

Far West NewsFlash

February, 2023

Far West Ski Association

FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION'S 90TH ANNUAL CONVENTION: Far West will be holding their 90th annual Convention **June 15-18, 2023** in Boise, Idaho. Lodging will be at The *Grove Hotel*, and all Convention meetings, the Silent Auction and Awards Banquet will be held at the beautiful *Boise Centre*. Intermountain Ski Council, and Bogus Basin Ski Club will be hosting this event, along with a little help from Arizona Ski Council. **REGISTRATION** materials will be sent out by the end of February, with additional information coming your way in the months ahead. Below is a description of the many club, council, and individual awards that FWSA members can apply for. Be mindful that the deadline date on ALL of the awards is **March 27, 2023**. More info can be found on: www.fwsa.org. **NEW THIS YEAR...** a planned group activity will be happening *post-convention*. It is an adventure/fishing trip, planned for Monday June 19th. There is room for three more guests, with the cost of \$600.00. It includes 2-nights lodging in McCall, ID. For further information, contact Michael Bouton: mbouton0559@msn.com.

U.S. SKI RESORT SURPASSES PRICE PER DAY: Over a recent weekend, walk-up single-day lift ticket rates at Arizona's 777-skiable-acre *Snowbowl*, came in at \$309 a pop for one day of skiing on the resort's 55 runs and eight lifts. That's NOT for a season pass, or even a multi-day ticket. It's for ONE day of skiing! The reason behind that..... *Dynamic Pricing*. Dynamic pricing lets sellers jack up the rates when demand is high, penalizing people who didn't plan ahead, or, in the case of Arizona Snowbowl, skiers who have the audacity to want to hit the slopes of their local ski hill after an incredible powder day! Dynamic pricing might have its place in the ski industry at destination resorts, where people plan ski vacations well in advance, but Arizonians fear for the future of the sport if \$300 lift ticket on powder days become the norm at the very areas they rely on the help bring in the next generation of skiers. Let's hope that Snowbowl listens to their locals and forget about that Dynamic Pricing, and keep it at more Reasonable Pricing, instead.

CAMPERVAN RENTALS + INDY PASS RESORTS: *Indy Pass* recently announced a new partnership that makes visiting their 120+ ski areas a little easier. In collaboration with *Native Campervans*, they are offering a special package for *Indy Pass* holders to experience van life and hit the open road, searching for those uncrowded ski slopes that we all like to find now and then. Save on van rentals, lodging and overnight gear. Sunlight Mountain and Echo Mountain in the Denver area, or Powder Mountain, UT, Mountain High, and China Peak, CA are some of the areas to choose from. Go into the *Indy Pass* website to get all the details.

AMERICA'S MOST THRIVING SKI STATE: Underrated, yet thriving, Michigan rarely gets the attention it deserves when it comes to generating downhill excitement for hordes of skiers each year. With 40 ski areas, the 2nd largest to New York, Michigan is in the ski business. Granted, the ski resorts in the Wolverine state can't match the size or elevation of those in Colorado, Utah, and Montana, but, what they lack in size, they make up for in terms of personality. After all, bigger doesn't always mean better. AND, speaking of bigger... the *Largest Ski Jump in The Western Hemisphere* is in Michigan! *Copper Peak*, North America's premier ski-flying hill, shut down after the 1994 season to deal with erosion and massive debt. It is set to reopen after decades of neglect. Their 469-foot jump hosted 10 ski-flying events within its lifetime. Not only is its' jump MASSIVE, but Copper Peak aims to be the only ski-flying hill in the world with a year-round surface. Michigan is supporting Copper Peak with a \$20 million investment to make it internationally known. Their first competition is set for the winter of 2025. Copper Peak hopes to transform into a training bed for Olympic-level athletes from the U.S. and around the world.

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD HALL OF FAME: This year marks the first-ever induction of female snowboarder athletes, with the honors going to *Shannon Dunn-Downing* and *Tina Basich*, both icons and pioneers of women's snowboarding. Tina and Shannon experienced the challenges of being women competitors early in the sport, competing together from 1991-1996 on the World Cup Tour. Both women were chosen by their respective board companies to launch a Pro Model board, to be launched in 1994. At the time, the women's snowboarding market was unproven, as very few companies would take the risk to support it. Tina and Shannon became iconic ambassadors for female Snowboarders, promoting and working with all of their sponsors to design new products for women. Together they challenged the organizers at an International Air and Style event that would not allow women to compete in the Big Air, citing it was too dangerous for girls. They raised the bar on the perception of what women could do – paving the way for future aspiring athletes like Jamie Anderson and Chloe Kim. Shannon Dunn won the Olympic Bronze in Women's Halfpipe in Nagano Japan in 1998. Tina Basich was the first woman to land a 720 in competition, winning X Games Gold in 1998.

SKIING AROUND THE WORLD BOOKS AVAILABLE: For 25+ years, Jimmy Petterson has been searching for the perfect ski destination: from the most famous and popular ski resorts to the most unique hidden gems. He has visited over 500 resorts in more than 75 countries. During his travels, he has been writing about and photographing these experiences resulting in his award winning two-volume set of the Skiing Around the World books, Volume I and Volume II. His books are a great resource for anyone who enjoys year-around ski adventures and learning about fabulous new ski destinations worldwide! Volume I earned Jimmy the 2006 Bill Berry Award for "*outstanding contributions to skiing by the media*" presented by the Far West Ski Association. Volume II followed up and won the 2021 Bill Berry Award. These books are limited in number and are going fast. If you'd like one, information can be found on: www.skiingaroundtheworldbook.com or email Jimmy at jimmy@skiingaround.com.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

FWSA 2023 DIVE TRIP: The FWSA 2023 dive trip will now be at the *Little Cayman Beach Resort* on *Little Cayman*, a beautiful and tranquil island in the *Cayman Islands*, **October 7 – 14, 2023**. Little Cayman had been named a top dive site in the Caribbean for its iconic Bloody Bay Wall, year-round perfect diving conditions, pristine coral reefs, and spectacular marine life. Little Cayman Beach Resort brings this magnificent experience beneath the sea directly onto the sand. Bloody Bay Wall is the main attraction, but there are other sites that are equally as exciting with numerous tunnel systems and crevices, both on the shallow reefs and out over the wall. Offering some of the most beautiful reef structures to be seen in the underwater world, this is where divers in-the-know go. Many dive operations claim the late Philippe Cousteau declared Bloody Bay Wall to be one of the three best dives in the world. The information is now available on the FWSA website at www.fwsa.org.

FWSA 2024 SKI WEEK: *Steamboat* will be the site of next year's North American Ski Week. The dates will be **January 27 to February 3, 2024**. A Flyer is posted on the Far West website with all the particulars. Sign-ups will begin in March. Contact Nancy Ellis for any other information: fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net.

FAR WEST SKI COUNCILS

ORANGE COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS: A Celebration of Life for *Pat Nangle*, who passed away on January 17th, was held during Balboa Ski Club's meeting on February 7. Pat was an active volunteer in her club, council, Far West Ski Association and her local community of Newport Beach. Pat joined Balboa Ski & Sports Club in 1985 and became very involved on various committees. She was elected Balboa Ski Club President in 1987, and then went on to become President of Orange Council of Ski Clubs from 1989-1991, serving on the FWSA Board of Directors. In 1989 Pat was named Orange Council Woman of the Year and was recognized as the Councils' Woman of the Year at the Annual Far West Ski Association Convention. In 1990 she was the Host Council Convention Coordinator for the 58th Annual FWSA Convention in Irvine and in 1995 assisted with the 63rd Annual FWSA Convention in Newport Beach. She was a recipient of both the FWSA's Elizabeth

“Schatzi” Wood Award as an outstanding volunteer, and the Hans George Award for her long-term contributions to skiing. She will be remembered for her kindness and her great energy, spirit and laughter.

FAR WEST FOUNDATION

FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION’S SPRING “YUM-RAISING”: What could be sweeter than chocolate for a good cause? Buy delicious See’s *Candies* to show your support for **Far West Ski Foundation**. The deadline to make a purchase is: **March 24, 2023**. The overarching objective of the **Far West Ski Foundation** is to sustain snowsports to ensure that the inspirational experiences of snowsports will remain for future generations. **Visit our shop to pick and choose your favorites and buy and ship your candy online. It’s that easy!** Ship to your family and friends! Our storefront is located at the following link: https://www.yumraising.com/secure/farwsf_far_west_ski_foundation91/JanWyc9529/

FAR WEST RECOGNITION AWARDS

The 90th Annual FWSA Convention is coming up June 15-18, in Boise, Idaho. Far West Ski Association has numerous recognition awards which members can apply for. The DEADLINE is coming up soon. Please take the time, if you, or someone you know, qualifies for one of the many awards shown below. For the Environment, Safety, and Western Ski Heritage Awards, the honoree will receive a trip for two to the Sponsor Resort. These awards are great ways to have your club and/or council recognized for your good work--and to honor hardworking volunteers. Applications and instructions for all the awards are on the FWSA website and listed below. Please contact the person in charge of each award for further information.

CHARITIES & OUR COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION PROGRAM:

DEADLINE: **March 27, 2023**

FWSA encourages all clubs and councils to get involved with charities and community service. Clubs are encouraged to take photos and videos of their Charity activities all year. This makes it easy to put together their club charity presentation for the 2023 CHARITIES VIDEO. Action photos, with club members and short videos are great, but any photos and logos are acceptable and very welcome. **CONTACT:** Sigrid Noack at charities@fwsa.org.

COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS:

DEADLINE: **March 27, 2023.**

Club and Council Newsletter, Website, Social Media and Outstanding Club. The newsletter and website nominations are simple this year. Just send a copy of your newsletter and a link to your newsletter and website to Bill King at: willie2K@comcast.net.

HISTORY RECOGNITION AWARDS:

DEADLINE: **March 27, 2023**

In 2008, FWSA launched this program to develop club, league and council histories with the objective to capture important information about skiing from the skier’s perspective, especially the club skier. Far West also has a program to recognize our Historic Ski Clubs, Councils, Ski Patrol & Ski Schools, that have been in operation for 50 years or more.

CONTACT: Jane Wyckoff, FWSA History Chair, history@fwsa.org

SAFETY PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD:

DEADLINE: **March 27, 2023**

DESCRIPTION: FWSA is a proponent of safety in skiing and snowboarding. Every year we hear about tragic deaths and injuries that happen during our favorite winter activities that remind us of the great importance of safety. We have a number of ways in which we promote safety and one of our more viable ways is through the Safety Award. The award is for the individual, within the association, that has done the most to promote safety through a number of criteria. These include articles on slope safety, and other ways to raise safety

consciousness. The link to detailed information and entry form is:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=334813

CONTACT: Monica Palmer, FWSA Safety Chair, safety@fwsa.org.

WESTERN SKI HERITAGE AWARD:

DEADLINE: *March 27, 2023*

RECOGNITION: Since 2000, *Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation* has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, on-mountain tour, half-day lessons and a lunch at Ragnar's Restaurant.

DESCRIPTION: The Far West Western Ski Heritage program annually recognizes the best effort in the prior year that communicates the contributions of snowsports to the community at large. The purpose of the Far West Western Ski Heritage program is to raise the awareness of snowsports participants and non-participants alike of the contributions made by individuals, groups and companies to all aspects of snowsports – competitive as well as that of outdoor winter recreation and fitness. A parallel purpose is to convey the positive role snowsports has had in its contributions to the communities in the West. It recognizes outstanding effort in the area of snowsports history to find, preserve, document and share the history of snowsports in the West. The Award is open to an individual or a group leader (it is not restricted to Far West membership) and can be self-nominated or nominated by a club or club member. Materials and history programs will be evaluated against the objectives of the program by individuals selected for their knowledge of the history of Western snowsports and that of the Association. The link to detailed information and entry form is:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=334814

CONTACT: Jane Wyckoff, FWSA History Chair, history@fwsa.org

ENVIRONMENT AWARD:

DEADLINE: *March 27, 2023*

RECOGNITION: Sponsors, *Aspen Skiing Company and Snowmass Tourism, The Gant and Crestwood Condominiums* have donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, and a full-day group lesson.

DESCRIPTION: The Environment Award is designed to encourage stewardship of our environment. Far West Ski Association wants to reward the top applicant SKI Club Member who is taking an active role to conserve and protect our environment. This award should recognize a special action that the applicant took, or something he or she put in place that made a difference in your community or in the mountains where we all head to play - winter or summer. Ideas are: zero-waste initiatives (stop single-use dishes & condiments), conservation of slopes, trail building, or any other good environmental protection initiatives. The link to detailed information and entry form

is: https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=379792 **CONTACT:** Janine Rands, FWSA Environment Chair, FWSA Environment Chair, environment@fwsa.org.

FAR WEST MEDIA AWARD:

DEADLINE: *March 27, 2023*

The Far West Ski Association Media Awards are divided into the following categories:

Bill Berry Award for Featured Article – This award is for outstanding Print Coverage of Skiing. This award is given for outstanding service to skiing and is presented to writers for a featured article.

Bill Berry Award for Hard News – This award is for outstanding Print Coverage of Skiing. This award is given for outstanding service to skiing and is presented to writers for hard news.

Warren Miller Modern Media Award – This award is for outstanding Multi-Media Coverage of Skiing. This award is given for outstanding service to skiing by cinematographers, photographers, radio or television broadcasters.

For more information follow the link to:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=334807

CONTACT: Eileen Sanford, FWSA Awards Chair, awards@fwsa.org

Stay Safe! Stay Healthy!