

FALL 2020

THE COUNCILMAN

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



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Cover Photo Credit: Nick Cowell, Back of Mammoth Mountain



GLORIA RAMINHA, PRESIDENT

What a year we have had with the many challenges to deal with due to COVID-19. We had to postpone our 2020 Convention which was to be held in Portland, OR now scheduled to be in Portland in 2022. I'd like to thank all the volunteers who spent many hours planning our 2020 convention. We have also cancelled all scheduled travel and events from the middle of March through the end of 2020.

We do have some exciting trips scheduled in 2021 starting with our annual North American Ski Week, European Ski Week, and much more. We are continually monitoring our US and International travel destinations for the effect that COVID is having on them and are hopeful that these trips will go as planned.

This October is the 90th anniversary of the founding of FWSA. We were planning on celebrating the anniversary at the original location where FWSA was founded at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. Unfortunately, once again due to COVID-19, this event had to be cancelled. We will be publishing a 90th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet this fall. The publication is a look back and perspective on the activities of FWSA in the dynamics of snow sports in California, and the far west from the birth of skiing as a sport in the United States. It will truly be a collectable, historic publication. It will include a history of FWSA racing, area development, conventions, and guest authors/speakers. Additionally, the history will include the development of ski clubs and councils across twelve western states. We are a non-profit membership organization of 10 regional councils, 150 clubs, and approximately 50,000 members in 12 western states.

The success of FWSA is due to our volunteers who contribute countless hours and expertise to our programs. Thanks also to our industry partners and sponsors who, through their generosity and support, are instrumental to our growth and success.

The 88th Annual FWSA Convention will be held June 10 – 13, 2021 at the Marriott Mission Valley in San Diego CA., hosted by San Diego Council. I know that this Convention will be one that you should not miss. San Diego Council has been working on this for the past year and they have plans for some exciting activities for all attendees. Check out the Convention flyer in this Councilman or check the website at www.fwsa.org.

Last February, the North American Ski Week was in Big Sky, MT. We had a great group of members who enjoyed skiing, parties, dancing and food. Unfortunately, our Mini Ski Trip to Big White had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. Next year's annual North American Ski Week will be in Sun Valley, ID and the mini ski trip will be in Utah at the Zermatt Resort & Spa with options to ski Park City, Deer Valley and Sundance.

The annual International Ski Trip was held in Davos, Switzerland with a post trip to Portugal. The annual dive trip to Cozumel had to be cancelled this year with plans to reschedule it in 2022. In 2021, the International Ski Week will be in Madonna di Campiglio, Italy. A post trip is being planned. The dive trip will be at Roatan, Honduras.

Far West has an extensive travel program with several trips planned over the next several years. Visit our website at www.fwsa.org or follow us on our Facebook and Twitter pages for more information about our travel pro-

(Continued on page 12)



Debbi Kor

Convention Chairperson

"Rollin' On the River"

The *Northwest Ski Club Council* was all set to host the 88th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention, in Portland, Oregon this year. Then the Coronavirus Pandemic hit. We had hopes of delaying it until later in the year, but as the COVID-19 situation continued to rapidly change, and with the uncertainty in the US economy, it made holding the event, at any time, virtually impossible. Our goal, always, is for our members and ski industry partners to have the best experience ever. After much discussion within the Board of Directors of Far West, and the host hotel, it was decided that the best thing to do was to postpone the annual event.

We had an incredible Convention Committee in place to handle all of the activities and events, welcome you to the Convention, decorate the ballroom, and be your hosts, hostesses, and guides. Led by *Sheri Parshall*, these folks: *Jeanne Reinhardt, Shawn Storey, Sue Rimkeit, Sandy Schaub, Jessica Tagliofico, Marilyn Sigler, Mary Olhausen, Linda McGavin, Steve Coxen, Norman Peer, and Chris Ci-*

ardi, President of Northwest Ski Club Council, had everything planned, starting the day after last year's event in Indian Wells.

A dinner cruise on the Portland Spirit was planned for Wednesday evening. A Mt. Hood Adventure was planned for Thursday during the day, followed by the ever-so-fun Pub Crawl, throughout lovely, downtown Vancouver, WA that night. Friday was the day set for the "Not Your Daddy's" Golf Tournament, at the historic Edgefield Inn, a scenic bike ride through the Columbia River Gorge, and a Wine Tasting event throughout Southwest Washington. These ideas will be held in reserve as Northwest Ski Club Council will be back to host, once again, June 9-12 2022, at the *Red Lion* in Portland.

In spite of the Convention being postponed, we did have a number of industry partners who had offered to sponsor an event, or activity. I would like to thank them for agreeing to add their names to the many areas of sponsorship. Those businesses include: *Brian Head Resort, Grouse Mountain Lodge, Timberline Resort, Mt. Hood Mead-*

ows and Mt. Hood Ski Bowl, Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp., Aspen Snowmass and Snowmass Tourism, Sports America Tours, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Sun Valley Resort, Winter Ski & Sports, and Bike Tours.Com.

As far as this nasty pandemic is concerned, our members, our friends, and our families have all been affected, as has everyone in the mountain travel industry. We understand that difficult decisions were made to close resorts, hotels, and cancel trips and tours for the remainder of the year. We are all hoping for a brighter future, and look forward to seeing everyone next season on the slopes, and in ***San Diego, June 10-13, 2021*** at the beautiful San Diego Marriott Mission Valley, where we will carry on with the 88th Annual Far West Convention, under the skillful hands of co-host council convention coordinators Chris Gill and Barbara Blasé. Please come "*Sail into San Diego*" with us.

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



88th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention

June 10 - 13, 2021

at the
Marriott San Diego Mission Valley

Hosted by the *San Diego Council of Ski Clubs*



Marriott San Diego Mission Valley

8757 Rio San Diego Dr, San Diego, CA 92108

Reservations www.marriott.com/sanmv or
call 800-228-9290, Group Name: **Far West Ski Association.**

Room Rates per night plus tax single or double occupancy —
\$159 per night

Room Registration Deadline May 13, 2021

Hotel Features

- Located a block from the San Diego River, near I-8 and I-805
- Stunning views and private balconies
- Heated outdoor Pool and whirlpool spa
- Private pool cabanas, a full bar and restaurant
- Restaurant & Lounge • Extensive concierge services
- Full-service business center, and notary public
- Fitness Center and jogging trail

Transportation

- Fly into San Diego International Airport (SAN)
- 8 miles to Hotel by taxi, bus, or Express Shuttle Service
- The hotel doesn't provide a shuttle service.

Convention Highlights

- Silent Auction & Trade Show
- Travel Expo
- Snowsports Leadership Academy
- Public Affairs Panels
- Celebrity Speakers
- Saturday Awards Banquet
- FWSA General Meeting & Elections

Optional Activities

- **Thursday**
 - ° Sail around the San Diego Harbor
 - ° Taste of San Diego Pub Crawl
 - ° Aqua Adventures
- **Friday**
 - ° 14th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament at Riverwalk Golf Course
 - ° Trolley tour La Jolla /Mt. Soledad Memorial
 - ° Bike Ride by the Beach

www.fwsa.org

Debbi Kor
FWSA Convention Chairperson
fwsadebbi@comcast.net
503-314-7078

For Silent Auction information:
silentauction@fwsa.org
503-314-7078

Chris Gill & Barbara Blasé
Host Council Coordinators
hostconventionchair@fwsa.org
858-382-1457

A portion of the Silent Auction proceeds will benefit the US Adaptive Recreation Center Big Bear Co.



Joe Harvis

VP Communications

It's been a whirlwind year with our FWSA Communications team. Our new website has been live for little over 9 months now. I hope many of you have had a chance to look it over. Please provide your feedback so we can enhance and make it even better. This is still a work in progress. We continue to test event registrations and payments and will be adding new content such as a dedicated section for the Snow Sports Leadership Academy.

All our clubs and councils can add their functions and trips to our events calendar. Eventually we will be able to link with our councils and clubs who also are using a Club Express website and member management system. When this is complete those clubs and councils will only have to define their activities and events on their own site, and they will filter up to the Far West site.

All direct members from the past three seasons as well as affiliated members who have participated in one of our travel programs from the past three years have been pre-loaded into the member database. When we went live each were emailed their registration login and password. Those members can sign in and review their member profile to update any missing or incorrect information. We encourage members to verify your information.

Others can click on "**Member Signup**" and create and complete the registration form. One can

even signup to receive the **Far West News Flash** simply by checking the "**New Flash subscription**" box under the "**Interests**" section of the Member Profile.

We hope everyone enjoyed reading the spring edition of **The Councilman**. It was a great issue albeit slimmed down as this issue will be due to all our missed activities and events due to the pandemic. Our editor, Nick Cowell, continues to do a great job bring this publication to you twice a year. Please send any comments or suggestions to Nick and I at councilman@fwsa.org. A big thank you also goes to our ever-ready proofreaders, Debbi Kor, Jane Wyckoff, and Jeannine Davis.

Leigh Gieringer and Jane Wyckoff are busy setting up and working on the 2020-2021 edition of the **Far West Skier's Guide**. This issue will be somewhat slimmed down version for the same reasons stated above for **The Councilman** as well as less advertising as the pandemic has severely curtailed budgets of our industry partners. They both put numerous hours proofreading all the articles and formatting each issue. Please send comments to Leigh, Jane and I at skiersguide@fwsa.org. If you're available to proofread either publication, please let me know.

Debbi Kor produces the monthly **Far West News Flash** and any Special Editions. If you are not receiving this monthly newsletter, you can find current and past issues on

the website under Publications. If you are not already receiving the **News Flash** in your email inbox you can subscribe simply by checking the "**New Flash subscription**" box under the "**Interests**" section of the Member Profile. All clubs and councils are encouraged to submit appropriate articles of interest for the activities, events and travel programs for publication in the **News Flash** simply by sending the information to Debbi at news-flash@fwsa.org.

All our publications are in digital format and are accessible from the Far West website at **FWSA Publications**.

Our website also contains many photo albums from our varied activities of the years. Additionally, we have a number of videos on our You Tube page. The videos and slide shows are created and produced by George Stewart, our multimedia chair. They can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc>.

We have recently added Jane Gutierrez as our new Social Media chair. Jane will manage our Facebook and Twitter pages and we are looking to start an Instagram page as well. Please help me welcome Jane to the Communications team. If you are a social media guru and would like to help or contribute, please reach out to us at vpcouncil-services@fwsa.org

FWSA COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS

WENTWORTH OUTSTANDING CLUB PUBLICATIONS

Newsletters - Club	Club Name	Council Name	Editor
<u>MASTERS</u>			
1st Place	<i>Mt. High</i>	NWSCC	<i>Emilio Trampuz</i>
2nd Place	<i>Unrecables</i>	LAC	<i>Gordon Cardona</i>
3rd Place			
<u>ADVANCED</u>			
1st Place	<i>US Adaptive Recreation Center</i>	SDC	<i>Tom Peirce</i>
2nd Place			
3rd Place			
<u>NOVICE</u>			
1st Place	<i>Don Diego</i>	SDC	<i>Karl Cikste</i>
2nd Place	<i>Castro Valley</i>	BAC	<i>Dennie Warren</i>
3rd Place	<i>Bogus Basin</i>	ISC	<i>Craig Olsen</i>
<u>COUNCIL</u>			
1st Place		BAC	<i>Dennie Warren</i>
2nd Place		NWSCC	<i>Linda McGavin</i>
3rd Place		NBS	<i>Teri Allard</i> <i>Todd Hood</i>

OUTSTANDING CLUB WEBSITES

Websites - Club	Club Name	Council Name	Webmaster
<u>MASTERS</u>			
1st Place	<i>Mt. High</i>	NWSCC	<i>Emilio Trampuz</i>
2nd Place	<i>Unrecables</i>	LAC	<i>Gordon Cardona</i>
3rd Place			
<u>ADVANCED</u>			
1st Place	<i>Inskiers</i>	BAC	<i>Bob Burke</i>
2nd Place			
3rd Place			
<u>NOVICE</u>			
1st Place	<i>US Adaptive Recreation Center</i>	SDC	<i>Sara Rosell</i>
2nd Place	<i>Don Diego</i>	SDC	<i>Karl Cikste</i>
3rd Place			
<u>COUNCIL</u>			
1st Place		BAC	<i>Cathy Wilson</i>
2nd Place		NWSCC	<i>Linda McGavin</i>
3rd Place		SDC	<i>Laura Meldrum</i>

TOLLAKSON OUTSTANDING CLUB

No Nominations Received



Chris Gill

VP Council Services

The Vice President of Council Services coordinates with the presidents of 10 FWSA member councils to manage programs and initiatives that benefit our local clubs, which are the grassroots of the FWSA organization. We have a talented and involved group of council presidents and program chairs that work hard to administer the programs we provide.

This year, the VP of Council Services was able to proceed with our Communication and Charity Awards Program without having the convention. The submissions were judged in May and certificates were electronically sent out to all the award winners.

Bill King has done such a great job in making the application process very easy for both clubs and councils. We will be adding a social media category to our current judging criteria for 2021. A committee was formed to eventually have an

award for this category that Todd Hood will be leading.

The Charity Awards Program was officially renamed to Charities and our Community Recognition Program. Sigrid Noack, committee chair, felt the program needed a new direction. We had more submissions this year and those clubs' charity work will debut via a video slide show at next year's convention. Certificates were sent out to those applicants to display on their club websites.

The Councils' Man and Woman of Year (MWOY) did receive submissions prior to the cancellation of the FWSA convention. It was decided that those applications would be rolled over to our 2021 San Diego Convention. The council presidents, along with Sheri Parshall, who chairs the program, felt that we should also take any council's MWOY candidates that were not submitted prior to the cancellation

of the FWSA convention in Portland. The program is also looking at re-naming the program to better reflect the current environment of a non-gender classification.

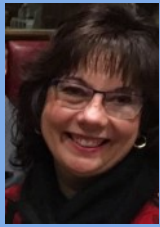
The Family and Youth program that is overseen by Linda Coxen is looking into re-directing the program towards the involvement that clubs and councils provide in their community. The program then would have either a certificate or an award of recognition for the efforts put forth. We will be looking at forming a sponsorship that might help with events for these clubs and councils.

Council Services looks forward to a continuing supportive partnership with FWSA clubs and councils. Please contact me with your ideas and requests for information at cmg@san.rr.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Credit: Ken Caukins

Location: Telluride





Debbie Stewart

VP International Travel

2021 Int'l Ski/Adventure trip to Sölden, Austria

Sölden, Austria may not be a household name to you, but it will be one that you will never forget after being there. You will be fascinated by the Austrian charm and their incomparable hospitality.

We are working with the experts at HOLIDAZE Ski Tours to help organize this fantastic trip February 19-27, 2021.

Sölden offers 3 areas: Sölden, Obergurgl and Hochgurgl. They kick off the winter season with the Audi FIS Alpine Ski World Cup Opening in October. And...it has one of the action-scene sites for the James Bond movie "Spectre". The huge number of slopes and ski trails for all levels and abilities coupled with the perfect grooming with 91 miles of slopes make Sölden a truly unique winter sports center; 32 state-of-the-art ski lifts and gondolas with a total capacity of 70,000 persons/hour guarantee ultimate skiing fun without queuing.

BIG 3 – Think BIG, Think SÖLDEN!

Sölden is Austria's first resort offering no less than three mountain peaks beyond 10,000 ft. Sölden's marvelous BIG 3 peaks mark a new dimension in skiing and experienc-

ing the Alpine scenery, opening new perspectives with their viewing platforms. Snow is guaranteed from October through May thanks to its high alpine location of the slopes up to 10,958 ft., 2 glacier ski areas and excellent snow-making systems covering about 75% of the slopes with 350 snow guns.

Sölden is synonymous with sports and entertainment. Besides the great variety of skiing and snow sport activities, Sölden also offers a wide range of entertaining highlights. You will enjoy great après-ski atmosphere as well as weekly events such as night skiing and Sölden Party.

FWSA's 11th Annual Scuba Dive trip to Roatan, Honduras

The 2021 FWSA Dive Trip will be to.....Roatan, Honduras! Signups are already underway for next year's Adventure/Dive Trip. We will be staying at Anthony's Key Resort for our 12th FWSA scuba dive trip, October 9-16, 2021. This resort is Roatan's most admired and innovative resort that offers dolphin encounters and world class dive experiences in a true island atmosphere. This gorgeous location offers years of service and pride themselves in this wonderful paradise. The Anthony's Key Resort will provide you with all the

necessary elements for an unforgettable vacation in Honduras.

Their PADI 5-Star Career Development Center has been ranked as one of the world's top dive resorts for the last 50 years. Full service... you will get it here. They offer equipment rentals, a full-service photo shop, PADI continuing education to further your certification, convenient dockside equipment storage, freshwater showers, and rinse tanks. Dive and snorkel opportunities with the dolphins at the Roatan Institute for Marine Sciences and onsite Hyperbaric Chamber and Clinic. That IS full service!

Your Dive package includes 7 nights hotel accommodations with 3 meals a day, a welcome/orientation social, admission to the Roatan Museum, a day excursion to Maya Key, Island Fiesta on the Key, complimentary wi-fi, 3 single tank boat dives, 2 single tank night dives, air tanks, weight belts and weights, a buoyancy control workshop, shore diving and much more... Non-divers have a snorkel package option, such as 2 snorkels daily by boat and guide, 1-night boat snorkel, underwater fish ID card, slide show and 1 dolphin encounter.

Come join us on this fantastic island paradise vacation!

(Continued on page 10)

2020 Croatia Adventure trip – Postponed to September 2021

We knew our FWSA members wanted to go to Croatia in 2020, and we will in 2021!

FWSA and Alpine Adventures have coordinated this adventure trip to Croatia September 10-19, 2021. We will visit all the must-see locations, such as Split, Zagreb, Plitvice National Park, Dubrovnik, and the beautiful Dalmatian Coast. While in Zagreb, the capital city of Croatia, we will experience the local culture, arts, architecture and of course, the local gastronomy. The UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Dubrovnik, with its 16th century stone-walled old town is popular and known as the “Pearl of the Adriatic”. Its popularity has been bolstered to global recognition after serving as the filming location for *The Game of Thrones*. Split, as the second largest city, offers a similar blend of modern and ancient charm. The spectacular landscapes in the Plitvice National Park will certainly be scenery to remember with its breathtaking terraced lakes and many waterfalls. Plitvice Lakes are a natural phenomenon you will not want to miss, consisting of 16 natural lakes joined by waterfalls that extend into limestone canyons. This, too, is a UNESCO World Heritage site and we cannot wait to explore this area.

This Balkan country adventure trip, with its 3,625-mile long Adriatic coastline and over 1,000 islands will

certainly be a bucket list item to be checked off.

You Spoke...and We Listened!

Planning is underway for the FWSA SUMMER 2023 CHILE SKI/ ADVENTURE TRIP!

We will be going to Valle Nevado, Chile in our summer season 2023, which is their winter. We are eagerly awaiting the announcement of the 2023 pricing and we will be organizing the marketing materials as soon as we can. This trip will be limited to a small number of 30-36 people, due to the hotel size in Valle Nevado.

Our plan is to travel from the US to Santiago, transfer to Valle Nevado (which currently has a partnership with Alterra, which is offering the IKON Pass – stay tuned if the partnership changes). You will have the opportunity also to ski at nearby resorts - La Parva and El Colorado.

The extension trip will be to the Atacama Desert, which has been likened to the surface of Mars and is one of the driest places on earth with unique and interesting topography.

Keep checking the FWSA website for the latest information.

FWSA 2022 Ski Week – Madonna di Campiglio, Italy

We are planning mid to late February 2022 to go back to the amazing Dolomites! Madonna di Campiglio is the main point of access to the Dolomites mountain range. This

vibrant Italian ski area links four small sectors known both for excellent grooming and steep runs. The slopes spread out widely. A spectacular 16-minute gondola ride connects to neighboring resort Pinzolo. The ski area has 57 lifts and 93 miles of ski runs and a capacity of more than 31,000 people per hour.

Madonna di Campiglio is one of the world's classic ski centers and one of Italy's most famous ranking with Cortina, Courmayeur and San Martino. Considering its long history in winter sports, it has the benefit of an extensive and hugely enjoyable ski area with access lifts coming right down into the town - both unusual assets compared to many of the other famous ski resorts of long standing. The resort's altitude gives it more dependable conditions than many traditional winter sports centers.

What's Ahead...A lot! Mark the following trips on your calendars now!

FWSA 2022 Africa Adventure Trip

Research is being done for central and east Africa. We toured South Africa in 2014 and now it is time to

experience another amazing area of Africa.

FWSA 2023 Ski Week – Zermatt, Switzerland

We enjoyed skiing the Matterhorn in 2014, our trip participants voted to go back. Zermatt has so much to

(Continued on page 12)

FWSA 11th Annual Scuba Dive Trip – Roatan, Honduras



October 9-16, 2021



Anthony's Key Resort

Diver Land Package = \$1534.00pp Key Deluxe Room - Double Occupancy *
Snorkel Land Package = \$1419.00 Key Deluxe Room – Double Occupancy **
Non-Diver Land Package = \$1304.00pp Key Deluxe Room - Double Occupancy
Single Supplement Add = \$257.00 Key Deluxe Room
(air transportation not included in above pricing)

Price Includes:

- 7 nights at Anthony's Key Resort – Dbl. Occupancy with 3 meals daily
- Use of paddle boards, kayaks, and snorkeling
- Day excursion to Maya Key and admission to Roatan Museum
- Airport transfers from Roatan Airport to resort
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Resort taxes (gratuities not included)

* In Addition, the Dive Package includes:

- 6 days of 3 tank boat dives & 2 single tank night dives
- Buoyancy control workshop
- Shore diving during shop hours

** In Addition, the Snorkel Package includes:

- 2 snorkels daily by boat with guide and 1-night boat snorkel
- Underwater fish ID card
- Slide show and 1 Dolphin Encounter



*Experience Honduran
Culture & Entertainment*



*Create New Memories
with Friends,
Old and New!*



*Dive, Kayak, snorkel, spa
services and more...*



Enjoy a Beautiful Resort



Contact: Randy Lew
FWSA Dive Trip Leader
829 SE 11th Place
Battle Ground, WA 98604
Cell: 530/304-0802
E-mail: FWSA13Randy@telis.org

*You must be a Member of a Far West Ski Assn.
affiliated club or a FWSA Direct Member!*

(photo credits: AKR Photo Shop & FWSA)

CST # 2036983-40

(Continued from page 3 President's message)

gram, annual convention and to learn more about our organization. All scheduled trips are subject to cancellation due to events outside of FWSA control.

Because the 2020 annual convention was cancelled elections were not held this year. I'd like to thank all the FWSA Officers for agreeing to stay on another year. At the convention in 2021 all elected positions

for the Board of Directors will be decided by the convention voting delegates. Even though the FWSA Board of Directors has not been able to meet face to face this year for our required meetings, we have had productive virtual meetings throughout the year.

To all of you, stay safe and healthy. I look forward to seeing you on the slopes, on a FWSA trip, and at our next Convention in San Diego, CA.

Credit: SDCSC

North Island Snowdrifters Tom Garcia, Sandra Garcia, Janie Lindfeld, Ira Lindfeld (San Diego Council President)

Location: Big White



(Continued from page 10 VP International Travel)

offer both the skier and non-skier while in their pedestrian only town. You will find many things to do and experience while sitting at the base of the Matterhorn.

FWSA 2024 Ski Week – Val d'Isere, France

We were last there in 2015 and had a fantastic time. The skiing was incredible, hotels were great, friendly people, charming town with many shops and restaurants...it is time to go back!

FWSA 2024 Galapagos adventure trip

Research is underway for the 2024 adventure trip to the Galapagos and possibly Machu Picchu or another destination. Stay tuned for the announcement of this trip.

As FWSA VP of International Travel, I realize that your vacation days are precious. The best ones are those that leave you feeling recharged, inspired and that your explorations are worthwhile, ones that your most cherished souvenirs are those that can bring you the grandest memories.

For updates or information on FWSA International Travel Program:

Debbie Stewart at: ***FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net***

Mobile – 559/737-0882

FWSA Travel Videos: <http://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc/videos>



Debbi Kor

VP Marketing and Sponsorship

Looking Forward to a New Year

What an unusual Spring and Summer it's been this year. Let's hope things begin to normalize with the coming year. It's supposed to be an El Nino year, so hopefully we'll see a lot of snow and all our favorite resorts will be open and running. With the 2020 season cut short, due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, wouldn't it be nice if things open in December, and go like gangbusters through April or May?

Many of our club members were able to social distance and still have fun with friends hiking, biking, golfing, and doing a lot of things outdoors throughout the summer. Why let a little something like a pandemic keep you from getting some fresh air and exercise? All you need to do is keep your hands clean, wear a mask and stay 6 feet apart, which is easy to do on bike trails, golf courses, and in individual kayaks.

If you are going to be doing a bit of out-of-state biking, hiking and such, check out the Far West Benefits Page. We have a new lodging partner, recently added to our ever-growing list. *Highline Vail*, a *Double Tree by Hilton* in Vail, Colorado. We have lodging benefits in Utah: *Best West PLUS Cotton Tree Inn* and *Hyatt*

House in Sandy, and the *Peaks Hotel* in Park City. If you're headed to Bend for a few nights, check out the *Shilo Inn* or *Double Tree by Hilton*. Going to Reno? Give the *Atlantis Casino and Spa Resort* or *Grand Sierra* a call. We also have availability in Lake Tahoe, Rossland and Silver Star B.C. Don't miss out on these special deals.

Since our 88th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention was postponed due to the Pandemic, our yearly reunion with all of our friends and Far West family will have to wait until June 2021. We will look forward to joining everyone in San Diego for that next adventure, where we will be "*Sailing into San Diego*".

In the meantime, we will look forward to the coming season, and hopefully things will get back to a new normal soon. There may or may not be ski shows to attend, kick-off parties, Pray for Snow parties, or big ski swaps to attend, but if we can all do what we need to do to keep ourselves, and each other safe....maybe we'll see another new season come into view and it will be even better than ever.

Be safe. Be healthy.

Credit: Emilio Trampuz

Location: Timberline





Michael Bouton VP Membership

Hello fellow skier/boarder and outdoor enthusiast. As we are all dealing with these COVID-19 conditions and issues, I encourage you to focus on all the positive things you can do to keep in contact with your club members. E-mail blasts, Zoom meetings, and social distancing gatherings of small groups can help.

I know it has been a tough year so far and life will change soon, we all hope. I also know that your clubs are still looking for new members and leaders. Don't be hesitant to plan on the future to make this happen.

Here are a few ideas:

Introduce to your club an idea of championing a series of FUN Runs in your community, targeting participants ages 30-60. The individual can identify separate charities to benefit monetarily from the entry fees and the clubs can benefit with the engagement of the participants.

Through ski resorts, clubs can organize special challenge courses with fun activities; stressing safety, conditioning, and mentoring. This can be orchestrated through Boys and Girls Clubs, Y Clubs, and other

youth groups. This process is to recruit the parents of these kids.

Overall, people of any age want to have relationships with others of similar ideals and interests. I believe that new ways of engagement will allow people in our communities to investigate what a ski and board club is all about. However, clubs will need to re-invent themselves to accommodate some of these ideas.

If a club or any organization is not "Growing" they are dying by way of their own demise. If a club is "Thriving" by the activities they offer, they will continue to exist into the future. "Complacency Sucks" .

Find a younger (under age 50) member who has ideas and put that person in a leadership position. Step back and allow him/her the opportunity to welcome younger members into your club. You'll be surprised as to how this will work.

Have a raffle contest in your club and see how many tickets 2-3 teams can sell. Get email addresses from the buyers and let them know what your club is doing on a regular basis.

Credit: Ken Caukins

Location: Telluride





Nancy Ellis

VP North American Travel

2021 SUN VALLEY SKI RESORT—January 30—February 6, 2021

We're excited to return to Sun Valley for the annual North American Ski Week. We are staying in the newly remodeled Sun Valley Lodge, and Sun Valley Inn and the Sun Valley Lodge 2 and 3-bedroom condos. Sun Valley has more than 3,400 vertical feet and over 2,000 acres of varied terrain on two mountains. Bald Mountain's consistent pitch, lack of lift lines, and variety of terrain have earned it the reputation as one of the world's best ski mountains. It features 17 chairlifts, 105 runs, and 30 acres of glade ski and boarding terrain for all. Sun Valley has partnered with EPIC and participants with the full Epic pass get 7-days of skiing/riding with the pass. Those with the local Epic pass get 2 days of skiing/riding.

There is a lot to do if you want to take a day off from the slopes or if you're not skiing and want to go to a premier destination. Activities include bowling, ice skating; great restaurants, shopping, horse-drawn sleigh rides, spa services, movies, and bowling.

Contact your Council Trip Leader or go to the www.fwsa.org website for more information about the trip and sign up details.

ZERMATT UTAH RESORT & SPA/ PARK CITY CANYONS/DEER VALLEY—March 21—27, 2021

We look forward to going to Zermatt Utah Resort and Spa located in Midway, Utah. It's a 4-star resort offering hotel, and condominium rooms and features two restaurants, a Swiss bakery, the Chalet Lounge Bar, indoor/outdoor pools, and indoor/outdoor hot tubs. There is complimentary shuttle service to Deer Valley Ski Resort, Park City Ski Resort, as well as to Midway and the Heber Valley.

The trip includes an FWSA Meet & Greet Party, Welcome Breakfast & Farewell Dinner, day trips to either Deer Valley or Park City and an optional day trip to Sundance Resort where people can either ski/board or sign up for optional art classes such as pottery, jewelry, and soap-making. Other optional activities include spa treatments, ice fishing, tubing, ice skating, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, sleigh rides, or soak in a 10,000-year-old Crater Hot Springs within walking distance of the resort.

Registration forms are now available on the www.fwsa.org website. Sign up by September 30th and get an "early signup" \$25 discount off the trip. Contact Gloria Raminha,

Trip Leader, for information: gar-ski2011@gmail.com; 661-800-8229.

2021 ALASKA INSIDE PASSAGE & DENALI TOUR—JUNE 19—30, 2021

There are still spots on the Alaska Inside Passage and Denali Tour. You can sign up for the Denali Tour June 19—23, the Alaska Inside Passage Tour June 23—30 or do both trips. Sandy Gaudette, Winter Ski & Sports, has designed a unique experience for our Denali Tour that will pass through Anchorage for those planning to head home after the Denali trip and then head to Whittier for those planning to board the Coral Princess for a southern cruise of the inland passage and ending in Vancouver, B.C.

Denali Tour Itinerary June 19—23, 2021:

Saturday & Sunday: Fly into Fairbanks and take a complimentary shuttle to Fairbanks River's Edge Resort for 2 Nights with daily Breakfast

Sunday: Riverboat Ferry Discovery Cruise Fairbanks

Monday: Alaska Railroad Adventure Class train ride Fairbanks to Denali with full Breakfast

(Continued on page 16)

Monday & Tuesday: Denali Park Village Hotel River View Rooms

Tuesday: Kantishna Wilderness Trail Tour with Lunch (13 Hour full park day)

Wednesday: Private Bus Denali to Whittier to catch ship for those going on Coral Princess Cruise; Those on Denali Tour only will transfer in Anchorage to the Airport to fly home

No Host Lunch stop in Anchorage

Board ship before 8:30 p.m. Wed., June 23rd

Those on the Alaska Cruise only will fly directly to Anchorage and then take a bus to Whittier to board the ship.

Coral Princess Cruise June 23—30, 2021:

Thurs., DAY # 1: HUBBARD GLACIER (Scenic Cruising)

Fri., DAY # 2 : GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK (Scenic Cruising)

Sat., DAY # 3 : SKAGWAY 7:00a.m. – 8:30p.m.

Sun., DAY # 4 : JUNEAU : 6:30a.m. – 4:00p.m.

Mon., DAY # 5 : KETCHIKAN 10:00a.m. – 6:00p.m.

Tues., DAY # 6 : FUN DAY AT SEA

Wed., DAY # 7 : VANCOUVER DOCKS 7:30a.m.

Contact Nancy Ellis for registration and sign up information: fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net; (530) 414-8261 or go to the FWSA website, Fwsa.org, for information.

2022 NORTH AMERICAN SKI WEEK-- ASPEN/ SNOWMASS RESORT

Aspen/Snowmass Resorts was selected as the destination for the 2022 annual ski week and Gloria Saiya-Woods with Ski.com will be our Tour Operator. Councils will be staying in Snowmass and participants will have the option to select ski-in/ski-out lodging or units a short walk to the slopes. The Alpine "Breathtaker" Mountain Coaster now traverses the mountain slopes, along with several new lodging properties, an ice rink, and many shops and restaurants that have been added to the base village since we were last there in 2013. This trip is suitable for non-skiers as well since there is a lot to do. The town of Aspen is a short distance down the road with additional restaurants and shopping. Councils will have trip information beginning March/April 2021 and more information about the trip will be posted on the www.fwsa.org website at that time.

Looking forward to seeing you on one of the Far West North American trips! Contact Nancy Ellis at fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net or www.fwsa.org for updates on the FWSA North American Travel Program.

Credit: Ken Calkins

Location: Telluride





FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION SKI WEEK—SUN VALLEY, IDAHO

January 30 - February 6, 2021

Prices start at \$1,210 per person (dbl. occ.)

Price includes 7-nights lodging & FWSA Events

Additional cost for Council Dinner/Events

Lodging Options

- Sun Valley Lodge Apts.
- Sun Valley Inn
- Sun Valley Lodge

FWSA Included Events

- Welcome Party
- Picnic
- Banquet/Dance
- Après Party

Options for Purchase

- ***Group Air/Ground Transportation —Buy IKON/EPIC pass through Winter Ski & Sports and get \$50 off lodging/trip package
- 5-day Lift Tickets \$ 345
- 6-day Lift Tickets \$ 393

***Must use REAL ID or Passport for domestic flights starting October 2020

COUNCIL CONTACTS

Arizona Council	Mike Terrey	mterrey@cox.net	(602) 284-1766
Bay Area Council	Gail Burns	gailb3098@gmail.com	(650) 255-7883
Central Council	Fran Long	fancat87@gmail.com	(805) 712-5781
Los Angeles Council	Sandy Blackwell	SkiWeek@LACouncil.org	(818) 441-6191
Northwest Council	John Reinhardt	johnreinhardt@hotmail.com	(503) 330-3838
Orange Council	Jess Gorman	ejessgorman@gmail.com	(714) 743-6521
San Diego Council	Alan Godwin	jargin@gmail.com	(619) 663-6626
Sierra Council	Carlene Boutacoff	cboutacoff@gmail.com	(650) 208-4839

For information: Contact your Council Trip Leader or contact Nancy Ellis, VP North American Travel,

(530) 414-8261 fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net

FWSA CST #2038883-40

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



Far West Ski Association's 2021 Mini Ski Trip March 21—26, 2021

Zermatt Utah Resort & Spa



TRIP PACKAGE PRICE STARTING AT

\$550

Price does NOT include air or ground transportation

\$25 discount if you book by September 30, 2020

4-STAR HOTEL AND VILLA PROPERTY WITH A FULL- SERVICE SPA AND WELLNESS CENTER, INDOOR/OUTDOOR POOL, HOT TUBS, 2 RESTAURANTS, A BAR, AND BAKERY, ALL ON SITE. RESORT IS 45 MINUTES FROM SALT LAKE INT'L AIRPORT; 11 MINUTES FROM DEER VALLEY SKI RESORT, AND 18 MINUTES FROM PARK CITY MOUNTAIN. SUNDANCE RESORT SKIING IS JUST 20 MINUTES AWAY.

ENJOY A SOAK IN A 10,000- YEAR OLD CRATER HOT SPRINGS!

Contact: Gloria Raminha 661-800-8229 or 661-829-5996

Garski2011@gmail.com

Nancy Ellis – 530-582-0566 or 530-414-8261

Fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net

FWSA CST #2036983-40

Included:

Five night's lodging

- 2 Queen Alpine Room or
 - 2 Queen Deluxe Alpine Room or
 - 2-bedroom Villa
- Welcome Reception
Farewell Party
Happy Hours**

Optional for Purchase:

- 1 or 2- day lift tickets Deer Valley & Park City Ski Resorts
- 1-day lift ticket Sundance Resort
- IKON Pass

Optional Activities:

- Crater Hot Springs
- Spa Services
- Hot Tubs
- Sleigh Rides
- Ice Skating
- Tubing





FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION ALASKA CRUISE—CORAL PRINCESS

June 23—30, 2021 ANCHORAGE/WHITTIER PORT TO VANCOUVER, BC

Per Person Rates:

\$1,274.00 INSIDE ROOM (2)	Category IB (Decks 5, 10, 11, 12)	\$799 3rd or 4th Person
\$1,819.00 WINDOW ROOM (2)	Category OC (Decks 5, 6)	\$799 3rd or 4th Person
\$2,329.00 BALCONY ROOM (2)	Category BB (Decks 11, 12)	\$999 3rd or 4th Person
\$2,599.00 MINI SUITE (2)	Category MB (Decks 9, 12)	\$999 3rd or 4th Person
\$260.00 PORT FEES & TAXES PER PERSON		

INCLUDES:

- Welcome Cocktail Party
- \$25 per cabin credit (\$12.50/person)

www.princess.com to view staterooms

Sign up and book room and get the following **FREE**

—>Premium Beverage Package —>Wi-Fi —>Gratuities

APPROXIMATE VALUE: \$900 (based on stateroom) Sign up soon before the special ends

Princess Cruise lines has not announced when the Special will end

SPECIAL

SHIP DEPOSITS: \$250 PER PERSON TO BOOK ROOM NUMBER

Check payable to "FWSA"

Send check to: Nancy Ellis, P.O. Box 9681, Truckee, CA 96162

NO PENALTY TO CANCEL PRIOR TO MARCH 1, 2021

CANCELTION PENALTIES BEGINNING MARCH 2, 2021

Trip information: Contact: Nancy Ellis, VP North American Travel, fwsatravelnancy@sbcbglobal.net
FWSA CST #2038983-40



Fran Long

VP Public Affairs

Public Affairs Report

Fran Long, VP Public Affairs

Far West Ski Association Public Affairs includes information in the areas of environment, safety, ski/snowsports area development, and skier/rider advocacy as it relates to the FWSA region. FWSA strives to keep our members informed as to what is happening in all of these areas in a variety of ways. Articles can be found in the Skier's Guide, the Councilman, in the convention booklet, and on the FWSA website. On the website: www.fwsa.org, click on Members Corner, then scroll down to Public Affairs.

Below are some articles regarding environment and ski area development for your reading enjoyment. These are just a sampling of what one might find on the website.

Is Skiing Good For The Health of Glaciers or Speeding Their Demise?

The melting of the Horstman Glacier reveals skier impacts exacerbate climate change.

August 11, 2020 By Jake Stern, Powder magazine

Closely examine any photo of the Horstman T-Bar, or any other glacier T-Bar, and you'll notice something peculiar—it sits about 10 feet

higher than the surrounding snow. Examining this while reporting on the [Whistler Blackcomb's removal of the historic Horstman T-Bar](#), we wondered the significance of its elevated position with regards to snowmelt. [Read more](#)

Rollback of Environmental Regulations Will Affect More Than Our Ski Season

July 16, 2020 By Tiffany Onyeji-aka, Powder magazine

The climate has been in crisis for decades, but recent reversals and relaxations of long-held environmental regulations in the U.S. have quickened the pace of environmental decline. While this has negative implications for the health of climates and communities across the country, the impact of these changes will affect certain communities more intensely than others.

Not only is the [72.7 billion-dollar winter sports industry and its 695,00 employees](#)PDF at risk, but individuals who inhabit cold climates and those from low-income communities or communities with many people from disempowered racial backgrounds will feel a greater burden from the loosening of environmental rules. [Read more](#)

Purgatory and Silverton Mountain float interest in Silverton's community ski hill

Outdoors/Colorado Sun, August 10, 2020

Durango's Mountain Capital Partners and local Silverton Mountain answered Silverton's initial call for possible partners at the 16-acre Kendall Mountain ski area. And the two operators have different visions for the community ski hill. [Read more](#)

Arapahoe Basin Ski Area moves forward with capital projects despite financial setbacks

Taylor Sienkiewicz

Summit Daily, July 21, 2020

ARAPAHOE BASIN SKI AREA — Arapahoe Basin Ski Area has been busy this summer as crews work to replace two chairlifts, build the new Aerial Adventure Park and via ferrata course, and install radio-frequency identification ticket scanning gates.

While [neighboring resorts put a halt on capital projects](#) once the COVID-19 pandemic shut down ski areas, A-Basin has pushed forward with these five major projects and eliminated smaller plans such as building new bike trails. [Read more](#)

(Continued on page 45)



Bob Ellis

VP Racing

Attending a recreational race event is a lot of fun and something that people of all ages can enjoy! The Far West Racing Association has several race leagues where people can race for fun and socialize with other skiers/riders from member clubs. We have Schuski, ROKKA, and San Diego Alpine Leagues that race at Mammoth Mountain, Sierra, Singles, and Open Leagues racing resorts in Lake Tahoe, and PACRAT League racing at Oregon resorts. Each of these leagues have weekend races and clinics where people can participate in training techniques to improve skiing and racing skills.

Far West Ski Association has races at the annual North American Ski

Week each year. This year there will be individual Giant Slalom races and team Match races at Sun Valley Resort. The Match races are a lot of fun as teams of 6 see how close they can match the times of their first and second runs. The team with the least total time between 1st and 2nd runs wins the coveted "Council Challenge".

Far West Race Leagues participate in an annual Championship and this year's will be held at Mammoth Mountain April 9-10, 2021. Discounted lift tickets and lodging at Mammoth Mountain Inn will be available. A race clinic will be held on Friday April 10th for racers and skiers and the Giant Slalom and Slalom races will be held on Satur-

day. People can free ski on Sunday or explore the area. Contact me, Bob Ellis, at vpracing@fwsa.org or (530) 414-4270 for information.

You don't have to race to participate in recreational races! Come out to cheer your friends, ring cowbells, and encourage racers down the hill. You can volunteer to help record times, assist with registration, or line people up at the start gate. After the races we gather to hand out awards and socialize.

Come join in the fun even if you aren't interested in racing. Spectators and volunteers are a valued part of our races. Contact the league race chairs below for information about races near you:

Laura Priess	ROKKA League	rokkaracers@aol.com
David Arnold	San Diego Alpine League	darnold464@gmail.com
Ken Kawahara	ULLR League	ken.kawahara@verizon.net
Maxine Hanlon	Schuski League	maxch@prodigy.net
Nan Carnal	Sierra League	nan.sierraleague@gmail.com
Debi Phelps	Open League	bmw.rider8@yahoo.com
John Walsh	Singles League	johnwalsh37@sbcglobal.net
Peter Dodd	PACRAT League	President@pacrats.org

2020 – 2021 FWRA Race Schedule

By Bob Ellis, President, FWRA; VP-Racing, FWSA

<u>Date</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Location</u>
Open/Sierra/Singles Leagues		
Jan 23	GS	Alpine Meadows #1
Jan 24	TBD	Alpine Meadows #2
Feb 27	SL	Sugar Bowl #3
Feb 28	SL	Sugar Bowl #4
Mar TBD	TBD	Heavenly #5
Mar TBD	TBD	Heavenly #6
Pacrat League		
Jan 3	NASTAR Open	Mt. Hood Skibowl
Jan 24	PACRAT #1	Mt. Hood Skibowl
Jan 31	PACRAT #2	Mt. Hood Meadows
Feb 21	PACRAT #3	Mt. Hood Skibowl
Mar 14	PACRAT #4	Mt. Hood Meadows
Mar 28	PACRAT #5	Timberline
Rokka/ULLR Leagues (Schuski & San Diego—See ULLR League)		
Dec 19	TBD	Mammoth #1
Mar 27	SOCAL Championships	Mammoth
All Leagues		
Jan 30--Feb 6, 2021	FWSA Ski Week	Sun Valley, ID
	GS	
Apr 9--10	FWRA Championships	Mammoth
	Championships--SL	
	Championships--GS	

Note: Dates are subject to change. Please check the league websites for the most up to date information.



David Krupp

Athletic Scholarship Chair

The Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Program is entering its 17th year, growing from an initial \$1,000 in scholarships in 2004 to \$13,750 and 16 recipients in the 2019-2020 season. The total awarded since the program's inception is now \$165,000 to 116 different recipients.

The program is designed to provide financial assistance to junior ski racers throughout the western United States where FWSA has a presence. Applicants must be junior alpine ski racers affiliated with the United States Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA) and must participate in racing programs in states where FWSA has regional councils. These include California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Arizona, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need, athletic performance, academic achievement, and community service.

Skiing is an expensive sport and the costs involved in ski racing cannot be left up to the parents alone to incur. For younger athletes the costs are modest. However, for 16 through 20-year olds, where competition becomes national and even international, the costs can be significant. Without the help of outside resources, many junior racers simply cannot compete. For a top competitor, expenses can reach \$20,000 per year. This is not a seasonal sport for these racers; it includes a full year of ski-related involvement. After the winter race competition has concluded, competitors engage in dryland training; then off to summer camps. Camps typically run about \$1,200 per week, not including transportation.

Winter training costs range from \$1,000-\$1,500 each season. Most applicants work part time to offset ex-

penses. The demands on their time is significant. They must balance their time between training, competition, school, work, and community service. Despite these demands, the average GPA for these recipients consistently exceeds a 3.9 average. Our scholarships are modest compared to the need, but they do make a difference in the overall scope of the resources they require.

The funding of the scholarships come from a number of sources: raffles, auctions, club and council partnerships, and direct contributions from club members, clubs, and councils. The FWSA has greatly benefitted from the generous support from its sponsors including *Whitefish Mountain Resort* (www.skiwhitefish.com), a year round winter and summer resort; *Averill Hospitality*, a premier choice in mountain resort accommodations; *Schure Sports, Inc.* (www.karbonmail.com), maker of the Karbon line of snowsports apparel; the US Ski Team, and the *Far West Racing Association*. Their contributions of vacation packages, snowsports apparel, and cash bring in approximately \$10,000 per year as raffle and auction proceeds, as well as direct cash donations.

In addition, our partnership program through clubs and councils afford us approximately one third of our scholarship funding each year. Finally, the *Far West Ski Foundation* (www.farwestskifoundation.org), a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, is a valuable resource for encouraging tax-exempt donations. For more information on the Far West Athletic Scholarship Program, please visit www.fwsa.org.



Sigrid Noack

Charities and Our Community Chair

“Charity & Community Service Recognition 2020”

The FWSA Charity Recognition was upgraded this year for our planned Portland Convention! Without the convention taking place, and with the COVID-19 pandemic hanging over our heads, we decided to still stick with our Charity Recognition Program. So many clubs do so much work supporting favorite charities despite other challenges, that they continue to deserve this annual recognition and support from the FWSA.

SHOWCASING is the new term associated with our Charity Recognition Program.

This is our 14th annual FWSA *“Charity & Community Service Recognition”*. No longer is there a lengthy application to fill out, no more competition, and no more having to transport a photo display board to convention!

It's simple and it's easy! It's called SHOWCASING!

In spite of so many challenges this year, six ski clubs showed their appreciation of our effort to simplify the FWSA Charity Recognition program. Six clubs from six different councils got involved and sent some digital displays of their charity involvement during this past year.

Many activities with local charitable organizations have continued, in spite of this pandemic, which, of course, has hampered things tremendously. Clubs that were willing to share their charity efforts with FWSA, were asked to send us their information. The following clubs took the time during these stressful months to send us information about their charitable activities. They are showcased in our charity video, which will be available on the FWSA website.

SLO SKIERS of Central Council of California

President Jackie Laprade

SKIYENTE SKI CLUB of Northwest Ski Club Council

President Sally Niedermeyer

PHOENIX SKI CLUB of Arizona Ski Council

President Bill Behnke

MONTEREY SKI & SOCIAL CLUB of Bay Area Snow Sports Council

President Greg Robinson

GET OFF YOUR ROCKERS SKI CLUB of San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

President Nan Meyers

BOGUS BASIN SKI CLUB of Inter-mountain Ski Council

President Lynda Clark

FWSA wants to continue sharing all the beautiful charity work our members do, as in previous years, but now with much less effort on their part. The six participating clubs have received a medallion to be used on their website and newsletters. The SHOWCASED clubs also received a certificate for being named “Outstanding Charity and Community Service Club” in the Far West Ski Association” to share with club members.

Most of our clubs and councils have been involved with charity activities every year. Many groups have been sharing their wonderful charity work with the rest of our FWSA family for 13 years. It's amazing how caring the members in our FWSA clubs are. Our delegates, industry friends and other guests at convention are always quite impressed by the amazing dedication to charitable work within our FWSA family.

All of us are looking forward to next year's convention to see what interesting charitable work our FWSA clubs and councils are doing during this very challenging year.



The Egyptian Theatre for the 2019 Warren Miller Film Festival, that marked the 70th anniversary of Warren Miller Entertainment feature-length ski films and the 55th consecutive year that BBSC has presented Warren Miller Entertainment to the Treasure Valley.



Brad Wilson, General Manager of Bogus Basin Mountain Resort, Lynda Clark, President of BBSC, and Ron Bonneau, Coach of the College of Idaho Yotes Ski Team.



Welcome to *Move United*



by Sigrid Noack

Charities & Our Community Chair, FWSA

Disabled Sports USA (DSUSA) and *Adaptive Sports USA* have joined together under the name *Move United*. This new organization has been launched in 43 states and will offer 100,000 youths and adults with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in sports and recreation in their community and to compete in more than 50 adaptive sports.

Move United is the pipeline for athletes with disabilities to not only learn adaptive sports but to compete at the highest levels, at the state, regional, national and international levels. *Move United* is a member of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and will provide a range of nationwide programming, including recreational and competitive adaptive sports and training. The goal is to grow the network to 200-plus community-based adaptive programs and to be available locally to 90% of the US population by 2028, when the Olympics & Paralympics return to Los Angeles.

Both DSUSA and Adaptive Sports USA were originally formed by military veterans during the Korean and Vietnam wars. *Move United* is now the largest nonprofit provider of adaptive sports to wounded warriors, youth and any adults with a disability. Many mottos can be heard for this new amazing organization:

"If I can do this, I can do anything!"

"Sport makes us MORE, physically, mentally and socially"

"Our vision is to redefine how society views ability."

To learn more, check out the new website: <https://www.moveunitedsport.org/>



Fran Long Environment

Far West Ski Association Environment Award

One aspect of the FWSA Environment Program is the Environment Award. This award is being sponsored by Aspen/Snowmass, The Gant Aspen, and the Crestwood Condominium Hotel, Aspen/Snowmass. As an early leader in protecting our snowsports environment by reducing their carbon footprint, Aspen/Snowmass proposed this award to FWSA in 2015, as an incentive to keep the momentum moving forward among snowsports enthusiasts.

If you have an interest in doing something to affect the negative changes that are taking place in our environment, especially our snowsports environment, you might want to take a closer look at this program and award. The award recipient will enjoy spending 5 days skiing at Aspen/Snowmass with lodging, lift tickets, air, and rentals all paid for upon arrival.

About the Award

The environment Award is designed to inspire and reward creative efforts 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 an impact in the community.

Conduct or arrange an event(s) for your club, council, or the general public that focuses on the principles of "Protect Our Winters (POW)". The mission of POW is to engage and mobilize the snowsports community to lead the fight against climate change with a focus on educational initiatives, advocacy, and community-based activism. Stage an event based on one or more of the seven actions of the POW pledge.

Learn more about POW at:
www.protectourwinters.org.

Work with your club or council and your local ski area to develop or improve your ski area's "Sustainable Slopes" program. This program was adopted by the ski industry in 2000. It provides an overarching framework for ski areas on sustainability and enhanced environmental performance.

Learn more about Sustainable Slopes and NSAA's Environmental

Charter at: www.nsaa.org/environment/sustainableslopes.

- **Who is Eligible?**

- The Award is open to any individual who is a member of a Far West Ski Association Club or Council.

- The winner will receive a 5-night ski/board package for two that includes:

- 5 nights lodging split between The Gant in Aspen and The Crestwood Condominium Hotel in Snowmass.

- **Air**

- 5-day lift ticket good at Aspen, Snowmass, Aspen Highlands, Buttermilk

- **5-day equipment rental**

- **Half day group lesson**

Lodging is based on space availability, and restrictions may apply.

Additional information can be found on the FWSA website:

www.fwsa.org; or by contacting Fran Long, Environment Award Chair: environment@fwsa.org.



Safety Chair

By Fran Long, VP Public Affairs

The Far West Ski Association Safety Person of the Year Award will have a new name in 2021. The Association voted to rename the award the Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award in honor of Richard Lubin. Richard was the recipient of the Safety Person of the Year Award in 2001 and 2002. He then served as the safety program chairperson for the next 17 years, authoring many outstanding articles and videos, as well as ideas to promote safety awareness for our members and at our snowsports resorts.

So, who can be the FWSA Safety Person of the Year? Any person who is associated with FWSA can apply for the Safety Person of the Year Award. This yearly award honors the person who has done the most to promote safety consciousness within the association. This can be done through a variety of methods including safety articles, on mountain activities, presentations, public speaking, working ski patrol, creating posters or banners, and many other activities.

The Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award is designed to encourage others to take action in

making snowsports safer for everyone, and to recognize outstanding efforts in this area. Small things can have a significant impact. What might you have done for your favorite resort, for your club members, or for snowsports participants in general, that potentially supports safety in our sport?

The 2021 Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year will receive four night's lodging in a king room at Mammoth Mountain Inn, and (2) 4 of 6-day adult lift tickets for the 2021-2022 season. Thank you, Mammoth Mountain Resort for your sponsorship of the 2021 award.

Who is Eligible?

The award is open to any individual who is a member of a Far West Ski Association club or council. You too could be the recipient of this award and potentially a generous ski package as well.

Additional information, and the award application, can be found on the FWSA website: www.fwsa.org; or by contacting Fran Long, VP of Public Affairs: publicaffairs@fwsa.org.

Credit: Ken Caukins

Location: Telluride





John Watson History Chair



The long view of FWSA history

Skiing as a sport began in the goldfields of California commencing in the 1860s, quickly becoming what was league racing coordinated by the Alturas Snowshoe Club. Far West hadn't been born yet so we can't take any credit for that racing program. Commencing in the 1890s, ski sport became a spectator sport which attracted people to the snowy places, especially those having a ski jump. There was money to be made if jumpers could be persuaded to come and provide the attraction. Facilities proliferated for jumping, cross country and Telemark skiing. But soon, Alpine ski equipment was available by mail order and downhill skiing flourished commencing in the 1920s. The growth of modern skiing was born in California and globally.

The Chamber of Commerce saw an underserved industry having great promise. They saw exposure in the Winter Olympics as a way to promote California's potential and help launch an industry. Los Angeles was awarded the 1932 Olympics, but neither Tahoe nor Yosemite could meet IOC's requirements

for a world class ski center to host the Winter Olympics. California's potential was not the actual - a hard lesson. But ski sport in California and globally continued to grow; it surged in Tahoe, the Sierra, northern California, Yosemite, the San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains. It is within this century-plus of snowsport that the 90-year journey of the Far West Ski Association lies.

What were the roots and driving energies of the Association and its members and followers? The ski people were political influencers and customers for the providers of the ski experience. They organized and presented thrilling competitions. The initial 1930 organizing impulse for FW was oriented around competition and that thread existed in the Association in some form or another – even to league racing – into the 21st century.

Interrupted by a World War, the impulse accelerated to provide more ski sites, enhanced by the experience of returning 10th Mountain Division veterans. In the minds of some, the inadequacy of California's facilities in the 1929

Olympic initiative demanded that the Association take a supporting role in the development of ski opportunities. Area development became part of FWSA's DNA and in some form or another these activities continue in our Public Affairs portfolio.

California Ski Association (FWSA since 1946) was a part of the National Ski Association (formed 1905) and members paid their dues directly to CSA. By 1940, though, grass roots organizations sprung up inside the district organizations of CSA. And clubs had been formed since the late 1920s, with members paying dues to the clubs. Federation must have been a trendy concept, because organizations composed of clubs became known as Federations, hence Bay Area Ski Federation and the Federated Ski Clubs of Southern California. These became FWSA Councils in 1966 and 1946 respectively. Members would still owe dues to FWSA and to their club, later even council. It is amazing how the arguments over dues emerged for decades, whatever the amount of the dues.

(Continued on page 31)



FWSA TURNS 90

An uninvited guest but the celebration goes on

The Association was born in a luncheon meeting of the Winter Sports Committee in the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, on October 7, 1930. Officers were elected for a committee to develop an expanded program for promotion of winter sports in California. Wendell Robie of the Auburn Ski Club was elected President of the California Ski Association. Directors were to be named by the ski clubs present. To commemorate this event, we scheduled a 90th birthday luncheon in that same hotel for October 10, 2020. But there was an uninvited guest from the beginning, unknown to us at the time: the COVID-19 virus. This infernal demon caused the cancellation of the major event in our birthday plans.

BUT WAIT! Another part of the plan was to introduce a "birthday book" to participants. The remaining copies of this limited-edition soft cover were and are to be made available to important persons of our ski community, present and past. The "book" will be pub-

lished by Leigh Gieringer, who will publish, concurrently, the annual Far West Skier's Guide. Editor is John Watson, outgoing History Chair, and Managing Editor is Jane Wyckoff; both are historians and will write for the book.

The book is intended to be a history compilation of FWSA as it is in 2020. In order to do that, a comprehensive set of articles must show the historic growth in numbers of members and clubs and the main drivers for the Association's programs. **These themes are outlined in the History Report**, but briefly they are the role of councils in the geographic extent of the Association today. Our council and club affiliations now cover the west coast, Hawaii, and extend inland to the Intermountain and southwestern states. Originally, CSA was only California and Nevada.

From 1930 on to 2000, FWSA charged itself with a role in promoting the expansion of ski opportunities in California. This area development motivation lay in the loss of the 1932 Winter Olympics bid by

Tahoe and Yosemite. Highlighted by the loss of Mineral King in 1978, skiers never thought there was enough lift-served skiing for enjoyable and safe recreational skiing.

Finally, competition in ski racing is a natural outcome of skiing with friends. Competition (with a capital C) was a major responsibility of the Association from its birth in 1930. But a way was found by FWSA with the Intramurals program in 1960 which encouraged racing between clubs within leagues by club teams.

The book has articles from invited distinguished authors on some of our prominent western ski areas and the histories of skiing in Arizona, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Utah. It is a collector's item and will make interesting reading now and far into the future.

Limited press run already has an obligatory circulation, but whatever is left may be made available at modest cost-plus shipping, probably 20-25 dollars.

Far West Ski Foundation turns 57

Give the Foundation a birthday present this year

The Far West Ski Foundation will be 57 years young in November. Originally, its sole purpose was to support international competitors for the 1964 Winter Olympics. We changed its missions in 2009 to reflect more immediate needs, but we still have one mission in international competition and we did support Women's Ski Jumping commencing with Deedee Corradini's valiant attempt for WSJ participation in the 2010 Vancouver through the 2014 Sochi Olympics and on to those of the 2018 PyeongChang Olympics. But our continu-

ing missions are racing scholarships for young skiers, support for ski schools providing on snow enabling for the disabled, and support to education and research in ski history.

And due to the cancellation of our events, our income has been significantly diminished. We had planned on such a problem and we intend to continue the scholarship grants from reserve. But we need funds for disabled skiing and history education. Please make your continuing commitments and think about some addi-

(Continued on page 31)



Sheri Parshall

Councils' Man and Woman of the Year

As you are all aware, the cancellation of this year's FWSA Convention resulted in the cancellation of all of our awards programs, including, sadly, the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year Recognition Program. But even though we couldn't have a party, we do want to thank Big White Ski Resort for their continued support of one of FWSA's most successful recognition programs—it couldn't happen without them!

To update you all on what will be happening going forward, the council presidents have agreed to work with two options for 2021: resubmitting the names of their 2020 honorees, or submitting new names for next year. Each council will be making that decision individually. The honorees selected will submit the application forms provided on the web site prior to the March 2021 deadline, just as in prior years. The 2021 Convention will then honor those selected, and a Man

and Woman of the Year will be chosen.

There are absolutely not enough words in any language adequate to describe this sad, crazy year. Our association, clubs and councils are continuing to face unprecedented challenges—from how we're going to be able to enjoy the winter sports we love to even being able to meet in person—never faced before. And yet, through all of this, our club and council (and yes, your Far West Ski Association) boards and memberships continued to work—via internet and phone conference, in small numbers, masked and socially distant, to keep our organizations and activities going. The dedication and hard work of countless club and council volunteers are the ones deserving of this year's Councils' Man and Woman of the Year Award.

This year, you're *all* winners.

(Continued from page 29 History)

Making a connection between the grass roots Councils and the regional Association provided more direct (or indirect) communication with members. The Councils conducted their own programs more immediately relevant to their local issues. The direct connection to the Association was made by Southern Council when it incorporated, including FWSA in its name. The possibilities for increased membership and communication convinced the Association for a new initiative toward Council development. Council development and affiliation today and in the future defines the geographic reach of FWSA.

(Continued from page 30)

tional online fund raising. We're going to need at least \$3500 for scholarships and \$1000 each for disabled and education/history. You can make earmarked or

The competitors and competition were a central focus of Far West through 1976. In parallel with competitions conducted under FIS rules, FWSA created the concept of an intramural racing program between clubs in 1960. Implementation by leagues began and in 1964 the classic model – the Rokka League was formed by six Los Angeles area clubs. The Bay Area formed two leagues – Singles and Open. Orange Council operated the Schuski League and Inland Council was focused on racing as the Inland League. Participation in league racing continued through 2002 and even further. It was enhanced by the National Ski Weeks providing inter council racing and sports. Now in decline, racing in your league provides fond memories and a trophy shelf.

“best use” contributions to our Treasurer John Reinhardt at 6105SW Sheridan St., Portland, OR 97225. Email him at johnreinhardt@hotmail.com for instructions on best way to contribute funds.

The following were to be event sponsors for our postponed Annual FWSA Convention in Portland, Oregon. Our sponsors are our partners and friends. Please support them whenever you can. And if you find yourself at their venue, be sure to stop in and thank them.

Delegate Tote Bags



Portland "Spirit" Dinner Cruise

Mt. Hood Adventure



Pub Crawl

Columbia Gorge Bike Ride



Western Washington Wine Tour

Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament



Pool Party

Silent Auction Sponsor



Keynote Speaker

Welcome Party Wine

Program Sponsors—Click on the logos below to visit the sponsor's web site.



Man & Woman of Year

Since 2001, **Big White Ski Resort** has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets and rentals for both of the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year.



Western Ski Heritage Prize

Since 2000, **Steamboat** has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, a tour and half day lesson.



Safety Award

Beginning with 2020, **Mammoth Mountain Ski Area** has donated a 4-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets and rentals.



Environment Award

Since 2015, **Aspen/Snowmass, The Gant** and **The Crestwood** has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, air, rentals and a day lesson.



Athletic Scholarships

Since 2004, funds for the scholarships are provided through contributions from **Whitefish Mtn. Resort, The Lodge at Whitefish Lake & The Firebrand** (Averill Hospitality) and **Karbon** (Schure Sports, Inc.).



Wanda Himler

Arizona Ski Council

The Arizona Ski Council (ASC) represents two ski clubs and promotes skiing and friendship among the clubs, safety on the slopes and a general education of the skiing community. Our membership is open to non-profit ski clubs and activity clubs, in the state of Arizona.

The Phoenix Ski Club (PSC): The Phoenix Ski Club is an active adult social club, which goes full speed ahead, with amazing activities offered all year round. PSC has its roots in skiing; however it is more than just a ski club. They have it all. The friendships formed on the ski mountains draw people into other social activities and events. PSC offers year-round activities such as travel trips, hikes, biking, Happy Hours, parties, charity events and more. The Phoenix Ski Club currently has 4 ski trips planned for next ski season and a Tanzania Safari planned for May. Activities are being added constantly. Check out our activities and trips or come to our monthly social gathering to meet us in person!

PSC's newest initiative is offering family events to engage kids in winter activities. Their hope is to engage more parents to get their kids involved in skiing. The plan is to act as ambassadors for our sport.

Come check out the PSC members; on the mountain

or just around town!

Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club (SSSC) is an activity club in the Valley of the Sun and surrounding areas of central Arizona. SSSC is oriented towards active adults 21 years or older. They aren't just a ski club, but provide year-round activities such as snow skiing, snowboarding, hiking, biking, camping, road trips, parties, wine tasting, boating and scuba diving, as well as weekly happy hours and monthly dinners at local restaurants. If you can think of an event, we can plan it. The Scottsdale Ski Club currently has 3 planned ski trips for 2021 and 5 Non-Ski trips, which include a Mamma Mia Cruise to Greece. More trips are in the planning stage, so keep watch on their web site.

Don't just dream of having an exciting life. Join the Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club and make it happen. If you can dream it, they can do it.

Check out any of the clubs activities through the links on the council website: www.arizona-ski-club.org

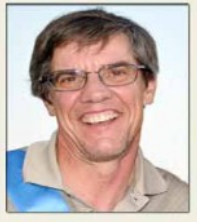
Remember: Keep your fingers crossed, but not your ski tips.

Do you want a 'dream' life...Dream it, do it with us.

Credit: Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club

Location: Aspen





Paul Vlasveld

Bay Area Snow Sports Council



You will always hear how proud we are of the volunteers within the Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC)!

It is amazing how the world can change so fast. It has been 5 months into the pandemic. **BAC** has adapted to this world shift. All meeting are now virtual meetings.

With this issue I would like to highlight the activities that some of our member clubs have been involved with.

Fire and Ice Ski Club--<https://www.facebook.com/Fire-Ice-Ski-Club-183377125181/>

Fire & Ice Ski Club offers athletes of color year round opportunities to explore winter sports and summer excursions. Fire & Ice Ski Club supports the efforts of the **National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS)**. We invite you to join us in our 30th anniversary celebration activities!

Inskiers -- <https://www.inskiers.com>

The Inskiers are a group of single adults who love winter sports and the mountains! We are associated with both the Far West Ski Associa-

tion and the Bay Area Snow Sports Council. As a member of the **Bay Area Singles League**, we enjoy skiing, snowboarding, racing and social events with other clubs from the Bay Area. As a year-round club, we also enjoy other sports and activities such as biking, hiking, picnics, wine tasting, dining, movies and many types of events. **Inskiers** General Meeting Social Distancing Happy Hours at the Alpine Inn.

Castro Valley Ski Club--<http://www.cvskiclub.org/>

All of our travel plans for this year have been postponed until next year. That includes the Russian Riverboat Cruise, the Bali trip and the Italy Bike and Barge trip. Our ski trip to Sun Valley, Idaho in February 2021 is still on. Other future plans are still taking shape and we hope to start hosting our general meetings outdoors while the weather is still warm. We hope to see you there.

This year has been a busy year despite the COVID-19. We have been conducting virtual meetings. We eagerly anticipate in person meetings in the future.

The current **BAC** Board of Directors was unanimously elected at our virtual general election in May. The **FWSA** Ski Week to Sun Valley, ID in 2021 is already being promoted. There is space available. The Italy Bike and Barge has been re-scheduled for August 2021. The response has been great.

This year we are very proud to be represented by our **BAC** Man and Woman of the Year. Our BAC Woman of the Year is Marci Lyzun from **Inskiers Ski Club**. Our Man of the Year is Don Shaver from **Modesto Ski Club**. They will be our 2021 Man and Woman of the Year. The race season is gearing up for our race leagues. Everyone is anxious to start the racing season.

In closing . . . I have had the honor and privilege of representing The Greatest Council in **FWSA**. The dynamic and diverse people who have been and currently are members of the **Bay Area Snow Sports Council** and **Far West Ski Association** Board of Directors that continue to make **BAC** a thriving and successful council.



Fran Long Central Council



Central Council is made up of seven member clubs. Our mission as a council is to build friendships, and support our larger organizations, Far West Ski Association and the National Ski Council Federation. Visit our Meetup site for council information, and links to our member clubs' information: <http://www.meetup.com/Central-Council-Ski-Clubs>

While Central Council does not directly sponsor any ski trips, our clubs work together by supporting one another's ski trips. It's not uncommon to see several members from one club going on a ski week with another Central Council club. We want our members to ski where they want to ski, and it's nice that our clubs support each other in this way.

As we move toward the coming ski season, we look forward, apprehensively, to ski trips to Taos, Mt. Bachelor, Aspen/Snowmass, Banff, and Mammoth. The trips have been planned, sign-ups are being taken, but changes may occur.

Summer for Central Council ski clubs usually entails hikes, bike rides, camp trips, wine downs, barbecues, happy hours, etc. Information about summer events, as well as information about ski trips, can be found on individual club websites/meetup sites:

Fresno Ski Club: www.fresnoskiclub.com

SLO Skiers: www.sloskiers.org

Santa Barbara Ski Club: www.sbski.org

Avalanche Ski Club: Contact Donna Webb, blazek-webb@gmail.com

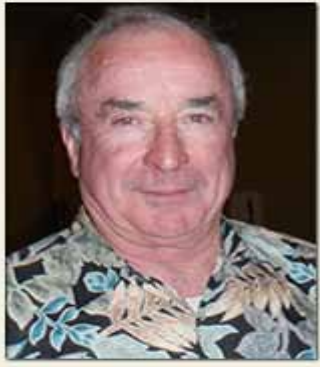
Camber Ski Club: Contact Jayne Camic, camic-ski@aol.com

Outdoor Recreation Enthusiasts: Contact Chuck Nacino, cnacino@gotsky.com

Clovis Ski and Travel Club: Contact Kim Riehl, kim-riehl18@gmail.com

Credit: Fresno Ski Club
Location: Breckenridge





Paul Markowitz Intermountain Ski Council



A Zoom meeting was held Saturday September 12th with 12 members of the council and 3 FWSA board members. It became clear that no one wanted to see the council faze out of existence. Joe Coles from Northern Utah will help with the website and communications for the Council Lynda Clark of the Bogus Basin ski club will help with future Zoom meetings and scheduling. Paul and Michael will stay in their current positions and a great bunch of new club representatives will guide the council into 2021.

The ISC will be hosting a ski week at Sun Valley, ID January 4-10th, 2021. This time frame offers the council half price lodging and lift tickets at a wonderful resort. The new Cold Springs lift is in and it will be great

to explore new terrain. We will have social gatherings, we hope, during the week. Any member of FWSA is invited and you can make your own reservation by calling Sun Valley Resort direct. Please call President, Paul Markowitz (208-850-9962) with any questions.

I am excited to continue helping to build and strengthen the council over the next few months. We are 11 clubs strong and need the input from all. I want to encourage all clubs to consider the FWSA ski week at Sun Valley this January as well. Check out the **FWSA.org** website for details. It will be a lot of fun.

Please feel free to contact me about the council at mboutn0559@msn.com.

Great day at Snowmass

Credit: Intermountain Ski
Council





Sandy Blackwell

Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs



The Los Angeles Council (LAC) of Ski Clubs has about 24 clubs, which include snow sports, water sports, and of late, more social clubs due, in part, to aging membership and at times, lack of snow. These clubs cover almost all of Los Angeles County from the ocean to Riverside and north to almost Santa Barbara, and just above Orange County. Thus, we have a large area with a great variety and diversity of what we can do, and with whom we do it.

Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort is the go-to resort for skiing for LAC, with its great variety of terrain, magnificent lifts, race courses that are pretty challenging, and dining choices. Along with their wonderful summer programs (jazz, mountain biking, hot springs and even camping and, oh yes, a bit of hiking, with Mt. Whitney just down the road a bit.)

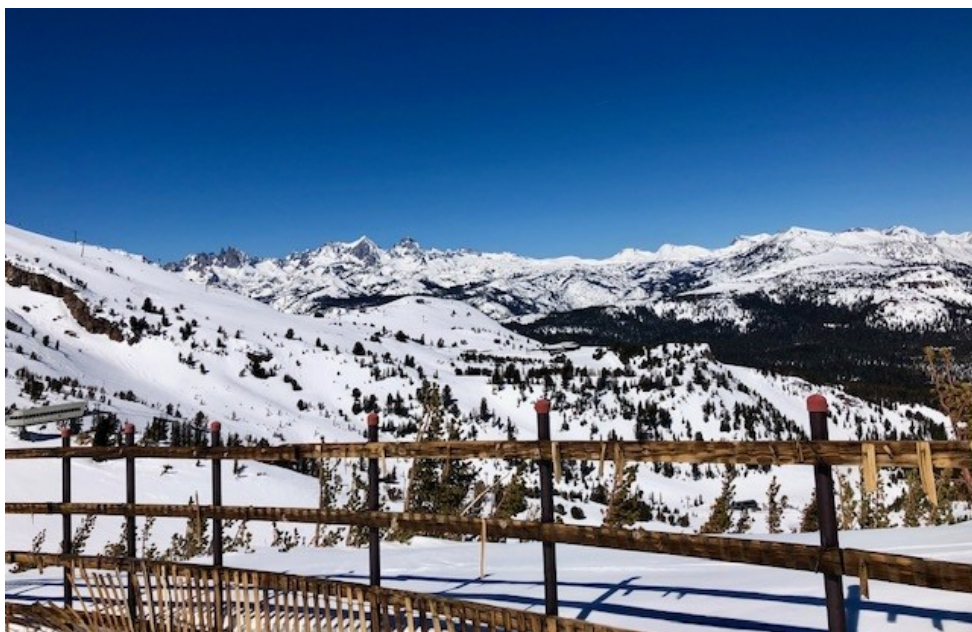
Los Angeles Council always participates in the FWSA Ski Week each year and we had a fabulous time at Big Sky, Montana, and we are looking forward to even more fabulous skiing at Sun Valley, Idaho in 2021.

With a bit of a change in plans, our LAC man and woman of the year – Pete Smith (Wailers) and Soo Lee (Unrecables), will be our contestants at the convention in June, 2021 in San Diego next year, and I know they have a great chance of being winners at the FWSA Convention, we are all keeping our fingers crossed!

The Council's monthly meetings are, lately, ZOOM meetings, via computer, and while a bit challenging at first, I am grateful to have so many of our clubs attend the meeting and let us know how they are doing and what they are doing during this summer. They are a busy group and I'm happy to see it. Actually, I get more attendees Zooming than a real meeting, but many of us miss having that outing for dinner and catching up with everyone. Hopefully soon we can do that again.

For details regarding all of the Los Angeles clubs and activities, please visit us at www.lacouncil.org.

Credit: Conejo Ski & Sports Club
Location: Mammoth





Todd Hood

National Brotherhood of Skiers, Western Region



The Effects of COVID-19 on NBS Western Region Operations

The fourteen member organizations that comprise the Western Region of the National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBSWR) continue to recover from the illness of hundreds of attendees, and the loss of four active members due to COVID-19 related illnesses after our return from the NBS Black Summit in Sun Valley, Idaho the first week of March 2020.

The level of activity of our member clubs has come to a hockey stop in response to the COVID-19 health crisis. Some clubs have reimagined being together by mastering online Zoom video meetings and happy hours. Amid all these changes, the NBSWR is proud to be acknowledged with the following honors:

- The FWSA Community Outreach Grant for our participation in Ski Dazzle LA, and
- Third place in the Council class of the Far West Ski Association (FWSA) Wentworth Outstanding Publications Award.

As a result of COVID-19 closures, the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame induction ceremony for the NBS Founders Art Clay and Ben Finley has been changed to a vir-

tual ceremony. Our leadership remains committed to our mission of expanding the level of participation of youth and adults from underrepresented communities in winter snowsports, recreationally and competitively.

The Cultural Harmony Initiative (CHI)

A critical element of whether a new snowsport participant returns after their first experience is based on how much fun they had, and how welcomed they felt. A recent poll in a Facebook Group of over 4600 black skiers and snowboarders found that "when it comes to racial relations on and off the slopes at snowsports resorts" 40% of respondents reported feeling Tolerated, while 53% of respondents reported feeling Welcomed. We believe there is a great opportunity to grow snowsports by increasing the "Level of Welcome".

The clubs and councils of the Far West Ski Association and the NBS Western Region were each created, not to change the world, but to share our world of fun with others, which in time, can change the world. The member organizations of the FWSA have much in common, yet we have differences that we hesitate to share and speak about freely. We peacefully co-

exist, but we rarely share our worlds for fear of causing discourse. By remaining silent, we remain ignorant, and that ignorance results in subliminal discord and discourse, so by speaking, at least we have a chance of understanding each other better, and shaping snowsports by increasing the level of welcome. In an effort to have true cultural harmony, it is my belief that open and honest channels of communication are key. I am asking the clubs of the NBS Western Region and the clubs and councils of the Far West Ski Association to step out of our comfort zone and seek opportunities to have difficult discussions in order to cultivate cultural harmony.

We are all here for fun, so it is our belief that fun for all of us is increased through cultural harmony. The goal of the NBS Western Region Cultural Harmony Initiative (CHI) is to cultivate cultural harmony in snowsports to increase the Level of Welcome for all participants on and off the slopes.

To learn more about how your organization might participate in CHI, please contact CHI@nbswr.org

See you in the snow soon!



NBSWR Spring Team Photo: Leaders of NBS Western Region at Presidents' Meeting in San Diego, CA

L to R: Keith Green - Executive Board Snowboard Association, Teri Allard - Inland Empire Ski and Sports, Skip Roberts - U2 Can Ski, Brenda Holden - SnowBusters Ski Club, Ida Cochrane - Winter Fox, Gary Garrett - All Seasons Ski Club, Yolanda Lockhart - SnowBusters Ski Club, Shaunna Kinsey - SnowBusters Ski Club, Cliff Sims - Four Seasons West, Shirley Wallace - Mountainview Ski Club, Todd Hood SnowBusters Ski Club, Frank Robertson - Winter Fox, Michael Cunningham - Fire & Ice
Credit: Todd Hood

NBSWR Members at FWSA Annual Ski Week, Big Sky Montana

L to R: Frank Robertson - Winter Fox, Berenice Wilkinson - LA Council, Deborah Jenkins - Midwest Ski, Todd Hood - SnowBusters Ski Club, Janet Tucker - Four Seasons West, William Haynes - Thrillseekers, Barbara Roberts - Four Seasons West

Credit: Todd Hood



NBSWR Western Region Club Presidents' Meeting Spring in Bay Area, CA

L to R: Michael Cunningham - Fire & Ice, Gale Frazier - Blade Runners, Ida Cochrane - Winter Fox, Gary Garrett - All Seasons, Sharry Covington - Camellia City, Sharon Sargeant - Ebony Ski and Racquet, Skip Roberts - U2Can Ski
Credit: Todd Hood



Chris Ciardi

Northwest Ski Club Council



We are a 40-year-old council of approximately 30 clubs in four states; Alaska, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington. Our PACRAT racing league has also been racing for 35 years.

As COVID-19 put a halt to all activities for all clubs and ski resorts, our members continue to safely recreate. Several resorts continue with summer activities, with precautions in place. We are all waiting to see what precautions will continue as the new ski season gets underway.

Currently all Board of Directors meetings (NWSCC and clubs) are virtual to keep our planning of future events and trips moving forward. Preparations are going strong in support of the FWSA Ski Week in Sun Valley, Idaho in January 2021. There appears to be hesitation to sign up with all the virus issues still going strong. It's going to be an interesting ski travel season.

Succession planning is becoming a top priority for our council board of directors as we have several members that are ready to move on. Our election this year was completed electronically, another first. With all our meetings going virtual, more participation from clubs outside of our home location is encouraged. We are always looking for new faces and voices for our Council Board of Directors. In 2020 several seasoned board members took over the Industry program.

PACRAT, our racing arm, shortened its racing season, having only held 2 races. They are working to continue the exciting opportunity to participate in a recreational alpine racing on Mt. Hood. This league gives even novices an opportunity to learn to compete at their own skill level and watch their improvement through the season.

Blues Anthony Lakes
Ski Resort

Credit: Oregon Nordic
Club





Sheila Van Guilder

Orange Council of Ski Clubs



Like many of the organizations in this state our club activities have been brought to a halt by the virus. When our clubs do meet, they are doing it on Zoom.

Orange Council board has not held meetings in July or August as there is no business to conduct. We are hoping to hold our council wide picnic in October, but so far, the city of Newport Beach will not allow us to schedule the picnic in their park as done in the past. All Orange County Parks are shut down for group ac-

tivity. We are happy to announce that Jess Gorman will lead the Far West Ski Week trip to Sun Valley in 2021.

Fountain Valley Ski Club is still able to hold their Wet Wednesdays in Alamitos Bay. A group of their members paddle board and kayak as they have been doing for several years. FVSC also has planned a ski trip to Telluride in 2021.



Credit: Dale Olesberg

Location: Telluride



Ira Lindenfeld

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs



There's not much new to report from club levels since the Spring article was submitted by Chris Gill, former President of San Diego Council of Ski Clubs. I started my term 6/1/2020 during the Coronavirus pandemic. It has been a very difficult time since the last Councilman was published. Trips and activities locally have been put on hold, the Portland convention was postponed; and everyone seems to be in a holding pattern hoping this will improve soon. Several clubs have held their monthly membership meetings via Zoom and everyone has adapted well and welcomed this new form of communication.

Ikon and Epic passes are being considered again for next season. Several questions have arisen regarding: credits for the past 'partial non-season'.

Resorts are sending their promotional advertisements for next season and it's keeping things normal but we're still unsure of when things will open up.

Hiking and biking activities have been available in several local clubs to keep everyone in shape for the hopeful start of another, new fun ski season.

In light of minimal ski events to re-

port, I'll address one topic I've heard repeatedly since I attended my first FWSA convention in 2003:

How do we address the decline of ski club memberships?

Since this seems to be an ongoing issue, I thought I would address it from a personal perspective. My wife and I have been skiing since our late twenties. For many years we enjoyed ski trips with a group of 10-12 good friends and planned our annual ski vacations together. As we approached our late forties, some friends were no longer able to ski due to injuries, new grandchildren, or cutting back spending due to retirement planning. We decided to "shop" for a ski club online in the San Diego area. We attended some meetings and found one club that seemed to meet our needs at that time due to the combination of bus trips and fly away trips that fit our budget and need for new ski terrain.

The other factors that attracted us to an organized ski group was the scope of skill levels available by skiing with a large group and the best value for our ski dollar budget. We both felt it helped us to improve our individual skiing by pushing ourselves a little more by skiing with others. There's always someone to challenge your ability. We've met

wonderful friends and enjoyed many other activities with this ski network of fun, outdoor friends.

Maybe the answer to the declining membership is to continue marketing to the over 45 age group by emphasizing the camaraderie, multiple skill levels, and the abundance of ski destinations.

Retaining members not only includes these ski options but also a solid, interesting activities planned locally and during warmer months such as bicycling, hiking, camping, dinners, and concerts.

Local advertising and encouraging members to solicit members through their workplaces, churches, neighbors, and other groups of friends will help keep our sport available to others. Utilizing social media outlets such as Facebook and Meet Up are popular in today's world.

Clubs need a plan for welcoming new members through personal introductions to other club members and invitations to join activities. There needs to be a follow up plan in place to keep prospective members interested. If your club agrees to it, maybe no charge for dues until the new member agrees to join in on a trip or a paid activity.

(Continued on page 45)



Jo Simpson Sierra Council



Sierra Council in the Summer of COVID-19

The Sierra Council's story likely mirrors that of other councils—no face to face meetings and activities limited to those that can occur outdoors with social distancing.

The annual fall planning meeting may be virtual, depending on the comfort level of the officers to get together. The spring general picnic meeting and election of officers did not take place. The current officers are continuing for 2020-2021. The officers are: Jo Simpson, President; Corey Doolin, Vice President; Carlene Boutacoff, VP Travel; Pat Ostroff, Secretary; Nan Carnal, Race Director; Mark Ostroff, Head Gatekeeper; Pavel Bosin, Webmaster; and Beth Perryman, Newsletter Editor.

Race planning is on hold pending how the resorts will operate. We are continuing to take signups for Sun

Valley and interest in the trip has been surprisingly good.

Our larger clubs have been organizing some outdoor activities during the summer.

The Reno Ski and Recreation Club started socially distanced happy hours at local parks where members bring their own drinks and snacks and sit safely apart in their lawn chairs. They also organized a float trip down the Truckee river with everyone in their inner tube.

The Las Vegas Ski and Sports Club is holding their biweekly golf outings throughout the summer.

The Tahoe Donner Senior Alpine Ski Club has been kayaking and bike riding during the summer.



Credit: Las Vegas Ski and Sports Club

Location: Solitude

There is a lot of uncertainty right now concerning what snowsports will look like in the coming season. Resorts are hopeful that they will be able to open, and stay open throughout the full season, with some modifications to protect the health of visitors/employees. Many resorts are in the process of making tentative plans for their safe operation, while waiting to see what individual states may or may not allow. Additionally, because of the abrupt shutdown in March and uncertainty as to when they might reopen, many snowsports areas have put their development/improvement plans on hold.

Big White, On the lift

Credit: North Island Snowdrifters



(Continued from page 24 Charities)

Wishing you and your families best of health. For questions regarding our Charities and our Community Recognition program, please contact Sigrid at charities@fwsa.org.

FWSA is aiming for charitable involvement within all our member clubs!

Waiting for the morning Mammoth bus. Lina Arnold, Donna Hester, Dave Hester, Rick Bonnet, Dave Arnold, Andre Chappaz, Nick Cowell

Credit: Nick Cowell



(Continued from page 43 San Diego Council of Ski Clubs)

The other thought is an incentive for existing members to bring in new members by offering a reduction in their own dues if they secure a set number of new members.

To bridge the challenge in keeping the sport interesting and appealing to existing and future skiers, we need to be generous in sharing our knowledge with younger people willing to step into the leadership roles we've held. With patient mentoring and ongoing tutelage, we can keep the sport alive for the next generation of skiers and snowboarders.



2020-2021 FWSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

DIRECTORS:

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Gloria Raminha ('18-'21)
Res: 661/829-5996
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president@fwsa.org

SECRETARY

Sheri Parshall ('16-'21)
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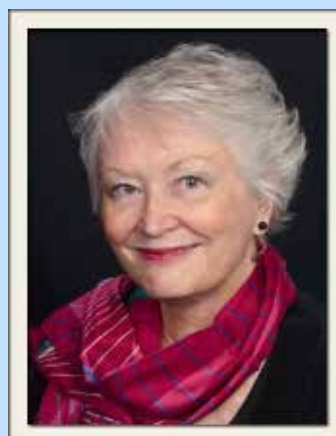
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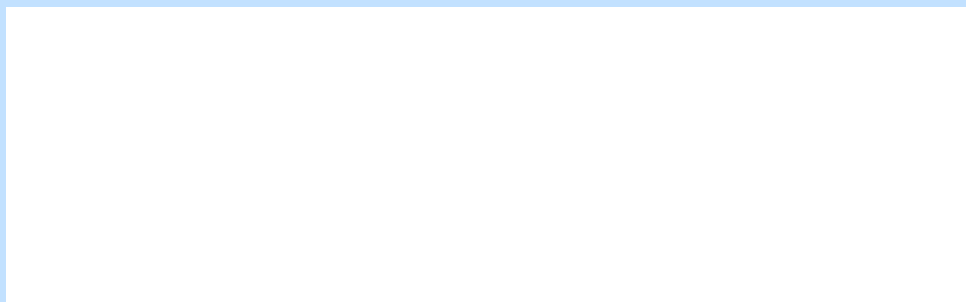


***Leigh Gieringer, Editor
Far West Skier's Guide***

FWSA keeps a database on members, clubs and councils. It is important that information in this database be current so that communications are received in a timely manner. Changes in club or council officers; membership addresses and phone numbers; members' club affiliations; club or council meeting location; or, requests for information from the database must be sent to the FWSA President, Gloria Raminha at president@fwsa.org. The Far West Ski Association website at www.fwsa.org has a Ski Club Officer Update Form. Clubs can upload the Officer Update Form for 2020-2021.

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION OF FWSA, VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.fwsa.org



The Voice of the Western Skier