10. They invited the public and members of OAS. It was a fun and successful evening for the 70+ attendees. Contact Al Pierce at apiercex3@gmail.com.

Skiyente Ski Club of NWSCC makes Charities their #2 priority every year, right behind skiing. (Or is it the other way around?) The club budgeted \$1800 to be donated to three main charities. At a club meeting charities were nominated and three were selected to receive \$600 each: The Erin Nicole Scholarship Fund, Mt.Hood Cultural Center, and Mt.Hood Ski Patrol. Contact Peg Ortnor at orty3@comcast.com.

The Unrecables Ski Club of LAC has been hosting a Silent Auction at the annual LAC Snow Gala for several years, raising

funds to support their ski program for persons with disabilities. Members of this LA Chapter of Disabled Sports, USA go door to door asking for donations from restaurants, hotels, sporting goods stores, food stores, any establishments that find it in their heart to support the program. Several LAC ski clubs help with financial support as well as via the Ralphs Community Service Program, by naming The Unrecables as the charity of their choice. Check out ralphs.com and name The Unrecables as your favorite charity. Contact Sigrid at skisig@earthlink.net. Thank you so much.

2011 FWSA Charity & Community Service Recognition

The FWSA Charity & Community Service Recognition will again be awarded to a club or council, who is most actively involved with charitable work. The deadline for application is March 15, 2011, and they can be downloaded from the fwsa.org website, under programs and community service. For more information, please contact Sigrid at skisig@earthlink.net.

Athletic Scholarship Chairperson

FWSA Awards Scholarships

The Far West Ski Association has awarded its 2010 athletic scholarships to fifteen young alpine ski racers from four western states. Two recipients are from Oregon, three are from Washington, nine are from California and one is from Nevada. The five junior men and 10 junior women have an average grade point average (GPA) of 3.83. Seven of the athletes completed the 2009-2010 season in the top ten for their class in one or more disciplines.

Six of the recipients received scholarships in 2009. This year, a member of the USSA's development team will receive a \$1000 scholarship. Keith Moffat, a former member of the Squaw Valley Ski Team, is currently enrolled at Dartmouth University. The value of scholarship range from \$500 to \$1,000.

We are especially pleased to welcome three new program partners: Mountain High Snowsports Club of Portland, OR, The Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs and the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs. Together with our first partner, Skiyente Ski Club of Portland, OR, these clubs and councils have contributed \$2550 to the scholarship program. Including the \$9500 raised through our raffles, auctions and contributions, this year's scholarships (total \$12,050) exceeds last year's scholarship fund by \$2000.

Thanks to the generosity of the Far West Racing Association (FWRA), the Scholarship Program increased the funding that resulted from the raffle and auctions at the 2010 FWSA Convention. The FWRA and our partners account



*Dick Shawkey
Athletic Scholarship Chairman*

for almost 50% of this year's scholarship budget. The FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program continues to be indebted to its sponsors:

Canadian Mountain Holidays
(canadianmountainholidays.com),

Whitefish Mountain Resort
(skiwhitefish.com),

Grouse Mountain Lodge
(grousemountainlodge.com), and

Schure Sports Inc. (karbon-mail.com), maker of the Karbon brand of snow sports apparel.

Women's Ski Jumping

Continued from Page 8

the ultimate stage: the Olympics," Corradini said. More athletes and new countries join the competition circuit every year.

The elite WSJUSA team (there are 9) includes seven from Far West in the Park City/Salt Lake Area and one each in Minnesota and Lake Placid (though she's attending a prestigious ski jumping school in Austria this year. There are roughly 100 USA jumpers beyond the elite team members.

Being included in the Olympic program also would make athlete

and program sponsorship much easier, Corradini said. In May 2009, the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association cut all funding to the women's ski jumping team because it was not part of the Olympic program. Women's Ski Jumping USA (WSJUSA), a nonprofit foundation, took over financial responsibility for the team last year and continues to raise money to get elite jumpers to competitions and pay for the coach.

When asked if women are ready to jump in the Olympic Games, Alissa Johnson gives an emphatic, "Yes. This would give

a lot of the older athletes more inspiration to continue with their careers. But most importantly, it would mean that our long struggle over the last decade would finally come to an end. We would finally have the opportunity to accomplish our dreams," Johnson said.

For more information, contact:

Whitney Childers
Women's Ski Jumping USA
Glee Media
wchildersmedia@gmail.com
801-503-6099
gleemedia.com

History-related Program Submissions for 2011

By John Watson, History Chair

Steamboat Western Ski History Prize. Submissions date set for now at March 19 with content guidelines as shown on FWSA.org. Time is required for judging and memento inscription. Prize is a one week stay in Steamboat. See FWSA.org for details or any changes there and on FWSA News. Hardcopy to Bowker and Watson (2), prefer digital submissions.

Club/Council History Recognition. This requires a full history of the submitter's organization, in digital format, with history due March 19. If hard copy, send one copy to VP-Public Affairs Bowker, two to Watson. Guidelines previously outlined, shown on FWSA.org. Details or changes there or on FWSA News. Prize of \$100 for charity of choice.

Designation as FWSA Historic Club or Council. Designation is as endorsed by Board of Directors. Since that meeting is in April, submission deadline is March 19 also. However, requests for designation may be submitted anytime during the year. Designation is announced

at the annual meeting with a certificate (2010 certificates are still in work). Designation allows the use of the FWSA logo in companion with the club logo and the phrase historic ski club FWSA, in hardcopy or digitally. Designation is on the basis of a club history summary of one or two pages and must show proof of operation for at least 50 years. Submit request to Watson.

Snowsports Builder Award Nomination. We can take ideas for honorees. The honoree is someone who has made an indelible positive impact on snowsports. It is not a FWSA service award, but rather an award from the greater community. Naturally, we'd like that person to be from the Far West. It takes some research to get all the pertinent facts on a nominee, so we need documentation accompanying any ideas. And need also by the March 19 master deadline. Send ideas to John Watson.

Roll of Remembrance. Please collect your passages during the year and compile them before the April Board of Directors meeting.

Each entry should include affiliation and any achievements in a sentence or two. Since these names are read at the annual meeting and then incorporated into the minutes of the meeting, make sure that you give Watson (or the reader for the session) a legible list not later than Friday of the meeting of any names not shown on your previously communicated list.

Other Related Tasks. Don't forget to think about your nomination for FWSA service awards. And be prepared to submit your input for the delegate book. And any presentations you must make at the annual meeting. And your Councilman article. All these things come due about the same time in the spring. It's a frenetic time. Remember also to use FWSA News each month if you have alerts to send out. Update your input to the FWSA webpages. If you have major policy issues you want considered, take it to your council and think about a carefully worded, legible Resolution for the Sunday General Session.

Recycled features at Heavenly are changing the face of their terrain parks, while helping the environment.

By Aaron Kahn

Jibbers looking for unique ways to push the limits and test their skills are flocking to the High Roller terrain parks at Heavenly to jib their unusual array of recycled features. Mike Thomas, terrain park manager at Heavenly, took the use of mountain trash as terrain park elements to a new level three years ago.

"Mountain trash is anything from the mountain that would otherwise be thrown away," Thomas said. "Some resorts are building recycled features, but no

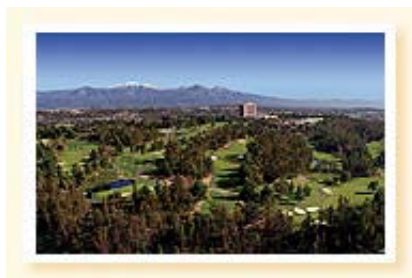
one is doing 15-plus features and committing to a full terrain park."

These park features, painted green to be easily recognizable, are built from mountain refuse that would otherwise be discarded. At Heavenly, corrugated pipes and snow-cannon towers are turned into rails. The park crew also modifies propane tanks and tops them with a used snow cat-track for wall rides and stalls.

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**FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION'S
79th Annual Convention
& Snowsports Leadership Academy**
Hosted by Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs
Making History



***Pacific Palms Hotel & Conference Center - Industry Hills, California
June 9-12, 2011***



Convention Highlights:

- Silent Auction, Travel Expo, Celebrity Speakers
- Saturday Awards Luncheon
- Celebrity Multi-Media Presentation
- Saturday Awards Banquet & Dance
- Public Affairs Panel
- Snowsports Leadership Academy
- FWSA General Meeting and Elections

Fun Optional Activities:

- Pub Crawl, The Spa at Pacific Palms Day
- The Huntington Art Collections & Botanical Gardens
- San Antonio Winery Tour, Pool Party
- Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament

Information

- Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Convention Chairperson
janewyckoff1@cox.net Phone: 949-933-9607
- Mary Olhausen, Silent Auction/Travel Expo Chairperson
omary52@comcast.net Phone: 503-880-7383
- David Krupp, LAC Host Convention Chairperson
david.krupp@roadrunner.com Phone: 310-319-3757

Transportation:

- Los Angeles and Ontario International Airports
- Personal Shuttle Service or Taxi

Hotel Amenities:

- 292 Spacious Rooms and Suites with Balconies
- Hilltop Oasis Pool and Sauna
- Fitness Center, Luxury Lifestyle Spa
- Live Entertainment, 3 Restaurants
- Two Championship Golf Courses
- Wireless Internet Service

Hotel Reservations:

- Pacific Palms Hotel & Conference Center
- One Industry Hills Parkway
- City of Industry, CA 91744
- www.PacificPalmsHotelUSA.com

Rates per night plus tax:

- Single/Double Occupancy \$145
- Executive Level Upgrade \$175

- Rates available 3 days pre and post Convention
- No Resort Fees, Complimentary Parking
- Call 1-800-524-4557

- Group Name: Far West Ski Association
- Reservations on-line at:

www.pacificpalmsresort.com/FWSAlogin.htm
Login: fwsa Password: 2011

Complete 2011 Convention information will be available on the FWSA website: www.fwsa.org

Making History in L.A. at the 2011 FWSA Convention

by Cindy Krupp, Host Council Convention Promotion Coordinator

Once again, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs is excited to host the 79th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention, which will take place June 9-12, 2011 when we plan on *Making History* with a weekend filled with celebration, recognition, development, and...oh yeah, some business, too!

The Convention will be held at the Pacific Hotel and Conference Center in Industry Hills, located just 25 minutes from downtown Los Angeles. Recently renovated, the Resort will be practically ours with 292 oversized rooms, each with a balcony. The Resort has a variety of food and beverage options including fireside dining and cocktail seating on the patio overlooking Celebration Lake. The resort is centrally located between the major airports in the L.A. area: LAX, Ontario, Burbank, Long Beach and John Wayne. There are no resort fees and parking is complimentary.

Pacific Palms is proud to boast its 36 hole championship golf course which just received a multimillion dollar makeover (I know, it's so L.A.!). If that's not your speed, how about The Spa at Pacific Palms which offers a tranquil setting and unique treatments tailored for your customized experience. The fitness center and wireless internet service are complimentary. In addition, the hilltop oasis pool and sauna offer views of the city like you've never seen before.

Please check www.fwsa.org for pricing. When making your reservation, call 800.524.4557. Use the group name Far West Ski Association. Alternatively, you can make reservations online through the FWSA/Pacific Palms Convention Reservation website located at www.pacificpalmsresort.com/FWSAlogin.htm, login:fwsa, password: 2011. The Pacific Palms Hotel and Conference Center website is located at www.pacificpalmsresort.com.

The 5th Annual Michael German Golf Tournament will be conveniently held on the Babe Zaharias Course at the Industry Hills Golf Club at Pacific Palms, one of California's most historic and noteworthy golf facilities. The Industry Hills Golf Club at Pacific Palms was named "2010 Golf Course of the Year" by the National Golf Course Owners Association. Just in case you didn't catch the hint earlier, it's where the extreme

makeover took place. Breakfast and Barbecue lunch will be served. We're planning additional fun and frolic with optional activities including a Pub Crawl, Pacific Palms Spa Day, San Antonio Winery Tour, The Huntington Art Collection and Botanical Gardens visit, and a Pool Party.

Bring your friends to the Silent Auction and Dance on Friday night where you'll find great deals on ski packages Door prizes and special give-a-ways are yours for the taking. There is no admission charge and the event includes a complimentary drink. And if you don't get to chat with industry representatives that night, don't worry! You'll get a second chance at the Travel Expo on Saturday where over 100 resort representatives and tour operators will be there to answer questions on how to plan your group's next trip.

Snowsport celebrities will be featured at the afternoon Multi-Media Presentation, and special historical presentations about Hollywood and local skiing legends will be made throughout the weekend.

This year's FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy promises again to offer valuable information to take back to your councils and clubs. Topics will include building membership through racing and personal equipment and revisiting the subject of what to do when you take the position of an officer in your club. You won't want to miss it!

Saturday night is when we let our hair down...or rather I should say when we put it up. The Awards Banquet and Dance is our excuse to get spruced up. Volunteer and industry recognition awards will be presented during the evening. Put your dancing shoes on and be ready to have a great time!

And of course, it wouldn't be a FWSA Convention if we didn't take care of business. Officers will be elected on Sunday. If you want your club's voice to be heard, it's through your choice! Contact David Krupp, Host Council Convention Chairman at david.krupp@roadrunner.com for additional information. Industry members can contact Debbi Kor, VP of Marketing, fwsadebbi@comcast.net.

Registration materials will be distributed early in 2011 by clubs and councils. Registration information will be available on www.fwsa.org. So, come on down

canyon jet boat ride. On the pre-trip to Ratotonga, you can scuba dive or snorkel on this beautiful island. We will have a party with drinks and finger food; every morning you will enjoy a tropical island breakfast.

In Australia, we will go to Sydney and take a Captain Cook Coffee Cruise and then enjoy three nights visiting the city. After Sydney, we will stay in Cairns for four nights. You can snorkel, scuba dive, or relax on the beach. You can also swim with the seals and dolphins. So much to do!! We are now taking registrations for this exciting adventure and opportunity to ski New Zealand.

Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, France 2012 Annual International Ski Week..

We are going to Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, France at the end of February/March, 2012.



This will be our annual international ski week with the normal pre and post extensions. Chamonix offers skiing/snowboarding for all levels. The first Winter Olympic games were hosted by Chamonix in 1924, it consecrated the valley as a winter Mecca.

Chamonix today, is a popular tourist destination that links Italy via the Mont-Blanc tunnel. Put this ski week on your 2012 planning calendar.

2013 International Ski Week

Please contact us with any suggestions you have for FWSA's 2013 Annual International Ski Week. We will be making a resort selection shortly.

For trip flyers and details go to www.fwsa.org, or contact Norm & Mary Azevedo, or go to fwsaitravel@sbcglobal.net, or call (925-944-9816).

VP of Councils



*Don Anderson, VP of Councils and
Intermountain Council President*

Council Presidents looking at new membership options

As clubs and councils struggle with reduced membership numbers due to the poor economy, new and creative ideas must be explored. Fewer members mean less revenue from membership dues, trip attendance and fundraising events. A wide variety of expenses continue with many of them actually increasing, so staying *in the black* is becoming more of a challenge on all levels. Since most clubs and council are *not for profit*, we are governed by special rules and have to be very careful how we generate and record income.

Several councils have been working on revising their By Laws to allow Affiliated Members. This new status permits a *for profit* entity, like a ski resort or ski lodge, to become a non-voting member. Revenue charged for membership or advertising is then considered *member contributed income* and not subject to IRS treatment as outside income, so no taxes are paid on it. This can make a big difference for small councils as most are limited to 10% of the income can come from outside sources. The risk at worst, losing your *not for profit* status, and at best, paying taxes on that income. Before offering this new membership status, your council By-laws must be revised and best to include the *non-voting* provision to keep the IRS happy. Thanks to the National Ski Council Federation meeting two years ago in having the IRS educate us about this tricky but very worthwhile membership status.

This is the time of year to start the process for the Man/Woman of the Year competition within your clubs, so please remind them.

Youth and Family Involvement

Far West Ski Association was recently awarded a grant through the California Skin Cancer Prevention Program. The grant's focus must be on children 12 years old and younger. The FWSA program, "Slip, Slop, Slide, Slither with Savvy Snake", is an outreach awareness program designed to provide awareness information to adults who, in turn, will share that information with their children, grandchildren, etc. We are excited about this program and the opportunity it provides for FWSA to promote skin safety on the slopes.



Informational brochures, sunscreen samples, and decals for children will be distributed at major ski shows this fall.

Additional distribution will take place at Mammoth Mountain and Tahoe ski areas during a peak school holiday in order to reach even more children. We hope to distribute materials to 3000 or more individuals during the upcoming ski season.

If you are planning to attend a ski show this season, look for our banner and skin cancer prevention information at one of the ski council booths.



Fran Long, Youth and Family Involvement Chairperson

Slip on your hat/helmet, slop on some sunscreen, slide on your sunglasses/goggles, and slither into the shade

Recycled Features

continued from page 17

"Riders love it," Thomas said enthusiastically. "The sport is becoming increasingly urban and riders are craving elements that you wouldn't normally see in the park."

The skiers aren't the only ones loving these recycled innovations. In 2008, *Ski Area Management* (SAM) Magazine recognized Heavenly for their forward thinking terrain park projects. Since then, recycled features have been popping up around the country.

"We certainly aren't the originators of this idea. We just

wanted to take it to the next level to make people aware of how much resorts can waste, and how Heavenly works differently," Thomas said. "Then after the program began, we started to expand and show people how much they could be wasting at home."

Instead of throwing out an old tire, Thomas said he hopes that people will try to border their garden with the rubber before tossing it aside.

Heavenly has also seen tremendous savings by virtually eliminating disposal costs and reusing materials to build new features. Thomas estimates the cost to build a fun-box with new materials at about \$3000, but to

build one from three old fun-boxes, welded together, is essentially free.

"It costs about \$300 to dispose of a blown-out tractor tire, so we're saving tons of money by reusing our trash in the park," Thomas said. "Not only that, but our park has taken on a really unique look."

In light of the program's success, Thomas is planning another 15 projects. He's also collaborating with pipe and skier-cross Junior World Champion Kyle Smaine to develop a new signature feature for the season. Kyle's Feature will be a down/flat/down rail with a 19-degree bend before the second drop.

Arizona Ski Council



Mike Rogers
Arizona Council President

One year later the by-law review is complete. Why do a review? Simple things and times have changed. It is imperative that non-profit organizations do a continual review and in the case of Arizona a total review and major re-write adjusted the organization so it can expand and be attractive to other sports groups.

This month marks the addition of a new club into the Arizona Ski Council. In earlier articles there was discussion of having clubs specialize in a sports venue to make that available to all the other clubs. In Arizona this is becoming a reality. The Arizona Sailing Club has joined the council. The effort to attract other clubs is growing. There are skiers and snowboarders in these other organizations.

The Arizona Council has also supported the ski



clubs by shifting the council level trips to the summer months. These activities are designed to get the club members out of the heat and up in the mountains. This year a wine tasting trip and bike ride were highlighted. Plans are already in work to visit a few of the resorts for golf and hiking.

As the snow begins to fall the Zonies dust off the skis and get the wax ready. This year, the trips have fewer pillows. It is just reflective of the economic times.

Arizona has trips planned from December through April. Visit their website at <http://www.arizonaskicouncil.org/> for more detailed information.

BAC Ski Council



Dennis Heffley
BAC President

This has truly been a time of accomplishments for the Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC)!

On September 3, 2010 we held our 5th BAC / Oakland Athletics / DSUSA Baseball Game and Tailgate BBQ Fund Raiser. We had over 70 members of our clubs, their families and friends at our Tailgate BBQ prior to the game. There were 90 of us at our field level seats for the game. \$400.00 was raised that evening for Disabled Sports USA. Thank you to **Norm and Mary Azevedo** for assisting to make this event a success.

The BAC has sold out their allotted spaces (120 “pillows”) for the upcoming 2011 FWSA Ski Week to Sun Valley Ski Resort. Paula Kinahon (BAC Travel Director) has done a tremendous job of getting out the information and answering any and all questions. The BAC has also put together a small trip for the second time to Park City Talk is already going around about the 2012 FWSA Ski Week to Jackson Hole.

The BAC held a Club President and Representative meeting on September 13, 2010. Our focus that night was *Planning for the Future*. Many things were discussed and shared to get our member clubs prepared for the upcoming ski season. We talked about the race season, available trips, FWSA Convention, fund raising efforts & etc. The BAC Board of Directors has targeted April 11, 2011 as our next meeting of this style.

The San Francisco Bay Area is going to be busy with Ski/Snowboard shows in November. There is the SnowBomb Show at Ft. Mason in San Francisco Nov. 6 & 7. Then the SnowBomb Silicon Valley Show in Santa Clara, CA Nov. 13 & 14. The BAC has a booth at both show locations where we will be sharing information about the Far West Ski Association, National Ski Council Federation, Bay Area Snowsports Council and our member clubs.

Central Council



Fran Long, Central Council President

Central Council recently volunteered at the Salinas International Air Show. This one and only fundraiser not only provides a bit of operating money for the council, but also offers a great social opportunity for council members. This year, 18 council members from Camber Ski Club in Salinas, Avalanche Ski Club in Bakersfield, and SLO Skiers in San Luis Obispo provided the labor and enjoyed the social benefits of working as a council team.



The Council is excited about ski season this year. Four weekend Mammoth trips are in the works. Three of the trips, December, January, and March will coincide with FWSA racing. Hopefully, we will have a few racers on each trip! The final trip will be Ski Club Appreciation Weekend. In addition, several of our clubs will be represented on the FWSA Sun Valley ski week trip in January.

Santa Barbara Ski Club, Fresno Ski Club, and SLO Skiers all have extensive winter travel programs open to their membership as well as members of other Central Council clubs on an availability basis. Contact those clubs directly for information on their winter trip program.

Sierra Council



Jo Simpson, Sierra Council President

Sierra Council is starting the season with our annual holiday party, Dec. 11, at the Lodge in Tahoe-Donner. We will announce our Council Man and Woman of the Year at this event.

To round out the weekend, the Sierra Race League will have a Carving Cup race on Sunday, Dec. 12. Carving Cup is a fun way to experience racing, where racers ski around cones instead of gates. It provides a change of pace for experienced racers and a relaxing introduction to racing for beginners. Regular races for Sierra will begin Jan. 8 and 9 at Alpine Meadows.

Sierra has 67 participants going to ski week at Sun Valley. The clubs have their trip schedules set. The Reno Ski and Recreation Club is going to Aspen/Snowmass for a week. The Las Vegas Ski and Sports Club has a full schedule of trips that include Mammoth Mountain, Aspen, South Lake Tahoe, and Brighton/Solitude, Ogden, and Brian Head, Utah.

After a successful trial season last year, Sierra League will be sharing the race hill with the Bay Area Council Singles League for all our regular season races this season. This collaboration will increase competition and hold down costs for both leagues.

Sierra will be offering two race clinics at Boreal February 19-20 to get new racers started and to help experienced racers improve. Because our top league racers volunteer their time as coaches at these clinics, the clinic costs are minimal for excellent coaching.

Sierra Council proudly salutes Jim Sommer of the Reno Ski and Recreation Club who was named FWSA Man of the Year. We are so proud to have one of our members receive this high award honor.



Northwest Ski Club Council

Whoever thinks the summer is an *off season* for snowriders has never been a ski club officer! Summer is that time of the year when your board members start fine-tuning their club calendars and trips. New board members are welcomed and brought up-to-speed, and *old* board members are able to dig in with the strengths that their experience brings to their activities. So all you club members out there, shake the hand of your board members. They've been working hard the past few months and now it's time to party!

NWSCC is VERY excited to introduce FWSA to a new club from another "volcano" state: the Hawaii Ski Club! These snowriders have a passion for their sport that few of us can match—they have to travel long and far to hit the slopes, not to mention pay a crapload of money! Welcome, Hawaii!

Our PACRAT race league has also been busy over the summer. PACRAT is the proud owner of a new wireless timing system that will enable the league to expand their racing horizons. They're also a brand new NASTAR franchise, so each and every PACRAT racer will be able to earn NASTAR points while they're tearing up the slopes on Mt. Hood. PACRAT took the extra step this season to hold a special *PACRAT 101* party, and encouraged all racers, new and not-so-new, to come and enjoy some munchies, beverages, and a nifty little orientation program that included updates on the new

equipment and a "go-over" of PACRAT rules and new by-laws. A *practice race* in December included an après party at the Grand Lodges in Government Camp, and a wine tasting party featuring Hood River's Naked Winery (yep, that's their name!). This will be followed by five league races and the end-of-the-season Rat Attack.

The Bachelor Blast is in the final stages of planning, and **Linda McGavin** and **Debbi Kor** have put together a fabulous trip, April 8-10



at Mt. Bachelor. Also in the planning stages are an Alaska Cruise and a return of our Fall Fest, a September outing in Bend that includes golf, croquet, and more fun in the Central Oregon sun.

And don't forget the *Northwest Ski Challenge*, now in its eighth year! It only takes lift tickets from seven different Northwest (Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska) resorts to be in the running for some fun prizes, including a 10-time pass to **Mt. Hood Meadows**. Congratulations to Jay and Dorothy Hart for being our first winners from Washington during the 2010 season!

Clubs are also already deep into preparation for their respective charities events. The *Oregon*



Sheri Parshall
Northwest Council President

Cancer Ski-Out will be the beneficiary of several fundraisers that have already happened, which precede the March race and silent auction. *Hope on the Slopes* for the American Cancer Society will also be celebrating its third year at **Mt. Hood Ski Bowl**. The *Outdoors-For-All Gala* in October raised funds for their programs for developmentally-challenged athletes, and Oregon Adaptive Sports will be hosting several events at Hoodoo, including a *Heroes in Sisters* event (part of the national *Wounded Warriors* program, and an annual *Snowathalon*, a multi-sport event that includes snowshoeing, alpine and Nordic legs, also at **Hoodoo Ski Resort**.

It's a *La Nina* year according to the Weather Guys (mystical genie-like creatures who are supposed to be telling us how much snow we're going to get), which means there should be tons of snow in the Northwest. Hope we see some of you up here! If you're coming, be sure to give us a shout—we're happy to come play with you. May you enjoy a cold winter, with warm

Orange Ski Council

Orange Council has been very busy this Fall Season 2010. All Orange Council ski clubs have selected and are currently promoting their ski trip schedules for the winter season 2010-2011. Some of the trips the council and ski clubs are offering this year are: Sun Valley Idaho, FWSA Ski Week, Park City, Utah, Steamboat Springs, Colorado, for more information on these and other trips please refer to Orange Council Ski Clubs, www.orangecouncil.org or you can contact

Shiela Van Guilder, VP Travel for the Orange Council at svanguil@roadrunner.com.

For those club members who cannot take a week off to attend one of our week long trips, each club offers weekend bus trips / and or drive up trips to Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort.

Racing continues to be a strong force in Orange Council. **Maxine Hanlon**, VP Racing, has announced the 2010-2011 Race schedules. Please see www.orangecouncil.org for listing of race dates.

Orange Council and club members have had a busy fall. In September 60 club members walked or ran the Susan B. Komen *Race for the Cure* in Newport Beach. This team started about ten years ago with six club mem-

bers and has grown to about 50-60 people. Each year the team grows larger. Way to Go!!

In October, approximately 35 club members, from the Tri Valley, Long Beach, Balboa Ski and Sports Club and Huntington Beach Ski Clubs, attended the famous Oktoberfest which is held at Old World German Restaurant Beer Garden. There was plenty of beer, bratwurst, and the famous dachshund races. A fun time was had by all.

Other activities our club members enjoy in the OC is attending baseball games, The Angels, kayaking, bicycle rides,

and sailing.

Going forward into the winter months, besides skiing, many of our clubs' activities include boat parade parties in Huntington Harbor, Newport Harbor and Dana Point Harbor, Halloween parties, pray for snow parties, Christmas parties, and New Year's parties.

For information on the above activities please refer to the Orange Council Website.

Orange Council, attended the National Ski Council Federation Annual Meeting held in Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado; September 16-19, 2010. The National Ski Council Federa-



Judy Thurman
Orange Council President

tion (NSCF) is made up ski councils and ski clubs throughout the United States. Once a year all the Council Presidents, representatives and industry leaders, meet for four days, the mission is to inform and strengthen all councils and ski clubs.

Some of the topics included developing partnerships between wholesaler & resorts, ethics, how to pick a tour operator, and how councils and clubs can increase their membership. These meetings provide a forum for club leaders to get together and discuss issues that involve all ski councils and ski clubs. As always these meetings were very productive and informative.

I would like to say thanks to **Joe Harvis**, President of NSCF, **Karla Baker**, National Sales Manager, for Snowmass Tourism-Group, and **Mary Manning** of Aspen Skiing Company for providing just a beautiful setting for the meetings. Looking forward to next year's meeting which will be held at Mammoth Mountain in September 2011.

Orange Council is looking forward to another very successful and safe ski season 2010-2011.

San Diego Council

SDCSC has been busy preparing for our annual Gala. This year's theme was *Magic of the Night*. The gala was held at the Marriott Courtyard in Claremont on Nov. 6, 2010. Each of the ten clubs were represented at this event to honor our Men and Women of the Year. This year candidates were: Nora Cole and Barry Cole from North Island Snowdrifters. Helen Harris and Roy Ackeridge from Don Diego Ski Club, Tom Sekreta and Beth Gaff from Action Ski and Snowboard Club, Laura Mendrum and Joe Goldhammer from Torrey Pines Ski Club.

The winner was chosen at the Gala with a final question answered before the audience. The annual Joe Harris Award for lifetime contribution to skiing was awarded to Jim Wehsener, a former SDCSC Man of the Year, San Diego Ski Club President and grandfather to Alexa Wehsener our J2 racer. The special guests attending this year were: Joe Harvis, President of National Ski Council Federation, Walt and Nora Wehsener parents of our SDCSC sponsored J2 racer, Alexa Wehsener and Jim Wehsener winner of the Joe Harris Award.

The beautiful programs were designed by Catherine Ohl, edited by Barbara Blasé and printed by Wyle Laboratories care of Mike Sanford. Flowers were donated by the Flower Shop. Vail's Brian Flickinger and Aspen's Mary Manning sponsored the band. Telluride's Patrick Rothe and Ogden's Elaine Cobos, Rocky Mountain Tours, Grand Sierra at Reno, Marriott Courtyard in Claremont, Mammoth Mountain and Snow Summit donated prizes for the MWY winners. Trader Joe's donated gift bags for all the contestants. We danced the night away to the music of a live band and then retired to the Council suite for a post-party. Thanks go to Barbara Blasé, Chairperson and Judy Schultheis, accountant and Nora Cole, decorations. Job well done ladies!

The ten SDCSC clubs will be busy the weekend of Nov. 12-14 working at Snow Jam in Del Mar. This is an annual Ski and Snowboard Show for Southern California. We will have a SDCSC booth with the *FWSA*



Eileen Sanford
San Diego Council President

Skier's Guide and materials from each of the clubs represented. We will also be working the bag check area and members will earn money for their clubs.

The ski season is fast approaching. At the last SDCSC meeting each club reported on their ski trips. NIS will have a fly away trip to Park City from Jan. 12-16 and four Mammoth weekend trips. Don Diego will also have a trip to Salt Lake City from Dec. 17-21 and three Mammoth mid-week trips. Action will have four Mammoth weekend trips and one fly-away to Vail, Colorado. Torrey Pines will have two Mammoth trips and an Aspen trip on Feb 27-March 5. Qualcomm will have a trip to Breckenridge from March 2-7 at Aspen.

In the Charities arena, SDCSC worked on Operation Front by bringing food to the Torrey Pines meeting and taking it to the Miramar Food Locker. Don Diego is gathering food products and toys for the military families in the San Diego Area. North Island Snowdrifters will conduct their annual Toys for Tots drive and donate new unused toys to the Marines for distribution during the Christmas season.

The Christmas season brings SDCSC to the glorious Coronado Hotel for a sing-a-long around the famous fifty foot indoor Christmas tree, Happy Hour in the hotel bar and ice skating outdoors by the beach. It is a wonderful annual event with over 100 members attending.

SDCSC is catching its breath after hosting the 78th Convention at Indian Wells and looking forward to the next convention in Industry Hills hosted by the LA Council. See you there.

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Did You Change?

FWSA keeps a database on members, clubs, and councils. It's important that information in this database is current so that communications are received in a timely manner. Let me know if there are changes in club or council officers, changes in membership addresses and phone numbers, changes in members' club affiliations, or if your club or council has changed its meeting location.

Requests for information from the database must be sent to the FWSA President (Randy Lew) for approval before it will be dispersed. The Far West Ski Association website (FWSA.org) has a Ski Club Officer Update Form that can be downloaded, completed, and mailed to me at:

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The Voice of the
Western Skier



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Here we are with hopes of a VERY snowy winter. Who could ask for more with all the predictions of a La Nina winter. Here's wishing for the best winter ever.

For Complete Information on FWSA, visit our website:

www.fwsa.org

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