

**Far West Ski Association
Terry Smith Award**

Dotti Gallagher and Joe Loader

Joe Loader and Dotti Gallagher have been active in their ski clubs for the past two decades. Joe joined Reno Ski and Recreation Club in 1985 and Dotti joined in 1982. They quickly became active members participating in ski weeks, serving their club as trip chairmen, and being elected to numerous club offices. They both became very active in recreational racing and quickly rose to the top elite classes in this sport. Both Joe and Dotti participated in the racing activities provided by the club and encouraged other club members to become involved in intramural racing.

In 1994, Joe was elected Sierra Council president, a position he has held for the past eight years. The council/league president has dual responsibilities to represent the Sierra members in both Far West Ski Association and the Far West Racing Association. For several years prior to 1994 Dotti actively assisted the former council/league president. She was very aware of the challenges and responsibilities of holding this office and was in a position to assist Joe with these duties.

Sierra Council has made tremendous strides under the leadership of Joe and Dotti Loader. They have a very active race program providing more than eight races per season for their racers. In addition, Joe and Dotti provide numerous race clinics, including a week in July in Mt. Hood, Oregon, and Wednesday night race practices at Boreal Ridge during the ski season. It's not a surprise that most Sierra League racers have risen to the top levels of this intramural sport! Joe and Dotti have made racing fun and allowed all Sierra members to improve their skills on the ski slopes. Under their leadership Sierra has expanded from three to eight clubs, with a new website and a new logo.

Since 1999, Dotti has been the trip chairman for Sierra Council to participate in the FWSA Travel program. This has encouraged numerous Sierra members to become more active with Far West Ski Association. Under Joe and Dotti's leadership Sierra has increased the number of their participants at the FWSA Conventions and other FWSA sponsored events. In the past three years, four members of Sierra have been recognized in the FWSA's Councils' Man and Woman of the Year program. In 2002, Joe was race director for the FWSA ski trip to Copper Mountain.

For the past twenty years, Joe and Dotti Loader have made significant contributions to intramural skiing and racing. It's time for these contributions and their leadership to be recognized with the Terry Smith Award.