

**2022 • 2023**

**The 35th Annual  
FAR WEST**

# **SKIER'S GUIDE**

**New  
Adventures  
Await with  
FWSA Travel**

**A “New  
Normal”  
(Part III)  
2022-2023  
Ski Season /  
Après -  
Pandemic**

**Swiss  
Secret  
Destinations**

**Your  
Role in  
Sustaining  
Snowsports!**

**Ski Club  
Ski Resort  
Information**

***Serving All Snowsports Enthusiasts***

**AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION**  
*“The Voice of the Western Skier”*

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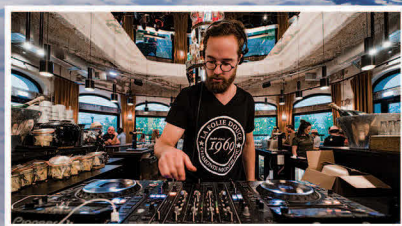
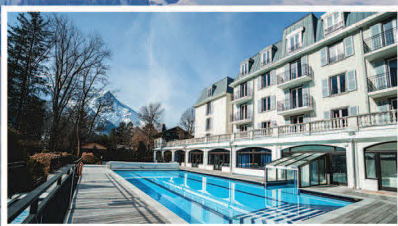
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The 2022-2023 *Far West Skier's Guide* will be a digital only issue.

Refer to the Council/Club pages starting on page 80 for council and club web addresses for their link; or check out the web addresses below to access our current and past digital editions.

*Available Digitally at*  
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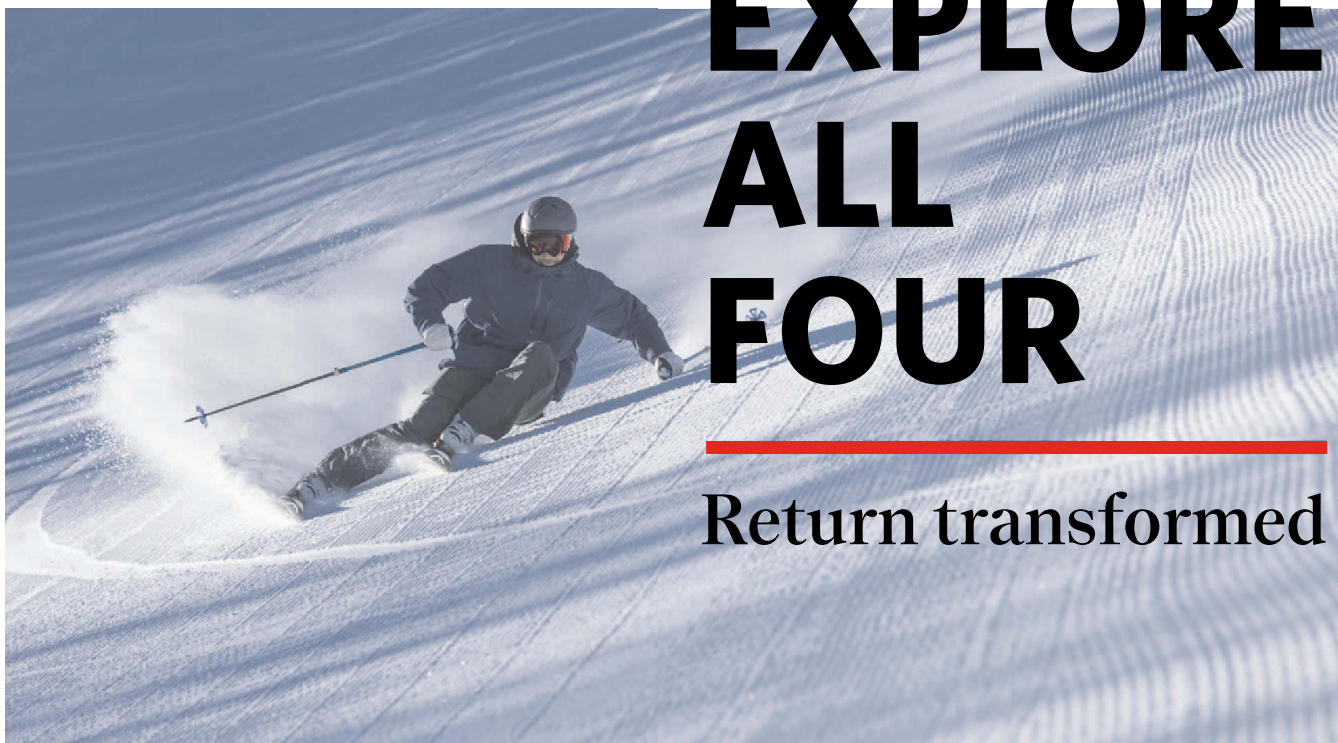


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Partially Located on National Forest Lands Photo © GlacierWorld.com



# EXPLORE ALL FOUR



## Return transformed

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2022 - 2023



Racers line up at a race start at the Aspen Snowmass Ski Week.  
photo provided by Nancy Ellis



Many of the FWSA Councils run their own Ski Weeks each year. Members of the Scottsdale Ski Club enjoyed the Arizona Ski Council Ski Week in Jackson Hole, Wyoming in the early months of 2022.  
photo provided by Kristy Welsh, ASC

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**Big White Ski Resort - COVID-19  
restrictions between Canada and the  
US have been lifted. It's time to enjoy  
the winter season in majestic Canada!**  
photo courtesy of Big White Ski Resort



**TOP RIGHT:** *The 2022 Mini Ski Trip was held in Utah where skiers enjoyed the slopes of Sundance Ski Resort. photo / provided by Nancy Ellis*

**BELOW:** *Kayaking in Oregon is one of the many adventures enjoyed during the summer by Cascade Prime Timers Ski Club members. photo / Christine Ciardi, NWSCC*

**Olympians Steve and Phil Mahre were the Keynote Speakers at the 2022 FWSA Convention. photo / Adam Bacher**



**Big White Ski Resort is blessed with huge annual snowfalls; on average around 24 feet of dry natural powder. photo courtesy of Big White Ski Resort**



**MID RIGHT:** *Sledding is a popular pastime in the Austrian Alps. Trip goers had fun on the Solden Ski Week. photo / Debbie Stewart*

**LOWER RIGHT:** *The 12th Annual FWSA Scuba Diving trip will be held in the Turks & Caicos Islands in 2023. photo / Roatan Charter*

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**2022 - 2023**

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**FWSA**  
**Planning**  
**for a**  
**Great Year**  
**Ahead!**

by Linda Westlund  
President, FWSA



Greetings to all skiers, snowboarders, adventurers, and world travelers who are preparing for a season of winter trips and exciting year-round travel. This is the 35th Edition of the *Far West Skier's Guide*, "The Voice of the Western Skier", serving snowsports enthusiasts in the western United States. The *Far West Skier's Guide* is published annually to provide information on travel and exciting group activities where you can meet like-minded friends who ski, board, like to explore new places and enjoy adventures.

Far West Ski Association is a not-for-profit, volunteer organization which was founded in 1930 with the mission to develop and provide benefits to affiliated ski clubs and members. FWSA is one of the largest ski associations in the United States, comprised of ten councils, representing more than 50,000 members, from over 150 clubs. If you are a member of a club affiliated with one of our FWSA councils, you are automatically a member of FWSA. Additionally, FWSA has direct members from across the country and internationally. Most of our membership comes from 12 western states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

FWSA has planned a variety of exciting trips in 2022 and 2023. We continuously monitor health guidelines applicable to our destinations to plan for the safety of our travelers.

Please consider joining us on one of our skiing/snowboarding or adventure trips being offered this season and beyond:

- Jackson Hole, Wyoming - January 21-28, 2023
- Taos, New Mexico - February 25-March 2, 2023
- Zermatt, Switzerland - February 25-March 4, 2023
- Costa del Sol, Southern Spain + Mallorca - March 4-12, 2023
- Scuba Dive, South Caicos - September 16-23, 2023
- Steamboat, Colorado - January 27-February 3, 2024
- Madonna di Campiglio, Italy - February 2024
- Big White Ski Resort, British Columbia - March 2024
- African Adventure in Central/East Africa - 2024
- Val d'Isere, France - February 2025
- Valle Nevado, Chili with extension to the Atacama Desert - Summer 2025
- Galapagos Islands - 2026

These trips are well planned by our Directors of Travel and their staffs. All trips include amenities, such as welcome and farewell parties, happy hours, lunches, recreational ski racing, day tours and much more. Our member clubs also have active year around social and recreational events, including their own ski trips, races, dinners, cruises, dive trips, biking, wine tasting, camping and more. Many FWSA and member club activities welcome families and children. Visit our website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) or follow us on Facebook (3) *Far West Ski Association* / Facebook to learn more about our organization.



*George Stewart, Media Producer and Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel, at the Far West Ski Association's International Travel Booth - Silent Auction & Snowsports Trade Show at the Annual Convention. FWSA offers its Club Members and Direct Members a wide variety of travel and adventure trips through their North American and International Travel Programs. photo provided by Debbie Stewart*

Our regional councils offer recreational ski racing sanctioned by the **Far West Racing Association (FWRA)**. We use a handicapping system for our racers, grouping racers by age groups and based on racing skills and experience. This allows members of all abilities to have fun and be competitive within their racing class. Recreational racing is a great way to improve your skiing techniques.

FWSA has established relationships with the **National Ski Council Federation (NSCF)**, **National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS)**, **US National Forest Service, International Ski History Association (ISHA)**, **United States Ski & Snowboard (USSA)**, the **United States Ski Team, Women's Ski Jumping USA**, (now under USA Nordic Sport), **North American Snowsports Journalists Association (NASJA)**, and **Snowsports Industries America (SIA)**. We are strong supporters of the **National Ski Areas Association (NSAA)** Environmental Charter and have endorsed their "Sustainable Slopes" objectives. We are active participants in the informal and bipartisan Congressional Ski & Snowboard Caucus. Our goal is to effectively represent the interest of all our members and the snowsports public.

We will host our **90th Annual FWSA Snowsports Convention** in Boise, Idaho at the Grove Hotel, June 15 - 18, 2023. The FWSA Convention includes fun and educational programs, and the opportunity for club members and leaders to meet with representatives from ski resorts and tour operators to plan future travel. The Snowsports Trade Show and Silent Auction on Friday night is a popular event, which is open to the public. Attendees can bid on terrific trips, often acquired at great prices. On Saturday, we'll offer several Snowsports Leadership Academy seminars, Public Affairs panels, and a Keynote Speaker. Awards are presented to recognize outstanding achievements in snowsports. Our annual meeting and election of officers is held on Sunday.

FWSA has a partnership with the **Far West Ski Foundation (FWSF)**, a nonprofit charitable organization that is tax exempt under IRS Code Section 501(c) (3). We work with the Foundation to support several worthy causes: an Athletic Scholarship Program for junior racers, an Adaptive Sports and Skier Rehabilitation Program, a Snowsports History Program, and Fly Girls - Women's Olympic Ski Jumping. We thank all of who have made generous donations to the Foundation.

FWSA has an outstanding Board of Directors, Trustees, Committee Chairs and dedicated volunteers who are committed to serving our membership with diverse programs. With our strong working relationship with our industry partners, these volunteers have come up through the ranks in their clubs, councils and the Association and have a wealth of knowledge and history with the FWSA.

To all of you, have a fun filled season on the slopes and in your travels. We invite you to link into our website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) to find information about FWSA's future events, travel plans, convention, member benefits and much more.

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*Please check council websites  
for dates, times & locations*

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*Sheri Parshall, the  
Councils' Volunteer  
of the Year Chair,  
recognized all the  
honorees at the FWSA  
Convention Luncheon.  
Council Services  
develops recognition  
programs to  
highlight volunteers,  
clubs and councils  
for their outstanding  
contributions.*

*photo Adam Bacher*

## Council Services Links FWSA to Councils & Clubs

by Chris Gill

Vice President - Council Services, FWSA

The role of the Vice President of Council Services is to provide a platform for all Council Presidents of the Far West Ski Association to enhance communications and conduct a variety of programs. The group meets several times a year to collaborate and administer these programs down to the club level.

### Council Services oversees the following FWSA Programs:

- Club and Council Communication and Outstanding Club Awards
- Social Media Award
- Councils' Volunteer of the Year Recognition
- Charities & Our Community Recognition

The club and council awards and recognition programs provide an opportunity to recognize hard working volunteers. Our committee chairs strive to administer competitions that are relevant and easy to enter.

Bill King, who chairs the *Club and Council Communications and Outstanding Club Awards*, has made the submission and judging process much simpler thanks to his hard work. The clubs and councils submit their newsletters and upload a link to their website to be judged. The editors and administrators of the website are rewarded for their efforts for keeping their information current. An electronic Medallion is given to the clubs and councils for them to display on their website or newsletter.

The *Social Media Award* has had another great year with clubs and councils submitting many entries. The program uses Facebook as the social media platform for this award. The judging criteria is based on metrics derived from the percentage of audience, activity, engagements and reactions. Todd Hood is the Social Media Award chair, and has also been providing ongoing social media Facebook tutoring throughout the year.

This year the program formally known as the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year, was officially changed to *Councils' Volunteer of the Year*. One candidate is chosen to represent their council at the FWSA Convention. Each candidate is invited to attend a social reception, FWSA luncheon at a special table, and participate in an oral interview. Sheri Parshall chairs the program and coordinates with each candidate to ensure they have a wonderful experience. We are grateful to *Big White Ski Resort* for their continued sponsorship of the program over many years. Big White provides a ski trip for two to the winner to the resort.

The *Charities & Our Community Program*, chaired by Sigrid Noack, conducts a recognition process that highlights the good work our clubs and councils do to benefit their communities. Clubs and councils provide an enormous amount of support to local and national charities. During the FWSA Convention the clubs and councils charity efforts are showcased by a video presentation.

Council Services strives to provide roughly 150 FWSA ski clubs with tools and information to successfully serve their members. We welcome ideas and feedback from all club members and anyone reading this publication. Please contact me with your ideas and requests for information at [vpCouncilservices@fwsa.org](mailto:vpCouncilservices@fwsa.org). I look forward to hearing from you. ▲▲



*National Ski Council Federation attendees take a break from their 2022 Annual Meeting to gather at the top of Whitefish Mountain Resort. There were 36 ski council representatives and 23 ski industry representatives from across the nation who participated in the meeting to discuss topics of mutual interest. photo by Julie Brace, President, Ohio Valley Ski Council*

## National Ski Council Federation (NSCF) Brings Councils & Clubs Together Nationwide

by Jo Simpson  
Public Affairs Chair, NSCF:  
President, Sierra League and Council

The Far West Ski Association and member councils and clubs are all members of the National Ski Council Federation. The Federation provides Far West councils an opportunity to interact with ski councils in the central and eastern United States to exchange ideas and receive valuable information for our member clubs.

The Federation offers members a variety of attractive discounts on items such as ski rentals, lodging, car rentals, travel insurance and a variety of ski gear. To access the benefits and other Federation information, ski club members can go to the Federation website [www.skifederation.org](http://www.skifederation.org) and request a password. Ski clubs can post their trips on the website to attract new members through their trip offerings.

The Federation was excited to conduct the 2022 Annual Meeting face to face September 8-10, 2022, in Whitefish, Montana, home to Whitefish Mountain Resort. Our host, Ryan Billiet of Averill Hospitality, provided, in cooperation with local partners, some pre-meeting activities that included mountain activities at Whitefish Mountain Resort and a sightseeing tour of nearby Glacier National Park. We stayed at the beautiful Lodge at Whitefish Lake, an Averill property. The Lodge graciously offered the conference room rate to delegates who wished to come early or stay over.

The Friday meeting featured presentations and discussions among the council delegates and our industry partners. Saturday morning was a business meeting, followed by more joint sessions with industry partners in the afternoon.

NSCF elects officers every other year for two year terms. The following officers were elected at the August 2021 virtual meeting: President, Cheryl Mann (Texas Ski Council), Vice President, Michael Calderone (Metro New York Council), Secretary, Joe Harvis (New Jersey and Sierra Councils) and Treasurer, Linda Walker (Florida Ski Council). Like FWSA, the Federation is completely operated by volunteers.

The Federation was formed in 1999 to provide ski councils an opportunity to exchange information and to discuss among themselves and with the ski industry important issues that impact clubs and councils throughout the United States. The Federation represents 29 councils across the US. These councils have 640 clubs with more than 300,000 club members. ▲▲

### FWSA REPRESENTATIVES Continued from page 7

#### FWSA ANNUAL CONVENTION

##### 2023 HOST COUNCIL CONVENTION COORDINATOR

Jennifer Coutts (817) 832-5364  
E-mail: [hostconventionchair@fwsa.org](mailto:hostconventionchair@fwsa.org)

##### TRADE SHOW/SILENT AUCTION CHAIR

TBD  
Email: [silentauktion@fwsa.org](mailto:silentauktion@fwsa.org)

##### CONVENTION REGISTRAR

Jean McCasey (858) 560-8722  
E-mail: [registrar@fwsa.org](mailto:registrar@fwsa.org)

##### CONVENTION MEDIA CHAIR

Joe Harvis (973) 964-0834  
E-mail: [vpcommunication@fwsa.org](mailto:vpcommunication@fwsa.org)

##### DELEGATE BOOK EDITOR

Jo Simpson (775) 722-6468  
E-mail: [delegatebook@fwsa.org](mailto:delegatebook@fwsa.org)

#### FWSA COUNCIL SERVICES

##### CHARITIES & OUR COMMUNITY CHAIR

Sigrid Noack (310) 499-8181  
E-mail: [charities@fwsa.org](mailto:charities@fwsa.org)

##### COUNCILS' VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR CHAIR

Sheri Parshall (503) 706-0522  
E-mail: [mwofv@fwsa.org](mailto:mwofv@fwsa.org)

##### CLUB/COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS CHAIR

Bill King (614) 371-4762  
E-mail: [commawards@fwsa.org](mailto:commawards@fwsa.org)

#### FWSA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

##### ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Janine Rands (805) 704-0418  
E-mail: [environment@fwsa.org](mailto:environment@fwsa.org)

##### HISTORY COMMITTEE CHAIR

TBD  
E-mail: [history@fwsa.org](mailto:history@fwsa.org)

##### SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIR

Monica Palmer (775) 843-4303  
E-mail: [safety@fwsa.org](mailto:safety@fwsa.org)

#### OTHER CONTACTS

##### FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION

Alan Christian (925) 451-9314  
E-mail: [fwsf@fwsa.org](mailto:fwsf@fwsa.org)

##### TAX ADVISOR

John Reinhardt, CPA (503) 330-3838  
E-mail: [taxadvisor@fwsa.org](mailto:taxadvisor@fwsa.org)

*Elections for members of the FWSA Board of Directors and Board of Trustees are conducted on Sunday morning at the Annual Convention.*

# Business Is Picking Up At Our Favorite Resorts!

by Debbi Kor

Vice President - Marketing & Sponsorships, FWSA

Ski season 2022 was a very busy one for all of our favorite resorts and ski areas. With COVID finally slowing down a bit, people were able to get out and enjoy the great snowfalls throughout the country this year. The resorts were still being cautious, but overall, business was back up and booming! Season passes were flying off the shelves, and gone was the need to make parking reservations, ticket reservations, and just get back to a regular fun time skiing, racing, and being with friends and family, enjoying the beautiful outdoors.

Ski clubs and ski councils planned group trips to their favorite ski areas, or did simple day trips to their local mountains to enjoy their favorite outdoor sport. Our clubs and councils had trips to **Mammoth Mountain**, **Whitefish Mountain Resort**, **Steamboat**, and **Park City** to name a few destinations. Far West's Ski Week was in **Aspen/Snowmass** this year, with everyone staying in Snowmass Village. This trip was January 29 - February 5. We had approximately 300 attendees on hand. Being cautious still of COVID, there were no large group gatherings, other than the outdoor picnic. This left the smaller groups to do their own thing, but everyone was able to enjoy the ski day, being on the slopes together. Mary Manning and Lisa Jennings were wonderful hosts and did an excellent job taking care of all of our attendees. Thank you, too, to both the travel staff, and individual council trip leaders for making sure everyone had plenty to do throughout the week. **Ski.Com** was our tour operator, doing an outstanding job, as usual. **Schure Sports, Inc.** provided a raffle prize of a **Karbon** ski suit, which went to Katie Breese, of Wailers Ski Club. This raffle raises money for the **Far West Athletic Scholarship Program**. We raised a total of \$1,100 during the week. Thank you to each and every one of you who purchased a ticket or two.

Far West provides many discounts on lodging, ski and board rentals, outdoor gear, and adventures such as reduced rates on airline tickets, and shuttle rides from the airport to Steamboat, Park City, and NOW...the Reno/Tahoe area. All you need to do is click onto our website ([www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)) and check

out the extensive list of **Member Benefits** (under Member Corner) that our club and council members have available to them. We added a new lodging partner this year, **Crystal Inn & Suites** in Salt Lake City. The **Crystal Inn & Suites** in Mid Valley had already been a partner, but now you have two choices. Check the entire list of lodging properties before making your plans for the winter. To get around in the Park City area, give Kevin Ellis, at **The Transportation Network** a call to receive 20% off the shuttle service from the Salt Lake City airport. They are now doing business in the Reno/Tahoe area, as well. Kevin is planning on doing some "special" deals for Far West Ski Association members, so stay tuned for further updates. With all of our many partners, you will always find some good deals here, just for the taking, so check them out before planning your next trip!

Far West Ski Association has a number of sponsorship opportunities available, including: Program, Corporate, and Convention Sponsors. We are fortunate to have long-standing commitments from a number of mountain resorts, including: **Big White Ski Resort**, who has sponsored the **Councils' Volunteer of the Year** Recognition Program since 2001 (formerly the Councils' Man & Woman of the Year); **Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation** has been our sponsor of the **Western Ski Heritage Award** since 2000; **Aspen/Snowmass** sponsors **The Environment Award**, which was implemented in 2014. **Mammoth Ski Area** sponsors the **Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award**, while **Whitefish Mountain Resort**, **Grouse Mountain Lodge**, **Kandahar Lodge**, and **Schure Sports, Inc.** (makers of **Karbon** ski wear) have been long-time sponsors of the **Far West Athletic Scholarship Program**, which began in 2004. **Whitefish Mountain Resort** and **Grouse Mountain Lodge** were our original sponsors. We thank each and every one of you for your continued support!

Far West Ski Association is celebrating 92 years this year. To celebrate our 90th Anniversary, we published our "**The Far West Ski Association Turns 90**" booklet, and we have a few copies left. If you are interested in getting one, please contact Randy Lew, Far West



North American Ski Week 2023 participants are looking forward to Steamboat Resort's famous "Champagne Powder."

photo/Steamboat Resort

Treasurer, at: [fwsa13randy@telis.net](mailto:fwsa13randy@telis.net).

If you are a vendor or new business, and would like to join Far West as a Member Benefits Partner, or become a Sponsor with our organization, please contact me: [fwsadebbi@comcast.net](mailto:fwsadebbi@comcast.net), or check our website at: [http://fwsa.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page\\_id=22&club\\_id=623165&module\\_id=334796&act=4](http://fwsa.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=334796&act=4) for further information.

We will be conducting our **90th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention** in beautiful Boise, Idaho, next **June 15-18, 2023**, at **The Grove Hotel** and **Boise Centre**. We look forward to seeing YOU there! Join us for our "**Adventure Awaits in Boise**" event! ▲▲

# Communications

by Joe Harvis

Vice President - Communications, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association's Communications portfolio consists of six programs staffed by a dedicated group of volunteers. Those programs are the FWSA Website, *The Councilman*, the *Far West Skier's Guide* (this publication), *Far West News Flash*, our Social Media platforms, and Mass Media productions. These members spend a significant number of hours providing content for the Far West community.

Our website continues to grow across all programs of the FWSA, from our Awards, Conventions, Travel, Public Affairs, Membership, Marketing & Sponsorship and Benefits to name a few, there have been changes across the board, so be sure to check us out at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

The website is a public facing site, viewable to everyone, but there are areas of the site that are for members only. Members can access these restricted areas by logging into the system, especially when renewing their membership, registering for our events, Convention or one of our travel programs. Our site is one stop shopping. You can register and pay for any of our events online, no paperwork and no checks to write and mail unless you are so inclined.

All our clubs and councils can add their functions and trips to our events calendar. One can even sign up to receive the *Far West News Flash* simply by checking the "News Flash subscription" box under the "Interests" section of the Member Profile.

This issue of the *Far West Skier's Guide* is our second digital only edition. Our team, Leigh Gieringer, Publisher and Jane Wyckoff, Editor, publishes a high-quality issue to make us proud. We hope you enjoy this issue. Be sure to check it out on the website. The Skier's Guide does accept advertising. If you would like to place an ad, slide show or video, please email us at [skiers-guide@fwsa.org](mailto:skiers-guide@fwsa.org).

*The Councilman* is our internal magazine, edited and published by Nick Cowell. It is published twice yearly. This magazine keeps the membership updated on the happenings at all levels of the Association, including our councils and their clubs.

Debbi Kor edits and publishes the *Far West News Flash*. This is a monthly newsletter that is an email subscription-based publication for our members and industry friends. We encourage our councils and clubs to submit articles and information, too.

Our Marketing Media guru, George Stewart, produces new videos each year highlighting our conventions, travel destinations and special events. They are all available to view and can be found on our YouTube channel, and are accessible from our website photo albums. They are also usually published to our Facebook Page and Group, also.

Jane Gutierrez is our Social Media Chair. She oversees our Facebook and Twitter feeds. We will be adding an Instagram page this year. There are many other folks who help posting to our feeds. If you have an event you want to publicize to the FWSA membership, send the information to us at [socialmedia@fwsa.org](mailto:socialmedia@fwsa.org) including pictures with captions and credits.

In closing, keep informed on all things FWSA by staying plugged into our website, [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), and all of our publications and programs. ▲▲

## Social Media Keeps You "In the Know"

by Jane Gutierrez

Social Media Chair, FWSA

Did you know that the Far West Ski Association has a Facebook page and Facebook group? Find our page by searching for Far West Ski Association @ Far West Ski and "like" us, then you will be getting all of our current news and activities. Our group is found under Far West Ski Association, click "join", and you will be able to interact with us as we post new information for you. Our organization has several activities that we post, from information about our annual convention, our international and domestic travel programs, and winter activities from around the globe. We also highlight our youth winter sports racers as well as promote our industry partners. Our Facebook posts are for every club who is a member of Far West Ski Association, so don't hesitate to ask us to post your club events! Contact [socialmedia@fwsa.org](mailto:socialmedia@fwsa.org) and send us your document in JPEG or PNG format and we will be happy to post it for you. ▲▲

## 2022 WESTERN REGION SKI & SNOWBOARD SHOWS

compiled by Jane Wyckoff

Following are some in-person ski and snowboard shows for 2022. Visit a show near you and enjoy the exhibits, presentations, & deep discounts on equipment, food, and fun!

### NOVEMBER

**SnowJam Ski & Snowboard Expo -  
San Diego**

**Discounted Ski & Snowboard Equipment  
November 11 - 13, 2022**

Del Mar Fairgrounds/Exhibit Hall,  
Del Mar, CA

<https://snowjamshow.com>

**Snowvana, Ski Fever & Snowboard Show  
Gear Sale & Swap**

**November 18 - 20, 2022**

Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR  
<https://snowvana.com>

**NorCal Ski & Snowboard Festival -  
Sacramento**

**Ski & Snowboard Sale**

**November 18 - 20, 2022**

CAL Expo Center, Sacramento, CA  
[www.sfskifest.com](http://www.sfskifest.com)

**SnowJam Ski & Snowboard Expo -  
Las Vegas**

**Discounted Ski & Snowboard Equipment  
November 19 - 20, 2022**

Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV  
<https://snowjamshow.com>

### DECEMBER

**NorCal Ski & Snowboard Festival -  
San Rafael**

**Ski & Board Sale**

**December 2 - 4, 2022**

Marin Civic Center, San Rafael, CA  
[www.sfskifest.com](http://www.sfskifest.com)

**Ski Dazzle Show**

**Ski • Snowboard • Active Sports • Travel  
Retail Bargains**

**December 9 - 11, 2022**

Los Angeles Convention Center,  
South Halls G & H  
Los Angeles, CA  
<https://skidazzle.com/>

Mark your calendars now to attend a Ski & Snowboard Show near you. Also check their websites for any updated information pertaining to Ski and Snowboard Shows in your area!

## FWSA DIRECT MEMBER APPLICATION 2022 - 2023

Direct membership is available for an individual or family who are NOT members of a FWSA affiliated snowsports club. Members of FWSA affiliated ski clubs are automatic FWSA members. Membership is effective through April 30, 2023.

### DIRECT MEMBER BENEFITS

■ FWSA Membership Card ■ Member Benefits & Discounts ■ Online access to the *Far West Skier's Guide* ■ Online access to *The Councilman* subscription ■ Invitation to the Annual FWSA Convention and Silent Auction ■ Participation in the FWSA Travel Program, and more.

### ANNUAL DIRECT MEMBER DUES:

\$30 per member; \$50 per couple; \$60 per family. Please copy this form and fill it out. Make checks payable to FWSA, and mail to: FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION

c/o Jean McCahey, VP - Membership,  
(858) 560-8722 / [vpmembership@fwsa.org](mailto:vpmembership@fwsa.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Are you interested in information about ski or snowboard clubs in your area?

### The Far West Skier's Guide issues are available online.

The 2022-2023 edition of the *Far West Skier's Guide* - the 35th Annual - is available online at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). Since the 2010-2011 issue, each annual edition has been digitized and remains accessible on the FWSA website. The 2022-2023 issue will also be available on the National Ski Council Federation website - [www.skifederation.org](http://www.skifederation.org) - which serves 29 country wide Ski Councils with approximately 300,000 members. The *Far West Skier's Guide* can also be accessed from FWSA ski council member websites and many affiliated club sites.

### FAR WEST SKIER'S GUIDE

6535 East Superstition Springs Blvd.  
Mesa, Arizona 85206  
480.600.6099



## Benefits of Direct and Club Membership in FWSA

by Jean McCahey

Vice President - Membership, FWSA

I am the new Vice President - Membership for the Far West Ski Association and am here to help you to become a Direct Member. If you do not have a club nearby or just want to go on a trip sponsored by the FWSA, this article is for you. A "**Direct Member**" is any individual not already belonging to a club or council listed on the [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) website.

The Far West Ski Association offers a variety of programs and benefits to not only its club and council members, but Direct Members, as well. They include: **travel opportunities; discounts on lodging, equipment and services at resorts; recreational racing, publications,** and the **Annual Convention**. We invite all the Direct Members to join us next year in Boise, Idaho for our 90th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention. It is an extended weekend of fun-filled and educational experiences for all snowsports enthusiasts, whether you are a club member or not.

FWSA recently converted to an online membership program, Club Express, which is fully automated. To become a member you just need to go to [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and select **Member Signup**. Select the member type **Direct** and let us know how you heard about us. Next will be the Privacy Terms for your approval. This will bring you to Step 3 where you will fill out all pertinent information. Step 4 is needed if you plan to attend one of our trips. Step 5 is to give you the full experience of FWSA. Step 6 is creating your user name and password so the next time you can just sign in to find any information you need. The last page is where you accept and go to payment.

We have had a large increase in Direct Memberships this year, increasing from 44 to almost 70. This is due to the spectacular trips being offered, and a desire of many people to get back to a normal life.

If you do have local clubs in your area, we would like to encourage you to check one out. Direct Members have access to more opportunities for activities if they join a club in their area, rather than becoming a Direct Member. There are more choices for hiking, skiing/board, biking, golf, theater, plus so much more. The wide variety of social events the clubs conduct provide an opportunity to meet more people with similar interests at the club level. In addition, if you are a club member, you are automatically a member of a regional council, and all the councils also have trips and social events.

If you attend a Far West Ski Association trip this year, be sure to ask questions of the many members of clubs that are on your trip. They can fill you in on the advantages of being a member of a local ski club, and especially in activities that have not been touched upon in this article. Your trip leader is also a valuable resource. We all want to enhance your enjoyment of this wonderful Association. ▲

# THE NORTH AMERICAN TRAVEL PROGRAM

by Nancy Ellis

Vice President - North American Travel, FWSA

2022 Ski Week-Aspen Snowmass, Colorado



Adventure Trip to Denali & Alaskan Cruise



Mini Ski Trip Sundance, Utah

Each year, the FWSA, its councils and clubs offer a wide variety of travel opportunities around the world. In 2022, the North American Ski Week was in Aspen Snowmass, and the Mini Ski Week was to the Zermatt Resort & Spa, Utah and surrounding resorts. The Adventure trip was an Alaskan Cruise with touring in Fairbanks and the Denali National Park. photos provided by Nancy Ellis

We had an exciting 2022 travel year, with our North American Ski Week to Aspen/Snowmass, the Zermatt Utah Mini Trip, and the Denali Tour and Alaska Cruise. People were happy to be traveling again and experienced the “new normal” for traveling with COVID.

Some of the things that can be expected with today’s travel are getting tested for COVID prior to entering a country, boarding a cruise ship or air flight to an international destination. There may be cancellations or modifications to excursions, shuttles, and air services, fewer hotel porters, or restaurant servers, fewer travel guides or shuttle drivers, and all the result of a lack of workers to fill the various jobs. You might experience longer waits for restaurant seating, restaurant closures, or find that banquet style restaurant service is common over ordering meals from a menu, all due to a staffing shortage.

Some nice surprises were reduced numbers on cruise ships, excursions, buses, and hotels. There seems to be a focus on customer service with staff willing to go out of their way to assist travelers and make sure the travel experience is positive. One thing was evident as we experienced the “new travel norms” for COVID testing, mask wearing, and social distancing was that people were willing to follow the safety protocols so they could continue to travel, explore, meet new friends, and have a good time.

I invite you to check out the many trips offered by Far West Ski Association with their North American and International Travel programs. The North American travel program offers trips for ski club and direct members to destinations in North America, Canada, and U.S. territories. Our Annual Ski Week is extremely popular, offering activities for skiers/boarders and non-skiers. We have a week of skiing/boarding, parties with dancing, racing, and opportunities for shopping and winter activities in the area. Far West Ski Association councils sell the trip and plan their own activities, as well. This is a great opportunity to meet people from your council, enjoy one of the many ski resorts in the country, and have a lot of fun! We will be going to **Jackson Hole Resort, January 21-28, 2023**. Past Ski Weeks have been to **Aspen Snowmass, Sun Valley, Big Sky, Banff, Breckenridge, Telluride, Whistler, Beaver Creek, and Keystone**. We will be going to **Steamboat, January 27 - February 3 in 2024**.

We also offer a second ski trip in March which is immensely popular - the **Mini Trip**. This is a 5-day late spring trip. It doesn’t include as many planned activities to keep the trip more affordable. Participants have flexibility to explore the area on their own or participate in group activities. This year, we will be going to **Taos, New Mexico**, and to Big White Ski Resort in 2024. Past trips have been to **Zermatt Utah Resort & Spa, Winter Park, Mt. Bachelor, Snowbasin, Whitefish, Crested Butte, Sun Peaks, and Alyeska**.

The North American Travel program plans adventure trips every two years that are non-ski trips. In June 2022, we toured **Fairbanks & Denali National Park** and took a cruise down the inland passage on the Majestic Princess. Past adventure trips have been a Windjammer Cruise aboard the Vela, exploring the fabulous **British Virgin Islands**, summer trips to **Mammoth Lakes** with fishing, kayaking, and bike riding; **Panama Canal Cruise**; Caribbean Cruise to the **U.S. Virgin Islands, Bahamas, and St. Maarten**; a **Mississippi Steamboat Cruise** and **New Orleans** trip; and a trip to see the start of the Iditarod in **Anchorage, Alaska**. We’re exploring options for a 2025 Adventure trip and will post this trip on the Far West Ski Association website, [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), in spring 2023. Check the Far West Ski Association website for a listing of our trips and how you can sign up. We’re looking forward to seeing you on one of our trips! ▲▲

## North American FWSA Ski Week 2022

### Aspen Snowmass

January 29 - February 5, 2022

Our Snowmass Ski Week sold out this past year. Thank you Mary Manning with Aspen Skiing Company and Gloria Saiya-Woods, Ski.com for working with us to plan a fun and successful week!

Snowmass is the largest of the four mountains in the area. Its vast expanse of terrain includes 94 trails and the largest descent of any resort in North America. It has a top elevation of 12,509 feet and an average snowfall of 300". Snowmass has varied terrain and boasts 4 ski mountains—Snowmass, Aspen Mountain, Aspen Highlands, and Buttermilk. There is something for everyone whether you ski, board, or want to relax in a beautiful destination with so much to see and do. Activities include tubing; snow biking; snowcat dinners on Snowmass or Aspen Highland mountains; spas; snowshoes tours; shopping; and unlimited restaurants and bars. The city of Aspen is a few miles down the road for additional dining options, nightlife, and shopping.

Council participants were very pleased with their lodging. We used the following properties: Top of the Village; Stonebridge Inn Hotel; Tamarack Condos; Timberline Condos; and Pokolodi Lodge. We had a range of room types, such as hotel rooms and condos with ski in/ski out options, and lodging a short walk to the ski hill. Snowmass' base area has expanded and has many restaurants, an ice rink, indoor climbing wall, Alpine "Breath-taker" Mountain Coaster, bars, and shops.

Aspen Snowmass is a partner with IKON and participants with the full IKON pass had 7 days of skiing/riding at any of the 4 ski mountains in the area. Those with the IKON Base Pass Plus had 5 days of skiing/riding at the Aspen Snowmass Resorts.

We had a great time at Snowmass and the three other Aspen Mountains. You are encouraged to take a trip to these resorts!

**Thank you to all  
participants for a  
fantastic Ski Week!**

## North American FWSA Mini Ski Trip 2022

### Zermatt Utah Resort & Spa

March 20 - 25, 2022

Our Zermatt Utah Resort Mini Trip was postponed in 2021 and people were ready to travel to this destination this past March. We had 43 travelers at this 4-star resort hotel in Midway, Utah.

Participants had the option to ski/ride Deer Valley, Park City, or Sundance Mountain Resorts. There were a variety of off-snow activities such as soaking in a 10,000-year old Crater Hot Springs, an on-site mini golf course, spa treatments, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, and sleigh rides. Our Farewell Dinner was a private setting in a yurt.

Thank you to Gloria Saiya-Woods, Ski.com, and FWSA Trip Leader, Gloria Raminha, for planning a fun trip.

Contact Nancy Ellis for more information about the 2023 Taos Mini Trip:

[fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net);

## FWSA Alaskan Adventure - 2022

### Denali Tour & Alaska Inside Passage

June 21 - 25, 2022 - Denali Tour

June 25 - July 2, 2022 - Alaska Inside Passage Cruise



There was so much excitement to do this trip. We started the trip with two days in Fairbanks, Alaska, followed by two days in Denali National Park, and then boarded the Majestic Princess in Whittier, Alaska for a week-long cruise through the inside passage. Due to a landslide that damaged the dock in Skagway, we stopped in Haines and ferried to Skagway to do the various excursions or sightsee at this port. We then cruised to Juneau and Ketchikan before disembarking in Vancouver, BC.

The Majestic Princess was built in 2017. It can hold 3,560 people and our ship had just under 2,000 people. This made for a comfortable cruising experience and safe traveling during COVID. Safety protocols were in place for mask wearing at inside venues, sanitation stations throughout the ship, and handwashing stations as you entered the Marketplace dining area. We had the option to eat inside or outside, and there were many open seating areas due to the reduced number of people on the ship.

We traveled by plane, train, bus, and cruise ship as we traveled across Alaska and enjoyed the diverse and beautiful landscape of this massive state. We saw reindeer, sled dogs, moose, bald eagles, whales, puffin, bears, seals, salmon, waterfalls, glaciers, rain forests, tundra, and more! We had some planned group tours, such as the Fairbanks Riverboat Cruise where we visited the late Susan Butcher's kennel and saw her champion sled dogs in action, visited a replica of an Athabaskan Indian Village, and saw a bush float plane take off and land in the water. We took a Natural History Tour in Denali. There was so much to see and do, and our participants filled their days with horseback and bike riding, rode ATV's and an historic gold rush train, hiked, rafted, walked with reindeer, rode trams, took airplane and helicopter tours, watched an Alaskan lumberjack show, and more. It was so exciting to hear participants' experiences and what they saw of Alaska while doing these activities. I highly recommend a trip to Alaska! *photo courtesy of Princess Cruise Line*



*The 2022 - 2023 winter season is just around the corner, and with a prediction of another El Nino winter, it looks promising that there should be plenty of snow in the Tetons for some fabulous skiing and boarding.*

*photos courtesy of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort*

## **North American FWSA Ski Week 2023**

### **Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Wyoming**

#### **January 21 - 28, 2023**

We're excited to be going to Jackson Hole Mountain Resort for our 2023 North American Ski Week. There is a variety of terrain for all levels, consistent snowfall, and enhanced terrain for beginners and intermediate skiers. There is much to do in the Town of Jackson and the surrounding area, as well. Grand Targhee, Yellowstone National Park, and Grand Teton National Park are day trips for those that want to venture outside the area. Area activities include Cross Country Skiing; Snowmobile; Sleigh Rides; Snowshoe; Elk Reserve Sleigh Rides and Museum; Mountain Coaster and Tubing at Snow Ski Mountain.

The following FWSA Councils are selling the Jackson Hole Ski Week: Arizona, Bay Area Snow Sports, Central, Los Angeles, Northwest, Orange, San Diego, and Sierra Councils. Our participants will be staying at the 49er and Elk Country in town, and Snow King Hotel at the base of Snow King Mountain. Jackson Hole Mountain Resort has partnered with IKON pass and those who have purchased the full pass will get 7 days of skiing/riding at Jackson Hole and those with the IKON Base Pass Plus will get 5 days of skiing/riding. Snow King Mountain is located in town and offers our participants a group rate for a daily lift ticket. They have a new gondola that gives access to the back of the mountain for added terrain. The mountain also has a coaster and tubing area for those wanting something extra fun!

#### ***Our Itinerary for the Week:***

- Sat., Jan. 21 Arrival Day
- Sun., Jan. 22 Welcome Party—Snow King Resort
- Mon., Jan. 23 Ski at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort or Snow King Mountain

#### ***Council Activities***

- Tues., Jan. 24 GS Race & Picnic—Snow King Mountain
- Wed. Jan. 25 Ski at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort or Snow King Mountain
- Thurs., Jan. 26 Council Challenge—Jackson Hole Mountain Resort Farewell Banquet & Dance
- Fri., Jan. 27 Council Activities
- Sat., Jan. 28 Departure Day

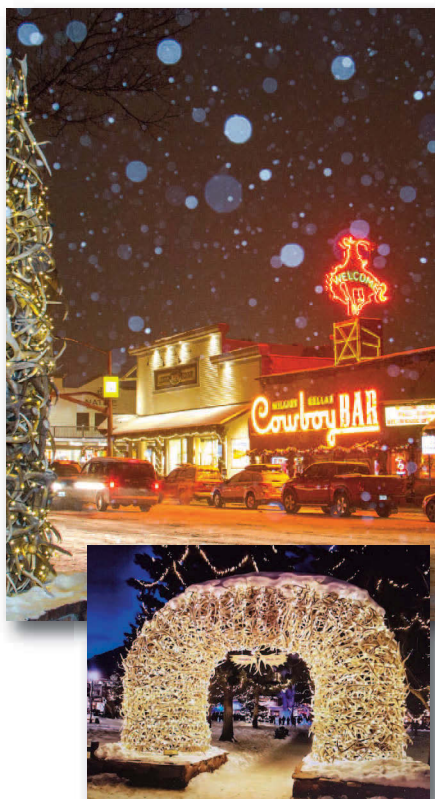
## Jackson Hole Mountain Resort Statistics:

- 2,500 total acres
- 116 runs
- 15 lifts
- 1 Tram
- 2 Gondolas
- Base Area 6,311 feet
- Summit 10,449 feet
- Trails—10% Beginner; 40% Intermediate; 50% Expert
- Season snowfall: over 400" a year

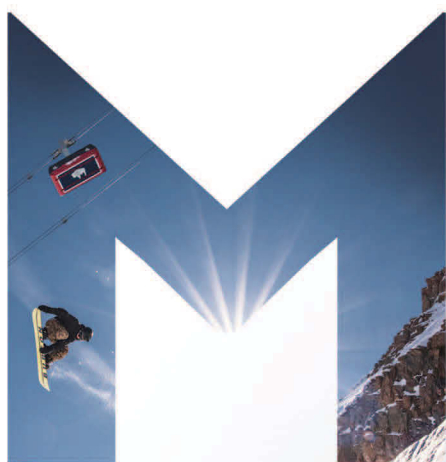
## Other Highlights:

- A Mountain Sports School has been added mid-mountain with adult classes at every level
- Enhanced terrain for beginner and intermediate skiers

Sandy Gaudette, Skigroup.net, has teamed with Jackson Hole Mountain Resort to plan an extraordinary ski week experience for our group. Information about the 2023 Jackson Hole Mountain Resort Ski Week and Council Contacts are available on the FWSA website [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)



Besides wonderful skiing, Jackson Hole offers a variety of nightly entertainment. And, don't miss the four Elk Antler Arched Gate entrances into the Town Square shown to the left in the top photo. The inset shows one of the entrance arches made from elk antlers.



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RE *than a*  
**MOUNTAIN**



The central graphic features the text 'RE' in large, bold, blue-outlined letters, followed by 'than a' in a black script font, and 'MOUNTAIN' in large, bold, black-outlined letters. To the left of the text is a circular inset showing a close-up of a snowy mountain peak. Below the text is a rectangular inset showing a group of skiers on a snowy slope. To the right of the text is a square QR code. The background of this section is a photograph of a snowy mountain peak with a ski lift visible in the distance.

## North American FWSA Mini Ski Week 2023

**Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico**  
February 25 - March 2, 2023

We will be going to Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico, for the Mini Ski Trip. The trip is scheduled for February 25 - March 2, 2023. The Far West Ski Association's Mini Trip is a six day, five night trip. It features a Welcome event where participants learn about the resort and meet other participants. There may be informal activities during the week at the discretion of the group, and then a Farewell event at the end of the week.

### Taos Ski Valley Resort Statistics:

- 1,294 acres
- 110 trails: 24% beginner; 25% intermediate; 51% expert
- 14 lifts: 1 gondola; 1 high speed quad; and 11 other lifts
- Base altitude - 9,350'
- Summit altitude - 12,481'



*The 2023 FWSA Mini Ski Week will be held in Taos, NM. photo / Mike Hawkins / Taos Ski Valley*

- 100% of beginner and intermediate slopes have snowmaking
- Shopping and a variety of restaurants
- Spa and wellness center

Taos is on the IKON pass for the 2022-2023 season. The full IKON pass gives participants 7 days of skiing/riding without any blackout days. The IKON Base pass gives skiers/riders 5 days with blackout dates over certain holidays.

The following are available in the area in addition to skiing/riding:

- Ice skating
- Snowmobile tours
- New Mexico cultural tours
- Cross Country skiing

The FWSA Mini Trips are popular with people wanting a small group travel experience at smaller ski resorts. Participants have free time to ski/ride, explore the area and meet other FWSA members from other states. I invite you to join us on the Taos Ski Valley Mini Trip this spring. For trip information details and to sign up, go to the [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) website.

Currently, the 2024 FWSA Mini Ski Week is planned for Big White Ski Resort, B.C. More info to be placed on website.



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**FWSA Mini Ski &  
Snowboard  
Week**

**TAOS**  
**NEW MEXICO**  
**MARCH 2023**



*A panoramic view of the town of Steamboat and Steamboat Resort, located in Northwest Colorado. The resort offers a diversity of trails for all levels of ability and terrain parks. There is so much to see and do both on the mountain and in town. We look forward to the FWSA Ski Week to Steamboat in 2024.*

## North American FWSA Ski Week 2024 Steamboat, Colorado

**January 27 - February 3, 2024**

Steamboat Resort, Colorado, is the destination for our 2024 North American Ski Week. It's one of the largest ski resorts in Colorado, with over 2,965 acres of skiable terrain, 169 named trails, and 18 lifts. The base elevation is 6,900 feet and the summit elevation is 10,568 feet.

Steamboat is undergoing major transformation of the base area and mountain. Phase I has been completed which included adding an escalator and gondola in a new base area. Phase II for winter 2022-2023 includes the opening of an ice rink, the Greenhorn Ranch Learning Center, the opening of the Range Food & Drink Hall, the opening of the lower leg



*Steamboat Resort is one of the largest ski resorts in Colorado, with over 2,965 acres of permitted terrain. photos courtesy of Steamboat Resort*

of Wild Blue Gondola to Greenhorn Ranch Learning Center, and more. Phase III will be completed in winter 2023-2024 when the gondola will be completed to the top of Sunshine Peak, the Pioneer Ridge terrain expansion will be completed, and new snowmaking will be operable to Sunshine Peak. We will be able to enjoy most or all the "New Steamboat" when we arrive for our Ski Week January 27 - February 3, 2024.

Trip participants will have a range of room types available, such as hotels or condos with ski in/ski out options and lodging a short walk to the ski hill. There are a range of activities to enjoy in winter

and non-skiers are encouraged to join the trip to experience the history and beauty of the area. Activities include scenic gondola rides, snowmobile tours, spa treatments, tours, sleigh ride dinners, and more.

Steamboat is on the IKON pass. We will provide a link to sign up for the 2022-2023 Ikon pass through our tour operator. Participants purchasing the pass using the link and then signing up for the trip will receive a special benefit to be announced closer to the trip.

Watch for information and trip sign ups on the website, [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) beginning in March 2023.

# FWSA Travel Memories - 2022



*The charming village of Sölden is surrounded by over 90 miles of skiable terrain, plus skiing on two glaciers. The area is serviced by over 30 lifts. A fabulous time was had by all on the 2022 FWSA Ski Week! photo provided by Sölden/Ötztal Tourism*

## 2022 FWSA Ski Week to Sölden, Austria, with an Extension Trip to the Black Forest in Germany

On February 25, a group of 44 FWSA participants departed the U.S. for the FWSA International Ski Week in Sölden, Austria. We learned that it truly offered **"The Big Three."** There are three large ski areas to explore and Sölden is Austria's first resort offering three peaks beyond 10,000 feet. Sölden hosts the Alpine Ski World Cup and one of Europe's most renowned ski and snowboard resorts. The infinite number of slopes and ski trails are available for all levels, with over 91 miles of slopes, including two glaciers! This is the largest ski resort in the Ötztal Valley, and the Austrian hospitality is incomparable!

Our 4-Star Tyrolerhof Hotel was centrally located to the gondola/tram system, with many restaurants and cafes, and plentiful stores for shopping and nightlife activities. One could walk across the street and stroll along the beautiful river wandering its way down from the snowcapped mountains.

The Sölden/Ötztal Tourism Office Director, Mikaela, was available each evening to assist our participants by arranging special activities and tours for our non-skiers, as well as answer questions regarding the entire area...*what an asset to our members!* One highlight for our James Bond Fans was to visit the 007 Elements cinematic experience inside the summit of Gaislachkogel mountain!

While traveling during the strict COVID-19 protocols, we continued to practice safety protocols while indoors, in group settings and traveling on the bus. The ski resort personnel

did monitor mask wearing in lift lines and waiting for a tram or gondola. We learned many things while complying with each country's requirements...*it often changed.* As soon as I provided our members one rule...it certainly was revised or eliminated. I kept telling everyone that, **"The only thing that was Constant...is Change!"**



**ABOVE:** While in Triberg, we enjoyed hiking to the "Triberg Wasserfall" which is the largest waterfall in Germany. **RIGHT:** One of the great masterpieces of the Gothic architecture in Germany is the Freiburg im Breisgau Munster.

From March 5 - 11, a smaller group of 22 participants enjoyed our extension trip while staying lakeside at the Hotel Maritim in beautiful Titisee-Neustadt, Germany. The Black Forest Region in Germany is like no other. The very name Black Forest invokes images of deep woodlands, traditional deep-roofed farmhouses, cuckoo clocks, and half-timbered villages that look like they have been taken out of a fairy-tale book. And, you must not forget the infamous Black Forest cake. The rolling hills and awesome landscapes offered a never-ending series of photo worthy views.

The area is known for charming villages and unique cities full of beautiful trees. We had daily bus tours taking us to places such as: Lindau; Freiberg; Triberg; Colmar; Kayserberg; Heidelberg, including the Heidelberg Castle; and Strasbourg, including their historic cathedral. While in Triberg, we enjoyed hiking to the "Triberg Wasserfall" which is the largest waterfall in Germany, as well as, visiting many specialty shops proudly selling their signature cuckoo clocks, and touring their unique and interesting museum.

Another special activity included exploring Freiburg. One of the great masterpieces of the Gothic architecture in Germany is the Freiburg im Breisgau Munster. This impressive Gothic Church was built between the 13th and 16th century where the 116-meter-high tower sweeps the views of the rooftops of the entire old town.

We experienced many delightful restaurants, enchanting hamlets, and communities while appreciating perfect weather.

What a remarkable trip with amazingly fun people!



# INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

by Debbie Stewart  
Vice President - International Travel, FWSA

**Our FWSA Members Are “READY TO TRAVEL”  
& We’re “READY TO TAKE YOU WITH US!”**



*Sölden offered numerous pistes for all levels of skiers and boarders which the participants of the 2022 FWSA International Ski Week totally enjoyed! It was an memorable adventure!*  
photo provided by Sölden/Ötztal Tourism

*TOP LEFT & LOWER RIGHT: Lots of happy skiers posed for group photos at different locations on the mountain.*  
*TOP RIGHT: On the post trip to the Black Forest in Germany, we saw many stores which carried the area's traditional popular cuckoo clocks.*  
photos provided by George and Debbie Stewart



*ABOVE: Although we were kept busy throughout our adventure along the Croatian journey, there were many times when we could relax and enjoy the beautiful scenery. photos provided by George and Debbie Stewart*

## 2022 Croatia Adventure Trip was a Huge Success

If you've been on one of our adventure trips, you know how fun they are. After a two-year delay due to COVID, we finally were able to go on our trip to Croatia, originally planned for 2020. Far West Ski Association partnered with Alpine Adventures for this Balkan country adventure trip. Croatia is known for its 3,625-mile-long Adriatic coastline with over 1,000 islands. Our 36 participants left the US on September 1 for our trip held from September 2-12. Our excellent itinerary included the most popular sites in Croatia: Zagreb, Split, Plitvice National Park, Dubrovnik, and the beautiful Croatian islands along the Dalmatian Coast.

We started the trip in Zagreb, the capital city of Croatia, with a delicious 3-course welcome dinner including wine, a very nice introduction to Croatian cuisine. That night we stayed at the 4-star Zagreb Hotel Panorama. Next on our trip was Plitvice National Park. Our group enjoyed the spectacular world-renowned scenery, especially the 16 natural terraced lakes and many waterfalls that extend into limestone canyons. This area is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We had guided tours of Split and Trogir, on the beautiful Adriatic coast. Split, as the second largest city and located on the coast of the Adriatic Sea, offered an attractive blend of modern and ancient charm.

We loved our nights on the luxury 5-star MS President yacht. We had this sleek, modern cruiser all to ourselves. We stayed in well-appointed en suite cabins and enjoyed the large inside restaurant and bar, as well as the outdoor terrace, huge sun deck and plunge pool. We had time for swimming, snorkeling and relaxing. The highlight was exploring the stunning Croatian islands and Dalmatian coast. We had guided tours on the islands of Hvar, Korcula and Brac. We enjoyed wine tasting on Hvar, olive oil tasting on Brac, and a traditional peka meal on the island of Vis, farthest from the mainland. What a fine gastronomical experience.

Our last stop in Croatia was the stunningly picturesque city of Dubrovnik, known as the "Pearl of the Adriatic" for good reason. It is known for its culture, art and architecture, especially its popular 16th century stone-walled Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Dubrovnik was the filming location for The Game of Thrones. Join us on an upcoming trip to see and experience magnificent parts of the world.

## 2022 Dive Trip to Cozumel, Mexico

The FWSA's 11th Annual Dive Trip in 2022 to Cozumel, Mexico was excellent! If you've joined us for a dive trip, you know how great they are. Far West Ski Association collaborated, once again, with the specialists at Roatan Charter Inc. for our fantastic dive and vacation adventure to the Iberostar Resort in Cozumel October 8-15, 2022. The 5-star all-inclusive Iberostar Resort located right on the beach within the Marine Park offered us three pools, including two lagoon-style pools plus a variety of entertainment. We appreciated the resort's shopping area, spa, and pool hall. Every night there was something happening, from theatrical performances to live music. We also had our choice of tennis, nonmotorized water sports, archery, rifle shooting, beach volleyball, table tennis, basketball, water aerobics and gym. We enjoyed all of this plus dining at the specialty restaurants.

The real reason for the trip was the scuba diving. The Palancar and Santa Rosa Wall reefs surround the hotel and is a protective area within the marine park. This impressive reef is part of the Great Barrier Reef of the Western Atlantic, also known as the Great Mayan Reef, a diving area second only to the Great Barrier Reef. We were very pleased with the dive package that included five 2-tank dives, 2 Cenotes dives, one night dive and complimentary nitrox. Their Dive Shop, a PADI CDC Center in business for 25 years, has an unstained historic safety record with a 0% accident rate. Dressel Divers imparts training programs to its staff that directly result in higher safety for its guests. We liked their convenient dive center right on the resort property, along with equipment storage and a drying room.



ABOVE: One of our favorite day trips during our Croatian Cruise along the Dalmatian coastline was the historic and picturesque Hvar Town - located on an historic island. The Tvrđava Fortica (Hvar Fort) is one of four UNESCO historic sites on this island. The others include a Franciscan Monastery, and the Cathedral of St. Stephan, which dates back to the 16th century.

RIGHT: A group of FWSA travelers spent a week on this beautiful yacht as we sailed along the gorgeous Dalmatian coast - stopping at many ports along the way. What an adventure!

BELOW: The FWSA has been running dive trips since 2010. They have become a popular annual event for many members.



ABOVE LEFT: The Caribbean Spiny Lobster reaches adult size in about two years. They get their name from the forward-pointing spines that cover their bodies to help protect them from predators.

ABOVE RIGHT Various species of crabs are found in coastal areas all around the Caribbean.

# International Ski Week 2023



ABOVE: The town of Zermatt is located in Switzerland's Valais Canton. It is famous as a mountaineering and ski resort in the Swiss Alps.

The town is almost completely surrounded by the high mountains of the Pennine Alps, and located below the iconic pyramid-shaped Matterhorn peak. The main street is the Bahnhofstrasse, lined with boutique shops, hotels and restaurants. It is known for its lively après ski scene. Public outdoor ice rinks offer ice skating and curling in addition to its beautiful ski slopes.



Zermatt is Europe's highest ski resort. There is perfect skiing, with miles of piste, fantastic slopes, and plenty of sunshine. Modern conveyances will get you quickly to where you want to go. The ski resort surrounds the majestic Matterhorn Mountain - perhaps the most famous and recognized mountain in all of Europe. The iconic peak is seen in the background of both photos. The mountain's nearly symmetrical pyramidal peak measures over 14,690 feet. photos / Holiday Ski Tours

## FWSA 2023 International Ski Week Zermatt, Switzerland & Costa del Sol

February 25 - March 4, 2023

Is Zermatt your favorite ski area in the world? For many people it is and we're going back there this season. We loved skiing there in 2014 so we are eager to go again. Our upcoming FWSA International Ski Week is February 25-March 4, 2023 with an extension trip to southern Spain including Costa del Sol and 3 nights in Mallorca. Hurry and sign up (if you haven't already) as this trip will sell out quickly. You may register for both Zermatt and Spain, only Zermatt or only Spain. It's your choice.

When most people think of Zermatt, they think of one thing: the Matterhorn. This amazing icon continues to loom over Zermatt since the 1860's. Whether you are a skier or a non-skier, this lovely car-free pedestrian town of Zermatt has much to offer. Zermatt is home to 9 of the 10 highest mountains in Europe; this high altitude guarantees an excellent snow record in a long season, which makes Zermatt special. You will find many things to do and experience while sitting at the base of the majestic Matterhorn.

Costa del Sol is a favorite destination in Spain known for its endless beaches, hidden coves, small villages that appear like a mirage in the mountains, historical landmarks with centuries of culture, pleasant temperatures all year 'round and happy, friendly people. Costa del Sol is the region of Andalusia where the mountain and the Mediterranean Sea combine to create idyllic landscapes. Mallorca is known for its stunning coastline with cliffs, coves and beaches that have never lost their appeal. Mallorca has ravishing beaches, azure views, remote mountains and soulful hill towns. There's much to like.



*italythisway.com*

## FWSA 2024 International Ski Week Madonna di Campiglio, Italy

Do you love to ski in spectacularly stunning scenery? If so, you'll want to join us for skiing in the amazing Dolomites. We'll be going to Madonna di Campiglio, the main point of access to the Dolomites mountain range, in mid to late February, 2024. This vibrant Italian ski area links four small sectors known both for excellent grooming and steep runs. The slopes spread out widely. The ski area has 57 lifts and 93 miles of ski runs with a capacity of more than 31,000 people per hour. A spectacular 16-minute gondola ride connects to the neighboring resort of Pinzolo.

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 lifts coming right down into the town, unusual assets compared to many other famous ski resorts. The resort's altitude gives it more dependable conditions than many traditional winter sports centers.

## FWSA 2024 Africa Adventure Trip

Africa is an amazing place. Many of you had a great time touring South Africa with us in 2014, so now we're planning for another Adventure Trip to Africa. We're researching various photographic safari trip options to Kenya, Tanzania, or Botswana. We're not sure where just yet, but it will be a trip we know you'll enjoy. We are hoping that we all will see the "Big 5" animals during this trip. Let's join together and experience the local culture, as well as, seeing the many magnificent animals in their natural habitat.

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*The Far West Ski Association has a very active travel program. Each year, we offer an exciting ski week to a popular world famous ski destination, as well as, a noted nearby extension trip. Every two years, we also add a memorable adventure trip. Just look at the wonderful future destinations we are planning. And, make your plans to join us!*

## **FWSA 2025 Ski Week – Val d’Isere, France**

Our last ski week to Val d’Isere was in 2015 and we had a fantastic time. The skiing was incredible, hotels were great, people were friendly, and the town is charming with many shops and restaurants. We look forward to returning there as many of you have told us how much you enjoy skiing in Val d’Isere.

## **FWSA Chile Ski & Adventure Trip**

**Postponed from 2023 to Summer 2025**

For years, many of you, our Far West skiers, have asked us to offer a South American Ski Trip. Good news: we have plans to do just that. We will be working on a trip during the summer of 2025. This will be a Ski and Adventure Trip to Valle Nevado, Chile, with additional skiing available at La Parva and El Colorado. If you haven’t skied in South America yet, this is your opportunity.

Valle Nevado is South America’s premier ski resort, offering access to over 7000 acres of terrain and has the most modern lift operation on the continent. They are proud of their laid-back environment with no lift lines, inviting ambience and delicious gourmet food. The awe-inspiring peak of El Pomo towers above the twin valleys in which the three best ski areas of South America are located. Far West participants will be flying into Santiago, then travel 90 minutes to the ski area of the world-famous Andes Mountains. This area provides amazing views, varied terrain, and an incredible experience during our summer, which is their winter. This trip will be limited, so it will be important that you sign up quickly once registration materials are available.

After Valle Nevado, we will be traveling to the Atacama Desert, a desert plateau covering a total area of 40,541 square miles stretching 600 miles from southern Peru into northern Chile, west of the Andes mountain range. Because the Atacama Desert sits at 6,000 feet, it offers exceptional skies and 330 clear nights each year resulting in worldwide recognition for its focus on astronomy. The Atacama Desert is the driest place in the world and the only true desert to receive less precipitation than the polar deserts. Most of the desert is composed of stony terrain, salt lakes, sand, and felsic lava that flows towards the Andes. Some parts of the Atacama Desert are similar to the surface of Mars.

According to *The New York Times*, the Atacama Desert is the #2 place to visit. To get there, we will take a 2-hour plane ride from Santiago to Calama, which is known for the largest open pit copper mine in the world. We will have the opportunity for hiking, biking, and adventuring out to see unique environmental landscapes. There are sand dunes, salt flats, lagoons inhabited with flamingos, areas with geysers, unique flora and fauna, various animals and so much more!

## **FWSA 2026 Ski Week - Chamonix, France**

Chamonix is another top-rated world class ski resort. The last time we had a Ski Week there was in 2012. Do you remember skiing the famous Vallée Blanche? It’s an off-piste ski route, 12+ miles long with a vertical descent of 8,800 feet, usually skied with a guide. The views are stunning and the high mountain environment provides a real sensation of wilderness. If you haven’t skied that yet, you may want to do so on our upcoming trip. This is one of those memorable life experiences that you’ll never forget. If that kind of skiing is not your preference, that’s fine. Chamonix combines 5 ski resorts providing skiing for all levels including plenty of intermediate and beginning terrain.

## **FWSA 2026 Galapagos Adventure Trip**

Research is underway for the 2026 Adventure Trip to the Galapagos, which is part of Ecuador, and possibly also going to Machu Picchu, which is in Peru, or to another destination. Stay tuned for the announcement of this trip.

## **FWSA 2028 - New Zealand Adventure Trip**

We love to plan ahead. This allows us to create top-notch trips for you and enables you to reserve time on your calendar for our trips. We look forward to an Adventure Trip to scenic, fun New Zealand in 2028. No details yet but it’s a destination you’ll want to experience so keep your eyes out for more information.

As FWSA Vice President of International Travel, I realize that vacation days are precious. The best ones are those that leave you feeling recharged, inspired with the feeling that the explorations were worthwhile, ones where the most cherished souvenirs bring you the grandest memories. We invite you to make some of those fantastic and exciting memories with other Far West Ski Association members as we experience some of the world’s most epic destinations! ▲▲

For updates or information on the FWSA International Travel Program:

**Debbie Stewart** at: [FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net](mailto:FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net)

Mobile – (559) 737-0882

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



## 12th Annual FWSA Scuba Dive Trip to be Held in September, 2023

by Randy Lew  
Dive Trip Leader, FWSA

The FWSA's 12th Annual Scuba Dive Trip will be to the fabulous Turks & Caicos Islands, with Roatan Charter.

The Turks and Caicos is a British Overseas Territory, considered a part of the Caribbean region. With more than 40 small islands and cays, the eight inhabited islands are separated into two island groups; to the east of the Turks Island Passage are the Turks Islands and to the west are the Caicos Islands. The islands are located 575 miles southeast of Miami, Florida, south of the Bahamas and east of Cuba.

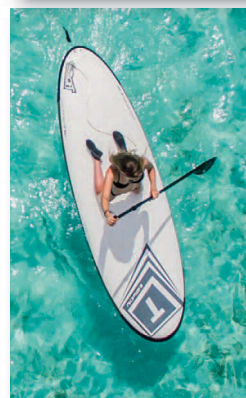
The trip includes seven nights at East Bay Resort in South Caicos (*double occupancy with all meals daily*) and resort amenities. Perched on the most stunning beach in South Caicos, all rooms at East Bay Resort feature breathtaking views of their expansive, private 1.5 mile long beach. East Bay Resort has all the amenities for a great worry-free vacation: private entrances, private balconies, fully-equipped kitchens, AC and free Wi-Fi.

Included are six days of two tank boat dives, five days of afternoon boat dives and complimentary use of a dive computer, PADI CDC Center, Welcome Party and Farewell Dinner, plus non-motorized water sports and activities. Resort fees, taxes and staff gratuities are included in the pricing, but the dive gratuities are not included.

We will be using the services of Reef Divers, a full-service scuba diving operator, based at the East Bay Resort on South Caicos. The company is the sole diver operator on South Caicos, and likewise the only company regularly visiting the spectacular reefs off South Caicos, East Caicos, and Ambergis Cay. Reef Divers has a team of PADI and SSI certified dive professionals, and is dedicated to ensuring the safety of divers and protecting the environment, while providing memorable diving

adventures and exclusive valet diving services. Divers will have great opportunity to see large marine life year-round including several species of sharks, turtles, rays, eels and large schools of jacks, in addition to other diverse reef creatures and fish.

Non-divers are welcome to join the trip, and a separate pricing is available. For detailed information, contact Randy Lew, FWSA Dive Trip Leader, at **FWSA13** [randy@telis.net](mailto:randy@telis.net), 530-304-0802. ▲



*Dive, snorkel, swim or just relax on the beautiful beaches of Turks & Caicos Islands on the FWSA's 12th Annual Scuba Dive Trip to be held in September, 2023.*  
photos provided by  
Roatan Charter

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*A skier is enjoying the magnificent powder and panoramic views at Big White Ski Resort in British Columbia, which offers some of the greatest skiing and boarding in Canada. The Canadian border is now fully open in time for the upcoming winter season! COVID-19 border restrictions ended as of October 1, 2022 for all travelers entering or returning to Canada by air, land or sea. Make your travel plans now for a memorable Canadian skiing/boarding experience! photo courtesy of Big White Ski Resort, Geoff Holman, photographer*

## A New Normal (Part III) 2022 - 2023 Ski Season /Après - Pandemic

by Jane Wyckoff  
Past President, FWSA

In the 33rd Edition of the *Far West Skier's Guide*, we featured an article entitled **"A 'New Normal?' The 2020-2021 Ski Season. What to Expect!"** The 2019-2020 ski season had come to an abrupt halt in mid-March throughout the Northern Hemisphere. The snowsports industry leadership organizations came together, and outlined changes to their operations to comply with government mandates due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We outlined the changes that were being made in travel, lifts, lodging and dining, and what to expect if planning a European ski vacation.

In the 34th Edition, we featured a follow-up article entitled, **"A New Normal (Part II) What to Expect for the 2021-2022 Ski Season..."** The strategies of the snowsports industry leadership organizations and ski resorts were quite successful for the 2020-2021 season in changing operations to adhere to COVID-19 mandates, and resulted in more than 59 million skier visits. In the *Kottke End of Season and Demographic Report 2020-2021* published by the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) it was determined that a noticeable amount of lapsed skiers and snowboarders were participating again. ([www.nsaa.org](http://www.nsaa.org)) According to Ski Industries America (SIA) *"The Impacts of COVID-19 on Snowsports Consumers"* report showed that a large percentage of winter enthusiasts not only engaged in new winter sports during the season, but participated more times than in the previous season. (<https://snowsports.org>)

What kind of participation did we have this past season as the pandemic began to wane? According to NSAA, who has been tracking skier visits since the 1978-1979 season, there was a record visitation at U.S. ski areas for the 2021-2022 season, with a total of 61 million skier visits. This represents an increase of 3.5% over the last season's national number. In the wake of the pandemic, skiing and snowboarding rebounded. A strong season pass sales and a continued desire for outdoor recreation, were two of the primary contributing factors to the season's record-breaking results.

This bodes well for the long-term health of the sport, since participant numbers had been relatively flat over the past decade. It means the U.S. ski industry is healthy and outdoor recreation remains strong. For the past two years, the pandemic led more people to seek outdoor activities. Historically, changes in skier visits could be correlated with snowfall, with more snow generally meaning more skiers. However, last season the average snowfall was 145" nationally, lower than the 10-year average of 166".

Despite the pandemic, resorts had forged ahead with capital investments to improve the skiing and boarding experience. This trend has not only continued, but has been strengthened. NSAA reported that the capital investment by ski areas is projected to reach an all-time high, totaling \$728 million for the upcoming capital season.

However, it wasn't all good news for winter sports participants last season. The ski industry struggled, as with many industries, to attract and retain staff for the season. Over 80% of resorts told NSAA that they were not fully staffed. Ski areas responded by raising wages, adding end-of-season bonuses, and investing in affordable workforce housing. Due to short staffing, resorts faced complaints about closed lifts, limited terrain, and long lift lines, plus other issues created by not enough available workers.

## A Look at Summer Skiing

There was good news this summer for skiing in South America, as pandemic restrictions began to relax. It was the first time in three years that skiers from around the world could head back to the Andes. There were some restrictions still in place, but it was possible to travel if you met the criteria required by government mandates. Mainly, it was having adequate medical insurance to cover getting back to where you came from. Portillo in Chile opened a week early due to big snowfalls, and had only been open for a few weeks at the end of their last winter season, by the time the country eased restrictions. Conditions were good in the rest of the areas, with most opening on schedule in June. Las Lenas in Argentina also opened, and had not been in operation since 2019.

Canada's Blackcomb Glacier above Whistler also opened, for the first time since 2019. New Zealand's pre-departure testing was rescinded on June 21, just in time for the peak July ski season. It opened its border to Australians, with quarantine-free travel resuming between the two countries on April 13. However, despite restrictions being eased in many leading nations, Air Charter Service noted that 76% of countries still had some form of travel restrictions in place in June. The USA no longer required a negative coronavirus COVID-19 result for arrivals, so skiers headed to the southern hemisphere or Europe's glaciers would no longer need to take a pre-departure test before flying there. ([www.snow-forecast.com](http://www.snow-forecast.com))

What are some of the lasting changes to be expected in the winter travel industry as we enter season 2022-2023, as a result of the pandemic?

## Comprehensive Insurance

Safety concerns are always primary when skiing or snowboarding, as it is part of the sport. There is always a danger of getting injured on the slopes. However, COVID-19 added a new unpredictability when planning for a ski trip.

Season Pass sales surged in popularity due to the pandemic. Last season, for the third season in a row, season passes surpassed day tickets in the share of skier visits. Season pass holders made up 51.9% of visits nationally, with day tickets at 37.3% (with the balance by off-duty employees, complimentary tickets, etc).

Skiing was an outdoor experience available, and the season pass assured skiing availability when there was no guarantee that a day pass would be available, due to crowd awareness. Locals flocked to nearby mountains when travel elsewhere was limited.

When COVID-19 hit in mid-March 2020, the Ikon Pass and



*After several years with closed borders, there was some good news for international skiers and snowboarders in the Andes ski resorts, as both Chile and Argentina in South America opened for tourism for summer skiing in 2022. From July to October, Bariloche, Argentina, located at the foot of the Andes mountain range, is one of the greatest destinations in the country for winter sports. It offers skiing, snowboarding, cross-country skiing, sliding and ATV riding. A snowboarder is enjoying the smooth snow at one of the local resorts. photo by Federico Persiani on Unsplash*

Epic Season Pass purchases were not refunded due to the unexpected closures. Alterra, which operates the Ikon Pass, did extend the deadline for early renewals and the payment plan deadline. Epic announced it would offer season pass holders credits of up to 80 percent to apply to a 2020-2021 pass, based on how much they had used their pass.

Alterra then announced Adventure Assurance, which initially gave 2020-2021 Ikon Pass holders the choice to defer for credit toward the 2021-2022 season for any reason with no fee. Adventure Assurance now comes free with every 2022-2023 Ikon Pass, giving pass holders credits in the case of COVID-related closures.

Starting in 2020-2021, Epic Passes included Epic Coverage with every pass, which would provide refunds associated with personal events and certain resort closures, which included closure due to COVID-19. ([www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com))

## Ski Trip Insurance

If you have never purchased ski trip insurance, it is something you might consider doing, and conduct some research on the policies available. The insurance market now offers policies that cover COVID-19 situations. Cancellation benefits for travelers who contract the disease, or are quarantined prior to their trip, are provided for in most standard travel insurance policies now. Medical and Medical Evacuation benefits are also available for travelers who contract COVID-19 while traveling. There are also upgrades available for policies for travelers who want to cancel for any other reason related to COVID-19 (a Cancel for Any Reason Upgrade). ([www.squaremouth.com](http://www.squaremouth.com))



*Backcountry skiing and boarding grew in popularity during the pandemic, with the early shutdown of ski resorts. Before heading into the backcountry, you need to understand the risks involved, have the proper equipment, and do your safety research.*

*photo by Robson Hatsukami Morgan on Unsplash*

## ▶ Easier Cancellation Policies

Many ski resorts have adjusted into easier cancellation policies, because of the changing local, state/province and national restrictions due to the pandemic. For example, Winter Park Resort now offers a **“Carefree Cancellations”** policy. The resort stated it understands travel plans may need to change, so they are proud to offer their guests Carefree Cancellation with every booking. Condominium and hotel reservations for Winter Park Resort Lodging, winter arrivals, can be cancelled for a full refund up to three weeks prior to arrival. In addition, all lift tickets, activities, lessons, and rentals can be cancelled for a full refund up to one week prior to your arrival. ([www.winterpark-resort.com](http://www.winterpark-resort.com))

## Booking a Trip

When booking a trip through a group or a tour operator, we trust that they have done their due diligence, and have provided the best rate possible, and are aware of any health related travel restrictions that you might face in your travels.

It is interesting to note that customers are not only focused on health and safety protocols, but also have a greater expecta-

tion for the type of customer service that they experienced during the pandemic. Hotels and other businesses in the travel industry were desperate for travelers, and the customer experience was enhanced to a level that customers now expect to be continued. ([www.styleattitudes.com](http://www.styleattitudes.com))

## Length of Trips

The length of trips has also had a shift. There has been a growing popularity of **“grab-it-while-you-can”** vacations, which means more short term trips taken during the year without long term planning. No one wants to wait for a year for a holiday that could be cancelled due to a pandemic, a strike by baggage handlers, or other workers on which your holiday depends.

Many skiers and boarders are taking shorter trips, and this trend has been also fueled by fewer days spent in the office and the ability to E-Work from wherever you are, even if it is in the mountains. It is more convenient, because if there is a last minute glitch, you can simply abort the trip and go another time. ([www.styleattitudes.com](http://www.styleattitudes.com))

## Backcountry Popularity Grows

Global Rescue reported that with the ski mountains closed, as in the beginning of the pandemic, or filled up due to COVID-19 restrictions as it continued, enterprising skiers found other ways to get outside and enjoy the season. Heli-skiing, heli-boarding, backcountry skiing, splitboarding and snowshoeing all had increased activity.

Heli-skiing (and heli-boarding) is off-trail, downhill skiing (or snowboarding) reached by helicopter. With backcountry skiing you are skiing in the wilderness - there's no lodge, no lift and no ski patrol. Snowboarders can also explore the backcountry using a splitboard: a normal snowboard that splits into two halves, two mini skis, so snowboarders can climb up hills and then attach the halves back together at the top.

When ski resorts shut down in March 2020, a record number of customers bought new gear at retail stores, crowded trailheads and then inadvertently triggered avalanches on the backcountry slopes.

At a resort, ski patrol and first aid services are on site. In the backcountry, facilities and ranger stations may be closed due to COVID-19. This has made safety all the more important for the backcountry sportsman, due to avalanches, injury, fragile glaciers, extreme coldness, altitude sickness and less help if necessary.

If this trend continues into the upcoming season, which it is expected to do, participants are strongly encouraged to do their research to read what the experts have to say, because the experts give very sound advice – that could save your life and the lives of others. Visit [www.globalrescue.com](http://www.globalrescue.com) for detailed information.

## Technological Advances

The winter sports industry had to place technology as a top priority, in order to adhere to government mandates required, and keep their business operational. Ski areas are becoming much more efficient in what they do, out of necessity. Reservations systems had to be upgraded to be user friendly,

since advanced reservations were necessary to limit crowds. Reservations were required, because walk up day passes might not be available.

A touchless interaction with guests was required, from hotel check-in, to purchases of rentals, lessons or food, to getting on the lifts. Some resorts have a print your own lift ticket system or a lift ticket that is reloadable for the next time you go skiing. Moving skiers and boarders up the hill faster to prevent crowds gathering at the base of a lift, accelerated demand for increased lift capacity per chair, and speed of transit.

Apps were improved, so you could make reservations to dine on or off the mountain through your watch, or phone, from anywhere. You can link into programs where you can get terrain maps or weather conditions on and off the mountain, plus a whole menu choice of other information to make your day in the mountains run efficiently and smoothly.

Jackson Hole Mountain Resort's app upgrades are representative of the type that ski areas made this year in order to address various operational challenges caused by the pandemic. *"The JH Insider app's parking availability function was enhanced to counter an increase in the portion of visitors driving to the mountain this year versus using public transportation,"* chief brand officer Tyler LaMotte said. Tram wait time information was also added to the app, with the mountain having to limit the capacity of its aerial tram to 25% of normal.

Rusty Gregory, CEO of Alterra Mountain Company, said the innovations from this past year won't be the last changes skiers will see, either. Rather, they set the stage for even more developments going forward. *"I think you'll see a tremendous amount of*

*experimentation with the innovation and application of technology to the guest experience next year,"* Gregory said. ([www.travel-weekly.com](http://www.travel-weekly.com))

## Great News for International Travel

Currently, the United States is one of a few countries that still has a vaccination restriction for foreign nationals who wish to enter the United States. If you are a non-U.S. citizen who is a nonimmigrant (*not a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, lawful permanent resident, or traveling to the United States on an immigrant visa*), you will need to show proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before you can travel by air to the United States from a foreign country. Some categories of non-citizen, nonimmigrants are excepted from this requirement, but if you meet the criteria for one of these categories, you will need to fulfill additional requirements. This vaccination restriction does not apply to U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, or U.S. lawful permanent residents (*Green Card holders*). ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov))

As of March 1, 2022, EU countries began to allow non-essential travel for persons vaccinated with vaccines approved by the EU or by the World Health Organization, and for persons who recovered from COVID-19. By summer, many European countries had removed travel restrictions relating to the disease, and now almost all of Europe is open to tourist travel without restriction.

October brought exciting news for snowsports enthusiasts who want to travel to Canada; news that we were waiting for all summer! As of October 1, 2022, for all travelers entering



*Japan had some rigid border restrictions due to COVID-19 until they were finally lifted on October 11, 2022, welcoming tourists back. Japan currently has over 450 operating ski areas ranging from large, interconnected ski resorts offering modern amenities to tiny ski hills used by locals. This snowboarder is enjoying the powder at Hokkaido Ski Resort. photo by Hamish Duncan on Unsplash*



*Border restrictions began to ease in European countries starting in early 2022 and continued through the spring, and by summer, almost all of Europe was open to tourist travel without restriction. During the pandemic, resorts relied heavily on locals, and are now looking forward to a more normal winter season with an increased number of international travelers. The beautiful mountain views in Chamonix, France await. Located at the base of Mont Blanc, the highest summit in the Alps, Chamonix is a skiing/boarding paradise.*

*photo by Chris Biron on Unsplash*

Canada by air, land or marine mode, previous restrictions have been lifted. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination, pre-entry and arrival tests, quarantine after entering Canada and using the ArriveCAN is not required. Wearing masks on planes and trains is no longer required either, but it is still strongly recommended wearing a high quality and well-fitted mask or respirator while traveling. (<https://travel.gc.ca>)

Japan also lifted a major restriction in October, welcoming tourists back. As of October 11, 2022, tourists with U.S. Passports no longer needed a visa to stay up to three months. However, tourists must either have at least three coronavirus shot applications or a pre-arrival test with a negative result. The U.S. embassy strongly urges any U.S. citizens considering travel to Japan to carefully review the information available from the Government of Japan, available on their website, because details (including vaccination requirements) and additional information will be updated on their website when available.

<https://jp.usembassy.gov>)

This recommendation is applicable for any travel destination this winter season. It is still possible that some individual businesses might continue to limit discretionary activities, such as visits to retail shops, restaurants, bars, and museums or theatres, to individuals who can provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

Masks might also be required, based on the airport, airline or country of your destination. Always plan ahead, and check with your tour operator, airline, resort, or country being visited, for the latest regulations. If the past three years of traveling in a COVID-19 environment has taught us anything, it certainly was to be prepared, and to be flexible!

### **Resorts Are Ready**

It's time to start planning and booking reservations for the upcoming 2022-2023 winter season. The resorts are ready, and with all the new technology available and capital improvements that have been made, are in a good position to offer you a memorable experience with the best customer service and safest environment possible.

During the pandemic, social gatherings, including après ski parties had to be curtailed. Meals were in takeout containers and eaten at outside tables or in our cars. It is with great hope and expectation that we will be après-pandemic this upcoming winter season, and able to have a meal together and socialize to the fullest extent with our families and friends as we have done in the past, and enjoy the total ambiance of our sport. ▲▲



# The FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program

by David Krupp

*Athletic Scholarship Committee Chair,  
FWSA*

***Tea Keisel, age 19, is a FWSA Athletic Scholarship recipient from Incline Village, Nevada. Tea skis for the Palisades Tahoe (formerly known as the Squaw Valley) Ski Team.*** photo provided by David Krupp

The Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Program is in its 18th year, growing from an initial \$1,500 in scholarships in 2004 to \$7,650 and 14 recipients in the 2021-2022 season. The total awarded since the program's inception is over \$170,000 to 126 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 (USSS)** 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 na-

tional 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 expenses. The demands on their time are 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 con-

tributions 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](http://www.skiwhitefish.com)), a year round winter and summer resort; **Kandahar Lodge**, and **Grouse Mountain Lodge** in Whitefish, Montana; **Schure Sports, Inc.**, 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](http://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](http://www.fwsa.org). ▲▲

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*Sierra League and Council racers swept the Council Challenge Match Races at the 2022 Far West Ski Week in Aspen Snowmass. The team whose racers' times are the most closely matched in their two race runs win the competition. The three Sierra challenge teams took first, second and third. Additionally, the costume team won the Costume Division. L-R: Ken Simpson, Jo Simpson, Beth Perryman, Bill Ramoni, Barbara Mauldin, Dick Mauldin. photo provided by Debi Phelps*

# A Great Racing Season

by Bob Ellis

President, Far West Racing Association,  
Vice President of Racing, FWSA

All Far West Racing Association leagues had successful race seasons, and we had a fun time at our Mammoth Race Championships in April. Sierra League won the Far West Racing Championships in the Adult Division and their Junior Division took 1st place. The Roma McCoy Award for most points per racer in the Adult Division was won by San Diego League, and the Junior Division winner was Sierra League.

Races were also held at the North American Snowmass Ski Week January 29 -February 5. The Joe Ross Award for the ski club with the most points for racing went to Phoenix Ski Club and the Lake Louise Award for the ski council with the most racing points went to Bay Area Snow Sports Council. The Council Challenge Match Races were won by the Sierra 3 Team, who also won the Costume Division. Thank you to the Race Department and Mary Manning of Aspen Skiing Company for supporting our ski week races and assisting in the success of our ski week!

The race leagues have arranged their schedules for the 2022-2023 race year and we're looking for the destination of the Far West Racing Championships in March 2023. We will be using two locations for the Jackson Hole Ski Week races. The GS races will be held at Snow King Mountain Resort and the Council Challenge races will be held at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort.

We look forward to another successful and fun racing season in 2022-2023. ▲

**Race with us for fun and adventure!  
All ages and ability levels welcome!**



Members of Sierra League and Council enthusiastically await their chances to compete at the 2022 Aspen Snowmass Ski Week. photo provided by Nancy Ellis

## 2022 - 2023 FWRA Race Schedule

by Bob Ellis  
President, FWRA;  
Vice President - Racing, FWSA

### OPEN/SIERRA/SINGLES LEAGUES

February 11, 2023	TBD
Alpine Meadows #1	
February 12, 2023	GS
Northstar #2	
March 17, 2023	GS
Alpine Meadows #3	
March 17, 2023	SL
Alpine Meadows #6	

### PACRAT LEAGUE

To Be Determined

### ROKKA, SCHUSSKI & SAN DIEGO LEAGUES

December 17, 2022	Race Clinic
Mammoth	
December 18, 2022	GS/SL
Mammoth #1 & #2	
February 7-9, 2023	Race Camp
Mammoth	
February 10, 2023	GS/SL
Mammoth #3 & #4	

### ALL LEAGUES

January 24 - 28, 2023  
FWSA Ski Week - GS  
Snow King Mountain,  
Jackson Hole

FWRA Championships TBD

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



Don Pawlowski and other racers in the Open League get ready for a race at Palisades Tahoe Ski Resort (formerly known as Squaw Valley). The fog bank obscured the course initially, and made for a more challenging racing experience. photo by Steve Rhodes



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*Maxine Jensen, Director of Sales for Alpine Adventures, announced the donation by her company of a trip to Croatia for a live auction at the FWSA Convention Awards Banquet, with funds raised to be donated to the Athletic Scholarship Program. She was inspired by Keynote Speakers Phil and Steve Mahre, Olympic Medalists, and the work being done by the Far West Ski Association and Far West Ski Foundation to generate funds for the Athletic Scholarship Program, and wanted to contribute to the fundraising. Earlier in the day, auctions were held for donations by Whitefish Mountain Resort, Grouse Mountain Lodge and Kandahar Lodge, Montana, which also generated funds to support the junior racers. photo by Adam Bacher*

## Far West Ski Foundation New Initiatives

by Alan Christian  
President, FWSF

The Far West Ski Foundation (FWSF) is a non-profit organization that has four snowsports missions: **Building for the Future, Rehabilitation and Renewal, Sustaining Snowsports, and Preserving the Legacy.** The FWSF is currently staffed by volunteers.

The Foundation may receive tax deductible contributions in furtherance of its missions and objectives. Such funds are then directed to the focused missions of the Foundation. FWSF is an autonomous, public benefit non-profit corporation operating under the laws of the State of California and in compliance with law and regulations under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code.

The FWSF Wine and See's Candy Auction at the FWSA's Annual Convention in June raised close to \$1,000 and is earmarked for adaptive sports. In addition, live auctions were held for travel packages donated by Whitefish Mountain Resort, Grouse Mountain Lodge and Kandahar Lodge in Montana, and Alpine Adventures, which generated over \$4,000 for the Athletic Scholarship Program. The See's Candy Yum Raising fundraiser will be conducted in December for the holidays.

The SNOW Sports Museum at the entrance to Palisades at Tahoe (Squaw Valley) is

well into permitting and will be a focus of FWSF fundraising. Our goal is to maintain the prominent display we've enjoyed at the Western America Ski Museum as it transitions to the new SNOW Sports Museum facility. Coincidentally the museum, in conjunction with Coolfire Sports, received the Warren Miller Modern Media Award at the convention for their production of "Magic on the Mountain." In addition, the Foundation supports the California Ski Library in Norco, California, which will soon be undergoing a major expansion.

The profound impact of our/your fundraising supporting junior racing through the Athletic Scholarship Program was portrayed in Phil Mahre's emotional presentation at the convention. We should all take pride in this program and strive to increase our support.

The Foundation, in collaboration with its sister organization, the Far West Ski Association, has supported sustaining snowsports through Women's Ski Jumping USA (WSJUSA) and its Fly Girls program since 2009 with special campaigns within organized skiing. This program was recently placed under USA Nordic Sport by U.S. Ski and Snowboard.

The FWSF website is under major revision

and is scheduled to be completed in the fall. It will be structured to enhance our new initiative to procure grants. If you have skills or experience in soliciting or administering grants, we would welcome your input. We also recently produced a brochure, which will be available on our website at [www.farwestskifoundation.org](http://www.farwestskifoundation.org).

I am touring major ski museums in the central Rocky Mountains. Send me the contact/location of any local ski archive that you know of anywhere in the FWSA region to [president@farwestskifoundation.org](mailto:president@farwestskifoundation.org). I am compiling a list of possible legacy recipients.

FWSF is recruiting individuals who are interested in joining the Board. Candidates must be willing to actively participate in our fundraising efforts. This is one great way to contribute to the legacy of the sport that has meant so much to all of us. For more information about the Far West Ski Foundation, see the article "You Can Play an Important Role in Sustaining Snowsports" in this issue (page 40). ▲

## FWSA History Program

by John Watson  
History Committee Chair, FWSA

There are a number of reasons why we have a history program. First, to expose or educate members to the dynamic history of their sport. Second, to provide educational material for public use. Third, to promote the establishment, growth, and continuance of preservation in learning centers and museums. Fourth, to provide opportunities for research into snowsport history. The foundations of this program began in the early 2000's under the leadership of then president, Mike Sanford.

We started with the **Ski Club/Council History Recognition** patterned after the Outstanding Ski Club competition. We laid out a detailed template for guidance on what could be in such a history. The competing entries would be judged by an expert panel. Criteria include support activity in the public community. Such histories show the pace of the Association's development (within the larger universe of snowsports industry development), inform members – and conceivably be patched together into a broader history. It can be used for outreach and recruiting. Con-

gratulations to this year's winner for the Club & Council History competition to *Après Ski & Social Club* of the *Bay Area Snow Sports Council*.

The amount of work that must go into a substantial history discouraged participation and caused us to create a recognition other than the original. So, we started the *Historic Ski Club (HSC)* program for clubs who could prove operation for 50 years or more. Note that this now means formation before and operation since 1973. Just provide the History Chair an application available on [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), your proof of founding date and a good hi-res color logo. The *HSC* program proves the enduring attraction of clubs and the need for them to provide a basic information center at the grassroots. We welcomed three additions to the *HSC* alumni this year at the FWSA Convention in Portland. Congratulations to *All Seasons Ski Club* of the *NBS Western Region Council*, *Après Ski & Social Club* and *Rusty Bindings Singles Ski Club*, both members of *Bay Area Snow Sports Council*.

The *HSC* programs also include Ski Patrols and Ski Schools within the Far West region. If you know of a deserving Ski School; or Patrol that has been in existence for 50 or more years, please, as above, contact the FWSA History Chair with a completed application available on [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), along with proof of founding date and a good hi-res color logo.

The *Western Ski Heritage Award* is sponsored by Steamboat. Western Ski Heritage is an odyssey. It was designed to recognize recent work which shows the role of snowsport in the larger community. We have recognized many authors and research projects, all shown on [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). This year, the WSH was awarded to *Lowell Skoog*, author of "Written in the Snows: Across Time on Skis in the Pacific Northwest."

We still have work to be done in the preservation of Association records and the trends that could be gained from them. If you read through previous issues of the *Far West Skier's Guide*, *The Councilman* and/or *The Far West Ski Association Turns 90* booklet, you will see several possible historic sketches that need authors. Using the Secretary's minutes and reports from councils and committee chairmen, an annual narrative could be written. All good for recruiting. Any volunteers out there that enjoy research and writing? Get in touch with us and let's start planning. *Congratulations to our winners!* ▲▲

## FWSA Historic Ski Clubs & Councils

Historic Club	Location	Founded
Cascade	Portland, OR Northwest	1928
Sahalie	Snoqualmie Pass, WA Northwest	1931
Fresno	Fresno, CA Central	1934
Longview	Longview, WA Northwest	1935
San Diego	San Diego, CA San Diego	1935
Sequoia	Visalia, CA Sierra	1935
Modesto	Modesto, CA Bay Area	1936
Mt. Hood Ski Patrol	Mt. Hood, OR Northwest	1937
Bogus Basin	Boise, ID Intermountain	1937
Marin	Marin County, CA Bay Area	1938
Long Beach	Long Beach, CA Los Angeles	1938
Bay Area Council	San Francisco, CA Bay Area	1940
Los Angeles Council	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1940
Schnee Vogeli	Portland, OR Northwest	1942
Idaho Falls	Idaho Falls, ID, Intermountain	1947
Phoenix	Phoenix, AZ Arizona	1948
Grindelwald	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1949
Vand Bakke	West Covina, CA Orange	1950
Desert	Richland, WA Northwest	1953
Hawaii	Alea, Hawaii Northwest	1953
Balboa	Newport Beach, CA Orange	1955
Skiyente	Portland, OR Northwest	1955
Wailers	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1957
Nisel	San Francisco, CA Bay Area	1958
Cheyenne	Cheyenne, WY Intermountain	1959
Single	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1960
Torrey Pines	San Diego, CA San Diego	1961
Snowbounders	Anaheim, CA Los Angeles	1962
San Diego Council	San Diego, CA San Diego	1963
Après	San Jose, CA Bay Area	1963
Orange County	Fountain Valley, CA Orange	1964
Bergfreunde	Portland, OR Northwest	1967
4 Seasons West	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles	1967
Orange Council	Orange County, CA Orange	1971
All Seasons	Oakland, CA NBSWR	1972
Rusty Bindings	Walnut Creek, CA Bay Area	1972

## California Ski Library to Expand

Ingrid Wicken, the Curator of the California Ski Library in Norco, California, announced that she will soon be expanding the library to double its size. The library has a unique collection of books, magazines, photographs, and ephemera related to all facets and disciplines of skiing. The expanded space will be the magazine room, and display historic skis. For additional information about the library, visit [www.skilibrary.com](http://www.skilibrary.com).

# National Brotherhood of Skiers, Inc. Celebrates 50th Golden Anniversary of NBS Summit

by Bethany Collins  
Public Relations Director, NBS

The National Brotherhood of Skiers, Inc. will celebrate 50 years of bringing “*Soul on Snow*” at the **Annual NBS Summit** in Vail, Colorado, February 4-11, 2023. Members from African-American ski clubs from all over the United States and the United Kingdom will come to celebrate, renew and create new friendships at the 50th Golden Anniversary of the NBS.

Various activities begin with the NBS Parade of the ski clubs in Vail Village, Gospel Celebration Concert on the hill, youth activities, Race Competitions, and much more!

The National Brotherhood of Skiers, Inc. is a non-profit organization representing African-American snowsports enthusiasts, particularly skiers and snowboarders across the nation. In addition, the NBS awards multiple scholarships to student athletes in skiing and snowboarding, many of whom compete nationally or internationally. The NBS mission is “to identify, develop and support athletes of color who will win international and Olympic winter sports competitions representing the United States, and to increase participation in winter sports.”

After decades of bringing together and empowering thousands of Black snowsport enthusiasts across the country, the ground breaking organization continues to promote positive change in the outdoor industry and change perspectives about who belongs on the slopes. The organization started after Ben Finley and Art Clay were introduced by a mutual friend in 1972. During that time, African Americans on the slopes were rare, and Black ski clubs were an exception. The first NBS event was a gathering of members of the 13 founding associated clubs with 414 members in 1973,



Founders of the National Brotherhood of Skiers Inc., Ben Finley and Art Clay received the FWSA's Snowsport Builder Award in 2015, and were inducted into the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame in 2019. photo provided by Trey Johnson, NBS



Henri Rivers, President of the National Brotherhood of Skiers, Inc., was the recipient of the inaugural Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Champion Award in 2021 by U.S. Ski & Snowboard. photo provided by NBS

which became an annual event called “**The Summit**,” first held in Aspen, Colorado. The organization now has 54 clubs with over 10,000 members, and the NBS will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in Vail, Colorado.

The National Brotherhood of Skiers Western Region is one of 10 affiliated councils of the Far West Ski Association, and the Council President serves on its Board of Directors. Ben Finley and Art Clay were honored as recipients of the FWSA Snowsports Builder Award in 2015, presented to an individual(s) that has made a contribution to benefit snowsports with an indelible impact made on the sport. The NBS founders were also inducted

into the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame in 2019, whose members represent prominent athletes and snowsport builders whose accomplishments showcase American skiing and snowboarding.

Henri Rivers, NBS President, was named by U.S. Ski & Snowboard as the inaugural recipient of its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Champion Award in 2021. The award is focused on recognizing a person, group, organization, or program that has contributed significantly and sustainably to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in skiing and snowboarding. ▲▲

The initial “Summit” NBS Ski Week occurred in 1973 in Aspen, Colorado. Fifty years later, in 2023, NBS will be honoring the 50th Anniversary of that original event in Vail, Colorado.

National Brotherhood Of Skiers

50 Years of

# Soul In Snow



Feb. 4-11, 2023

Vail, Co.



nbs.org  
@nationalbrotherhoodofskiers

# You Can Play an Important Role in Sustaining Snowsports!

by Jane Wyckoff  
Past President, FWSA

As winter sports enthusiasts, we all look back on the memories we cherish of our skiing and boarding adventures - the outdoors, the peace and tranquility of the mountains, the places we traveled, and especially the time spent with family and friends. We took our children and perhaps now even our grandchildren, to the mountains where they learned how to ski and board. We have our memorabilia, such as photo albums, lift tickets, pins from resorts both in the US and international destinations, and racing medals or trophies.

Take a moment and reflect, and think about the future of snowsports, and how you could contribute to its sustainability. What would be your area of interest - youth programs, junior racing scholarships, adaptive and rehabilitative programs, ski heritage, or diversity on the slopes?

Following are a few snowsports foundations that are 501(c)(3) non-profit corporations, and have specific missions dedicated to sustaining snowsports. All have well organized programs, and depend on individual donations, partnerships, community support, and grants to fund them. There are also other very worthy foundations, that are not mentioned here. Donations to these foundations are tax deductible per government regulations.

## Far West Ski Foundation

*"It is time to give back to the sport we love."*

Alan Christian, President

The **Far West Ski Foundation** (FWSF) was founded in 1964, aimed exclusively at preparing ski racers from California and Nevada for the 1968 Olympics and further international competition. In 2009, the scope of the FWSF was expanded with approval by the IRS, followed by the California Secretary of State in 2010. Proceeds from Foundation fundraising are directed to one of several mission areas. The FWSF has four missions:



*Members of The Unrecables enjoy a club trip to Mammoth Mountain. One of the four missions of the Far West Ski Foundation is Rehabilitation and Renewal, and it supports programs with on-snow rehabilitative techniques. photo by Dr. John Gray, The Unrecables*



*Luca Robillard, from Truckee, California, is one of the many recipients of the Athletic Scholarship Program supported by the Far West Ski Foundation. He races for the Sugar Bowl Race Team. photo provided by David Krupp*

**Building for the Future, Rehabilitation and Renewal, Sustaining Snowsports, and Preserving the Legacy.** It is still staffed by volunteers, with a collective several centuries of volunteer experience in: club, council, regional and national leadership; racing, both recreational as well as sanctioned; National Ski Patrol (NSP), and the United States Adaptive Recreation Center (USARC).

### Their Key Programs include:

**Athletic Scholarship Program** - Now in its 18th year, the total of scholarships awarded since the program's inception is over \$184,000 to 131 different recipients. The program provides financial assistance to junior ski racers throughout the western United States where the Far West Ski Association, its partner organization, has a presence, currently 12 western states. Applicants must be junior alpine ski racers affiliated with the United States Ski and Snowboard (USSA). Scholarships are awarded based on financial need,

athletic performance, academic achievement, and community service.

**Adaptive Programs** - The FWSF supports adaptive snowsports programs as a way to enhance restoration to vigor from injury or to animate the physically challenged. It maintains relationships with centers within its territory that practice on-snow rehabilitative techniques. Of special interest are the programs that involve active duty service persons or veterans. The Foundation has granted funds to a variety of adaptive programs, including the Vail Veterans Program, Snowbasin Adaptive Sports Education, Dream Adaptive Recreation, Oregon Adaptive Sports, Adaptive Sports Center, Mammoth Adaptive Sports, Sun Peaks Adaptive Sports, Challenge Alaska Adaptive Ski School, Jimmie Heuga Center (Can Do MS), High Fives Foundation, Big White Ski & Board School, Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra, and Challenge Aspen.

**Women's Ski Jumping** – A movement for the recognition of Women's Ski Jumping started early in the Far West region in Park City, Utah. Far West Ski Foundation, in collaboration with the Far West Ski Association, has supported Women's Ski Jumping USA (WSJUSA) since 2009, with special campaigns within organized skiing. Deedee Corradini, the former Mayor of Salt Lake City and the first woman President of Women's Ski Jumping, was the outspoken and unyielding leader in the global fight to allow women to participate in ski jumping at the Olympic level. That dream was realized at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi. Deedee was honored by Far West Ski Association as the 2009 Snowsports Builder. The Foundation has resolved to make scholarship grants to the Fly Girls program in honor of Deedee Corradini.

**Preserving the Legacy** – From the discovery of skis in the Altai of China as early as 8000BC, as a toll for transportation through the succeeding millennia and across seven continents, to today's use of skis and snowboards for sport, activities we now label as snowsports have played a significant role, not just within sport itself but in societies at large. Throughout this enduring history, snowsports has played an historic role in the development of communities, the exposure to healthful outdoor exercise, increase of fitness in winter, and the thrill of competition, whether as a competitor or as an observer. Bringing the elements of this legacy to the world is a task in which the Foundation aims to play a part. The Foundation supports preservation of the legacy through research, publications, educational media and support to museums and cultural centers for display and secure storage of memorabilia. The Foundation has approved grants to the Squaw Valley Ski Museum Foundation (SNOW Sports Museum) and the California Ski Library.

For updates and additional information regarding the Far West Ski Foundation, check their website. [www.farwestskifoundation.org](http://www.farwestskifoundation.org)

## US Ski & Snowboard Foundation

*"The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Foundation is one of the leading foundations in the Olympic community. We raise approximately \$20 million annually in support of our sports and athletes, which is incredible. Our donors and Board of Trustees are instrumental in our success and help our athletes travel, train and compete." Trisha Worthington, Chief Revenue & Philanthropy Officer.*



**U.S. Ski & Snowboard donors at Deer Valley Resort for race, tree and mogul clinics, led by former Olympians and Deer Valley senior instructors at the annual Icepeople event.**  
photo provided by US Ski & Snowboard

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Foundation is the non-profit fundraising arm of U.S. Ski & Snowboard (USSS). This foundation encompasses a variety of **Sport Programs, Development Programs** and **Competitions**, all aimed at developing athletes and supporting coaches, officials, parents, and volunteers while accomplishing the vision and mission to make the United States the "Best in the World" in Olympic skiing and snowboarding.

Unlike their competitors, U.S. Ski & Snowboard does not receive government funding for its athletes and programs. They depend on their fundraising events, special programs, and individual donations to help provide their athletes with the resources they need to become Olympians and team members – and represent America on and off the mountain.

A variety of fundraising events are conducted across the country each year, hosted by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Foundation. These include: the annual New York Gold Medal Gala, St. Louis Après Ski Party, Park City Community Reception, Team Fundraisers, and the Icepeople on Snow Fantasy Camp.

The Foundation offers the annual Gold Pass, secured with a donation of \$15,000. Only 450 Gold Passes are available each year through partnership of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard and the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA).

What makes the US Ski & Snowboard Gold Pass so amazing? A major portion of that donation is tax-deductible and your donation will not only give unrivaled access to the USA's best resorts, more than 250 in the USA, it also provides funding that goes directly towards the training and development



**Former athletes Jonny Moseley, Lindsey Vonn and Laurene Ross having a great time on the white carpet at the New York Gold Medal Gala.**  
photo provided by US Ski & Snowboard

of US Ski & Snowboard athletes. The Gold Pass is also fully transferrable. It may be obtained on the Foundation's website or through their office at the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Foundation. Gold Passes are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

You can join the Champions Club for a once-in-a-lifetime hospitality experience! The Foundation is excited to offer the Champions Club program at the 2023 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships and the 2026 Winter Olympics in Milano/Cortina, Italy. As a member of the Champions Club, you would have the opportunity to see firsthand the impact your gift has on our U.S. Ski & Snowboard athletes.

Check their website at <https://usskiandsnowboard.org/foundation>, or contact **Katie Kicklighter** at [katie.kicklighter@usskiandsnowboard.org](mailto:katie.kicklighter@usskiandsnowboard.org) for information regarding their fundraising events and special programs.

## National Winter Sports Education Foundation Winter4Kids

*"This isn't a program - this is a movement. I enjoy the impact the campus has on kids who participate and the potential to change their lives forever."*

**Schone Malliet**, CEO and Founder

National Winter Activity Center is located in Vernon, New Jersey. The Far West Ski Association presented Schone Malliet, CEO and Founder, with the Snowsports Builder Award at its 88th Annual Convention in October, 2021. The Snowsports Builder Award is given to an individual who has made an indelible positive impact on snowsports. His goal is to "make a POSITIVE difference in the lives of others."

The Winter4Kids program was developed out of an initiative of the National Winter Sports Education Foundation, whose mission is to improve the lives, health and fitness of youth through winter activities. The organization has the collaboration of several nationally recognized partner organizations.

The Center introduces children to activities that they would not typically be exposed to or consider trying, while making it economically feasible. The program includes wholesome meals, fitted gear and six weeks of lessons, typically held on weekends. The mission of Winter4Kids is to create healthy lifestyles and influence behaviors of youth through winter activities. Winter sports and the outdoors serves as a catalyst to create, influence and promote healthy lifestyles. It instills positive attitudes, changes outlooks and lives among the most underserved communities, primarily those of color. The Center served 180 children in its first year of operation, and in 2018, more than 1,400 kids came through the program. The projection is to serve 10,000 children by the end of the year.

Through this program, better health and attitudes result from an increased moderate to vigorous activity, nutritious food, and personal development. Outlooks are bright and lives are changed as participants become better individuals through the mastery of snow and life skills. The youth involved in the program use these experiences to explore and pursue new academic, life and sport opportunities.

Shone has a BA in Economics from Holy Cross College and an MBA from Pepperdine University. He has a broad set of accomplishments to draw upon from family, military, ath-



*Winter4Kids participants learning how to snowboard. The mission of the program is to provide for ALL, without conditions, and to deliver winter and summer outdoor program activities that: avoid self-harm violence, substance abuse, food insecurity and other negative experiences and behavior by youth; expand choices and opportunities; provide sustainable access; and increase lifetime enthusiasts and winter sport competitors. photo provided by Winter4Kids*



*Participants in the Winter4Kids program enjoying the snow on the International Ski Foundation's World Snow Day. The Vision for Winter4Kids is to change the trajectory for youth, making sure that every one of them experience their core values of: a WELCOMING safe space; EMPATHY, acknowledging their uniqueness; warmly EMBRACING individuality; and sense of BELONGING - knowing and feeling this is theirs. photo provided by Winter4Kids*

letic and corporate environments, as a Marine pilot, alpine ski racing coach, CEO of Vi-aNovus, alyXsys Inc, and senior sales and marketing executive. He was the Chair and Founder of the National Winter Sports Education Foundation, and is currently a Vice President of the Holy Cross Alumni Association Board, former Chair, YMCA Board of Managers and is involved in many facets of winter sports through US Ski and Snowboard.

For detailed information about their programs, visit <https://winter4kids.org>.





*Artist's concept for the SNOW Sports Museum, to be built with a vision to preserve the winter sports and Olympic history of the Sierra Nevada Region, to share stories of the legends of winter, and to inspire generations to experience the wonder and passion of their unique mountain spirit.*

*photo provided by the SNOW Sports Museum*

## Squaw Valley Ski Museum Foundation SNOW Sports Museum

*"Over the last few years, the foundation has grown significantly as interest in our local winter snow sport history and its impact on the region has been shared. In addition to our dedicated board of directors, we've added a diverse set of advisors and athlete ambassadors including Travis Ganong and Eileen Gu to help support our efforts. Today, we are working diligently with Placer County to bring a world class museum to our region to celebrate the past and inspire future generations too."*

**David Antonucci**, Board President

The **SNOW Sports Museum** (dba Squaw Valley Ski Museum Foundation) has as its missions and objectives to build a world class museum to offer cultural, historical and educational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities, especially youth. All purchases and donations support these efforts. It seeks to preserve the winter sports and Olympic history of the Sierra Nevada Region, to share stories of the legends of winter, and to inspire generations to experience the wonder and passion of their unique mountain spirit.

The idea to build a museum of Sierra Ski History and the 1960 Winter Olympic Games has been in the hearts and minds of the skiing community for many decades. The Squaw Valley Ski Museum Foundation was estab-

lished by members of the Tahoe Truckee community to make this dream a reality, and they began to look for a site where the stories and events of over 100 years of ski history could be displayed in a modern facility.

At the conclusion of a week-long Olympic Heritage Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the 1960 Winter Olympics held in 2010, the success of an unforgettable, sold-out Gala at the Resort at Squaw Creek in Squaw Valley was seen as proof of overwhelming interest and support. An enthusiastic Board of Directors launched a fundraising campaign to hire a full-time executive director and engaged consultants, engineers and architects to complete the permitting process to secure the location. Significant support has been received with grants from Placer and Nevada Counties, along with matching donor funds from Board members, organizations and individual donors.

It was felt that a new name, **Sierra Nevada Olympic & Winter Sports Museum**, better represented the geographic region and core values of the museum, and the catchy acronym would resonate with all generations - SNOW Sports Museum.

### Their initiatives include:

**Ski & Snowboard History** – An Interactive Cultural Center will tell the stories of skiing and winter sports in the Sierra Nevada, including Washoe Tribes, Gold Miners and the 10th Mountain Division elite ski troopers in WWII.

**VIII Olympic Museum** – The 1960 VIII Winter Olympics were held February 18-28 in Squaw Valley and Lake Tahoe. Winning the bid for the area with just one chair lift, two rope tows and a 50-room lodge was an international surprise.

**Hall of Fame** – A Regional Winter Sports Hall of Fame honoring and celebrating the athletes, pioneers and visionaries of the region who have significantly enriched the sports of skiing and snowboarding.

**Event Center** – A Community Hub and Event Center offering a unique space where visitors, locals and students can gather to experience films, conferences, presentations and lectures in a mountain-modern, technologically advanced building.

**Education & Awareness** – Year-round Enrichment Programs to support education initiatives for history, culture, and technology, along with programs to educate the greater community on environmental challenges.

**Social Gathering Place** – The Architecturally Iconic Building will be conveniently located between Truckee and North Tahoe just off Hwy 89 offering visitors 16,000 sq ft of exhibit and technology space.

The SNOW Sports Museum website is located at [www.thesnowmuseum.org](http://www.thesnowmuseum.org). If you have a piece of Sierra Ski History or Olympic artifacts to share, the Museum is always looking for ski history collectibles in the form of objects, artifacts, photographs, movies and personal stories. To inquire about the possibilities, please contact their collections team at [donate@theSNOWmuseum.org](mailto:donate@theSNOWmuseum.org).

All of these foundations are seeking donations to support their highly worthwhile snowsports programs. Consider volunteering for a foundation with your time and energy. A financial donation can be large or small, and is greatly appreciated and valued at any amount. You can also give a legacy donation, in honor of a family member or friend, and remember these foundations in your estate planning. If you have spent a lifetime of love and laughter in the mountains...pass it on! Make that opportunity available to someone else. Play a role in sustaining snowsports. You will be glad you did! ▲▲

What do you call a gathering of snow-crazy, winter-hyped, fun-loving but serious, adventurous and generous party people? A Far West Ski Association Convention!

And what a convention we had in Portland this past June. A few showers didn't keep our intrepid skiers from discovering new adventures on Mount Hood. And, while a torrential downpour was only a slight hiccup during our 25th Annual Pub Crawl. Sadly, our golf tournament was cancelled, but the golfers enjoyed an excellent tour of the golf venue, followed by a lovely barbecue that managed to (mostly) escape the gentle patter of rainfall. And, the attendees had the opportunity to visit several of Southwest Washington's finest wineries.

We were able to delve into the intricacies of snowsports clubs and social media, and learned helpful hints for running a successful ski trip.

But the icing on the cake? We were beyond delighted to have not one, but BOTH Mahre brothers – Phil and Steve – icons of American skiing—in attendance.

Our adventures began on Thursday, with a Mt. Hood Adventure bus tour, that included stops at Timberline Lodge, the Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum, with lunch at Cooper Spur, and then following Highway 35 around to Hood River, including a visit to beautiful Multnomah Falls.

Thursday evening saw everyone on a bus to downtown Vancouver, Washington, where we started celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the famous FWSA Pub Crawl!



*Attendees at the 36th Annual Silent Auction and Snowsports Trade Show had the opportunity to learn about resorts and make future travel plans. In addition, they could bid on fantastic opportunities in the Silent Auction, where prices were exceptionally reasonable! photos / Adam Bacher*

## The 2022 FWSA Convention Was Held in the Majestic Northwest

June 9 - 12, 2022

by Sheri Parshall

Host Council Convention Coordinator, FWSA

Sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation, we visited Heathen Brewing, where our California contingent was entertained by the mysterious drops of water that began falling from the sky. We then headed to a local restaurant Who Song & Larry's, for some yummy Mexican food.

Friday morning was time for fun!

Brian Head Ski Resort sponsored our Wine Tour, which included visits to several wineries and lunch.

The golf contingent found themselves without a tournament, as those aforementioned mysterious drops of water made the golf course a little too wet. But thanks to sponsor Grouse Mountain Lodge, there was a really fun tour of the unique McMenamin's Edgefield (*where a little pub crawling happened – what else to do when the golf course is closed?*) The tour was followed by a barbecue at the Parshall home, where, yep – the mysterious drops of water started falling again. We're so



*The Convention kicked off on Thursday, with a Mt. Hood Adventure trip led by Steve Coxen. The adventure included a stop at the historic Timberline Lodge, Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum, Cooper Spur Mountain Resort, and Multnomah Falls in Columbia River Gorge. "Heidi" greeted our group at the first stop at Timberline Lodge.*



*Friday's Optional Events included a Western Washington Wine Tour, led by Steve Coxen. Attendees assembled for a group photo at Maryhill Winery. left photo by Steve Coxen; right photo by Christine Gill*

**Optional Events kick off the Convention!**

happy to announce that the 15th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament has been rescheduled, and we look forward to another fun day at Edgefield!

Afternoon was time for a Pool Party, which did happen – sans pool – but a party all the same! Our thanks to Aspen Snowmass Tourism for their sponsorship, and Central Council for their hard work to put it on!

Friday night kept the good times “Rollin’ on the River” with everyone gathering together for the Silent Auction Welcome Party, sponsored by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, with drinks sponsored by Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, and Ski Group.Net.

In another room, the 2021-2022 Councils’ Volunteer of the Year Honorees were introduced at a reception attended by council presidents, judges, and guests. This recognition program has been sponsored by Big White Ski Resort since 2001.

The rest of the evening was devoted to our annual Snowsports Trade Show & Silent Auction, where everyone enjoyed engaging with our industry partners, and did some se-

rious ski trip shopping at the same time.

Saturday brought education time! Our Snowsports Leadership Academy had several offerings, that included “Strategic Travel in a Changing World,” a presentation by “Mt Hood Mountain Rescue,” and “How to Jumpstart Your Facebook Social Presence.” Public Affairs Panels included sessions on “Weather Changes Affecting Mountain Operations & Public Safety,” and “Athletes & the 10th Mountain Division.”

Our Luncheon and Awards Presentation was hosted by Powder Mountain, and the winner of the Western Ski Heritage Award, sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation was announced.

Did I mention the Mahre brothers?

They were the Keynote Speakers, and kept us enthralled with stories of their childhoods, their ski and racing careers, and other great tidbits.

Saturday was capped by our Awards Banquet and Dance, where many of our hard-working volunteers were honored with special awards, and we also thanked and recognized our long-term industry partners.

The Banquet was sponsored by Club Med, with wine sponsored by Sports America Tours. Then we danced the night away to the sound of a local band “Thrill Ride.”

Sunday morning started with the 6:30 a.m. “Eye Opener” attended by over 50 hardy souls. And then it was time for our “work day” with Elections and Business Meeting, Club and Council Communications and Social Media, Charities & Our Community, and the Historic Club and Councils recognitions were announced and certificates presented. And then it was time to adjourn until next year!

Northwest Ski Club Council and its member clubs worked very hard to make this convention successful, and even though we faced post-pandemic challenges of high travel costs and hesitation to gather, we were very pleased with the end result! Great job everyone!

We look forward to seeing everyone in Boise is 2023! Lots of great events will be scheduled for attendees before and during. Consider staying longer, as well! ▲▲

## Numerous Activities Were Included at the 89th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention Held in Portland, Oregon in 2022.



*There was great food and libations on the 25th Anniversary Pub Crawl, founded by Sheri Parshall of the Northwest Ski Club Council and Host Council Coordinator for this year's Convention. Enjoying the event is Randy Lew, FWSA Past President; Larry Young, Senior Sales Manager of Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation; and Debbi Kor, FWSA Convention Chair. Steamboat has been a generous sponsor of this annual event for many years.*

*photo by Jane Wyckoff*



*Due to the rain, the Pool Party was moved inside, but everyone enjoyed the opportunity to socialize, including FWSA's industry partners. The sponsor for the event was Aspen Snowmass. Enjoying the party ate: Mary Manning, Senior National Sales Manager, Aspen Snowmass; Lisa Jennings, Group Sales, Snowmass Tourism; Kim Sorensen, Senior Sales Manager, Schweitzer Mountain Resort; and Sara Clemons, President, Sports America Tours. photo by Adam Bacher*

**Rain did not dampen the fun in Portland, Oregon!**



*Participants in the Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament enjoyed a "Non-Golf Tournament" substitute event due to rain. It included lunch at the home of Sheri and Dale Parshall at the beautiful Blue Lake, in Oregon.*

*photo by Adam Bacher*

## Lots of Convention Events Offered!



*Jan Silagi and Matt Wood of the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol, who provided the Bid Runners for the Friday evening FWSA Silent Auction. Their assistance with this event was greatly appreciated! photo by Adam Bacher*

## Great Bargains Were Had at the 36th Annual FWSA Silent Auction

The Silent Auction began in 1986 when the Balboa Ski Club of Orange Council of Ski Clubs, host for the 54th Annual Convention, organized a Friday evening Silent Auction with a Mike Murphy Concert, as a fundraiser to offset Convention costs and support program development. The ski and sports industry donated over \$10,000 in lift tickets, ski trips and ski equipment. FWSA took over management of the program the next year, and the Silent Auction continued to grow, serving as one of the major revenue streams providing funds to support FWSA programs.

In this age of technology, even with the ease and convenience of going on-line to search for a winter vacation, nothing can truly replace the opportunity to meet "one-on-one" with industry representatives to plan your next family or group trip.

The FWSA is truly appreciative of our industry partners, who continue to participate in our annual event, and in addition, provide sponsorship support of Convention programs. Please refer to the next page for a list of the 2022 Convention Sponsors.

We are looking forward to working with the industry for our 37th Annual Silent Auction & Snowsports Trade Show in Boise, Idaho June 16, 2023.

**Our industry partners are appreciated!**



*Attendees at the 36th Annual FWSA Silent Auction & Snowsports Show collected travel information to take back to their clubs in order to assist in the planning of their future ski and adventure trips. convention photos by Adam Bacher*



*Olympic Medalists Steve and Phil Mahre were the Keynote Speakers at the 89th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention. Their outstanding presentation was enjoyed by all in attendance. There was laughter in the stories, and so much appreciation shown by both US Ski Team Racers for all the help they had along the way contributing to their success.*

## Once-In-A-Lifetime Keynote Speaker Experience

by **Randy Lew**  
Past President, FWSA

For those that were able to attend the FWSA 2022 Convention at the Holiday Inn Columbia Riverfront Hotel in Portland, you got to experience an amazing keynote presentation by Olympic medalists Phil and Steve Mahre.

Phil Mahre is a former World Cup alpine ski racer, widely regarded as one of the greatest American skiers of all time. His total of 27 World Cup race wins is fourth among Americans, only behind Lindsey Vonn, Mikaela Shiffrin, and Bode Miller. Phil won the 1980 Olympic Silver medal in Slalom at Lake Placid and the 1984 Olympic Gold medal in slalom at Sarajevo.

Born in Yakima, Washington, Phil and his twin brother Steve (four minutes younger) were both world class ski racers and competed on the World Cup circuit from 1976 to 1984. Starting with the 1978 season, Phil finished in the top three in the World Cup overall standings for six consecutive seasons, winning the title in the final three (1981, 1982, and 1983).

Steve won the United States Ski Association National Slalom titles in 1975, 1980,

1981 and 1984 and the U.S.S.A. National Giant Slalom title in 1984. Both twins were members of the U.S. Ski Team from 1975 through 1985 and skied for the United States on three Olympic Teams: the 1976 Olympics at Innsbruck, Austria, the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid, New York and the 1984 Olympics in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia. At the Sarjevo Olympics, Steve won the silver medal in the slalom, finishing just behind his brother Phil.

After nine seasons, the Mahre twins retired from the World Cup circuit following the 1984 season. Steve finished his career with 9 World Cup victories and 21 podiums. Their presentation was informative, humorous, retrospective, emotional, and raw. Gratitude was the overwhelming emotion from both of them.

When Phil won his Olympic Silver medal at the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid, Steve had a ticket for the U.S. vs. Russia hockey game that night. The game should have been over long before the medal ceremony, however, the game went into overtime and Steve missed Phil's medal ceremony. As

Steve said "all America remembers from 1980 was the Miracle on Ice hockey game beating the Russians and I couldn't miss the finish."

During one World Cup race, their coaches got their bibs mixed up and Steve wore Phil's bib and Phil wore Steve's bib. Not knowing of the mistake until Steve had a great second run winning the race and they announced Phil as the winner. Well, after telling the jury of their mistake, they were disqualified. After the award ceremony, Marc Girardelli, walked over to Steve, handed him the Gold Medal and said "this is yours, you beat me".

At the 1984 Winter Olympics in Sarajevo, Phil again medaled in the slalom, this time taking the gold while Steve won the silver for a Mahre twin 1-2 sweep. Steve had led the first run, skiing flawlessly and building a large half-second lead over the Swede, Jonas Nilsson, with Phil in third place, another two-tenths of a second back. Phil skied a great second run to grab the lead, then Nilsson skied next and faltered, dropping out of the medals. Steve skied down last, needing only a solid run to take the gold, but a series of mistakes dropped him into second place, and Phil became the Olympic champion. Unknown to the racers, Phil's wife Holly had given birth to their second child, a son, in Arizona an hour before the race started. Phil did not find out about it until a TV interview after the race. Phil's memory from that day is the birth of his son!

They both stated how lucky they are, building a life out of the sport they both loved. They also stated how, so many people that they didn't even know, stepped up to help fund their ski racing efforts and their dreams when their parents ran out of money. I can't put into words the raw emotion and gratitude that they expressed in talking about this and how the FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program will help fund the Olympic champions of tomorrow keeping the dreams of up-and-coming racers alive.

They are using their fame and Olympic Medals to raise money for charities. They both had their Olympic medals put into a display that is auctioned off for a charity approximately every six months where the winner gets to display the medals for a stated period.

Many convention attendees had their pictures taken with Phil and Steve and FWSA is making those pictures available with a donation to the Far West Ski Foundation to support the Athletic Scholarship Program.

Phil and Steve Mahre are true champions and great role models. ▲▲

## 2022 Convention Sponsors

 <p><b>Delegate Totes</b> Convention</p>	 <p><b>Pub Crawl</b> Thursday evening</p>	 <p><b>Golf Tournament</b> Friday Morning</p>	 <p><b>Northwest Wine Tour</b> Friday Morning</p>
 <p><b>Pool Party</b> Friday Afternoon</p>	 <p><b>Silent Auction Welcome Party</b> Friday Evening</p>	 <p><b>Wine Sponsor</b> Friday evening</p>	 <p><b>Beer Sponsor</b> Friday evening</p>
 <p><b>Beer Sponsor</b> Saturday Lunch</p>	 <p><b>Banquet Sponsor</b> Saturday Evening</p>	 <p><b>Wine Sponsor</b> Saturday Evening</p>	 <p><b>Eye Opener Hosts</b> Sunday Morning</p>

Far West Ski Association has a number of sponsorship opportunities available, including: Program, Corporate and Convention Sponsors. We are fortunate to have long-standing commitments from the resorts and lodging partners for our Convention Program sponsorships. If you are a vendor or new business and would like to be a sponsor with the Far West Ski Association, please contact: Debbi Kor, Vice President-Marketing & Sponsorships, [vpmarketing@fwsa.org](mailto:vpmarketing@fwsa.org). Additional information is also available at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

## 2022 Silent Auction Participants

by Mary Olhausen, *Silent Auction Manager, FWSA* & Debbi Kor, *VP Marketing & Sponsorship, FWSA*

The Far West Ski Association and the Northwest Ski Club Council extend their appreciation and sincere gratitude to the 36th Annual Silent Auction travel participants. The success of this event is made possible by the continued support from our industry partners. Please include these industry partners in your travel plans for 2022-2023.

49er Inn & Suites, WY  
Aspen Skiing Company, CO  
Best Western Premiere Hotel, UT  
Big Sky Resort, MT  
Big White Ski Resort, Canada  
Brian Head Ski Resort, UT  
Club Med  
Columbia Sportswear, OR  
Cooper Spur Mountain Resort, OR  
Crystal Inn-Salt Lake City, UT  
Crystal Inn-Murray, UT  
Double Tree by Hilton, Bend, OR  
Duluth Trading Company, OR  
Elite Island Resorts  
Grouse Mountain Lodge, MT  
Helly Hansen

Holidaze Ski Tours, NJ  
Humbird Hotel, ID  
Huntley Lodge, MT  
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, WY  
Kandahar Lodge at Whitefish, MT  
Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, CA  
Mountain Lodge Telluride, CO  
Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort, OR  
Mt. Hood Skibowl Resort, OR  
Park City Peaks Hotel, CO  
Powder Mountain Resort, UT  
Powder Mountain Getaways, UT  
Schweitzer Mountain Resort, ID  
SKI.COM, CO  
Ski Group.Net, CO  
Snowmass Tourism, CO

Sports America Tours, CA  
Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp, CO  
Sun Valley Ski Resort, ID  
Sun Valley Inn, ID  
Telluride Ski Resort, CO  
Timberline Ski Area, OR  
Travel Portland, OR  
Vail Resorts, CO  
Val D'Isere Condos, Mammoth, CA  
Visit Central Oregon, OR  
Visit Vancouver USA, WA  
Wanderlust Tours, OR  
Westin Monarche Resort, Mammoth, CA  
Whitefish Mountain Resort, MT  
Winter Park Resort, CO

## Event Sponsors

89th Annual FWSA Convention  
by Debbi Kor, VP of Marketing & Sponsorship

We extend our appreciation to the following sponsors of Far West Ski Association's 89th Annual Convention. Their generous support was a significant contribution to the financial success of this year's convention. By offsetting convention costs through the sponsorship program, we are able to offer a more affordable delegate registration fee. Please include these industry partners in your travel plans for 2022-2023.

## Program Sponsors



### Western Ski Heritage Prize

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



### Councils' Volunteer of the Year

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



### Athletic Scholarships

Since 2004, funds for the scholarships are provided through contributions from **Whitefish Mountain Resort**, **Grouse Mountain Lodge**, **Kandahar Lodge** and **Karbon** (Shure Sports USA)



### Safety Award

Starting in 2020 **Mammoth** has donated a 4-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets and rentals.



### Environment Award

**Aspen/Snowmass**, **The Gant** and **The Crestwood** donate a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals and a lesson to the winner of the Environment Award.



Barbara Moran, the Regional Sales Manager for Grouse Mountain Lodge, sponsor of the Convention Golf Tournament, is enjoying the "Un-Golf" Luncheon with Gloria Raminha, FWSA President and Linda Westlund, FWSA Board of Trustees Chairman (seated). photo by Adam Bacher

## 2022 Convention Industry Participation Awards

by Debbi Kor  
V. P. of Marketing /Sponsorship, FWSA

**5 Year Award**  
Club Med

**20 Year Award**  
Brian Head Resort

**25 Year Awards**  
Big White Resort  
Copper Mountain Resort

**30 Year Award**  
Winter Park Resort

**35 Year Award**  
Mammoth Mountain Resort

## Door Prizes, Convention 2022

**City of Portland** -  
Farmers Market cookbook

**Mountain High Snowsport Club** -  
2 cookbooks

**Columbia Sportswear** -  
6 insulated coffee mugs, campfire cookset, backpack, walking poles, dry bags

**Hillcrest Ski Shop** -  
ski poles, 4 hats, 2 \$50 gift certificates

**Timberline Lodge** - Coffee Table Book

**Portland Trailblazers** -  
2 insulated coffee mugs

**Beaches Restaurant** -  
(2) \$25 Gift Certificates

**Telluride** -  
Osprey Backpack; soft pack, photo book

**Ski.Com** - Beach Towel

**Powder Mountain** -  
hat, visor, t-shirt, insulated coffee mug

**Ogden CVB** - insulated coffee mug

**Steamboat Ski & Resort** -  
gift bag with shirt, mug, Billy Kidd sketch, miscellaneous items

**Eileen Hines** - (6) ladies t-shirts

**Duluth Trading** -  
miscellaneous hiking items



*Pictured are the council honorees for the 2022 Councils' Volunteer of the Year Recognition Program (formerly known as the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year). LEFT TO RIGHT: Sue Rimkeit, Northwest Ski Club Council; Hannah Nishimoto, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs; Chris Gill, San Diego Council of Ski Clubs; Fran Long, Central Council of California; Paul Markowitz, Intermountain Ski Council; Karen Albrecht, Bay Area Snow Sports Council; Linda Johnston, Arizona Ski Council; and Lori Moore, National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region. photo by Adam Bacher*

# Councils' Volunteer of the Year Recognition Program

by Sheri Parshall  
Volunteer of the Year Chair, FWSA

The programs created by Far West Ski Association to honor its volunteers have been many and varied. From the early days of skiwear-modeling beauty pageants in the 1970's, when women were crowned Queen, the contest moved to a judged competition that included men. There became, then, a "Snow Queen and King." Even that didn't satisfy some in the crowd, and dissension resulted in the competition being cancelled in 1981 because it was "too sexist." The program was brought back in 1982 as the "Councils' Man and Woman of the Year," and each council was allowed two candidates, a man and woman, who were then judged by a panel with representatives from each council. This format remained in place through the 2021 Convention in San Diego. In 2020, the council presidents considered changing the award, to bring the name of the program more in tune with changing socio-dynamics that sought a gender-neutral title, while maintaining the criteria the presidents continued to support. The award was renamed the "Councils' Volunteer of the Year" in 2021.

We continue to be honored and grateful that we have an incredible program sponsor, Big White Ski Resort. Big White has sponsored our program since 2001, providing ski trips to our winners, and we look forward to working with them for many years to come.

I'm pleased to be able to introduce you to this year's **2022 Councils' Volunteer of the Year, Fran Long**. Fran is a long-time, active member of SLO Skiers in San Luis Obispo, California, and has been president of **Central Council of California** for several years. She has served in many positions on the SLO Skiers Board of Directors, as well as, on the Board of Directors of Far West Ski Association. She believes strongly in giving back to the organizations that give her such pleasure. Fran is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of FWSA.

**Please join me in also  
recognizing and congratulating the rest of our 2022 honorees:**

## Arizona Ski Council

**Linda Johnston**

Linda has been the spirit of the Phoenix Ski Club for many years. Currently, she serves as Club President, and has previously served as Board Member at Large, Vice President of Activities, and Ski Trip Coordinator. As Ski Trip Coordinator, Linda has increased member participation by creating popular trips filled with extra events that capture the flavor of each ski resort.

## Bay Area Snow Sports Council

**Karen Albrecht**

Karen is a lifelong skier and long-time Insiders Ski & Snowboard Club member, serving on its board for close to 20 years. She enjoys travel, sports, adventure and spending time with family and friends.

## Intermountain Ski Council

**Paul Markowitz**

Paul lives in Boise and has worked for the Forest Service for twenty-five years. He likes to ski, fish and spend time with the grandkids. He has skied for 65 years, including instructing in the Army.

## Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

**Hannah Nishimoto**

Hannah is a long time member, ski instructor and volunteer of the Unrecables, an adaptive ski program. She is an advocate for adaptive sports and recreation and is currently the Equipment Manager for the club.

## National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region

**Lori Moore**

In addition to being an avid skier, Lori Moore has been a volunteer with numerous ski clubs within the National Brotherhood of Skiers since the 1990s. She enjoys scuba diving, photography and traveling the world. When she's not on the slopes or underwater, Lori is an ophthalmologist in Los Angeles.

## Northwest Ski Club Council

**Sue Rimkeit**

Sue has been a volunteer for the Cascade Prime Timers for 22 years, including the Board of Directors, and chairing the "Socials" Committee. She is the greeter at every social/meeting and chairs the club Adopt-A-Highway program. She is also Vice President of NWSKC.

## San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

**Chris Gill**

Chris has served as the VP of Council Services for FWSA for the past three years, as well as, Membership Chair for the National Ski Council Federation (NSCF). She enjoys skiing, hiking, overseas travel and volunteering within the organizations. ▲▲



**Fran Long of the Central Council of California  
is the 2022 Volunteer of the Year.**

*The 2022 Councils' Volunteer of the Year, Fran Long (right) Central Council of California, receives her award from Sheri Parshall, the program chair.  
photo by Adam Bacher*



*Steve Coxen, a FWSA Past President, and a Past President of the Northwest Ski Club Council, as well as the Host Council of the 2022 Convention, had a very busy weekend. He led several optional events, was the Service Awards Chair and the Elections Chair. Thank you, Steve, for all your hard work to make this Convention such a wonderful success! photo by Adam Bacher*

## **Past FWSA Presidents Still Greatly Involved With the Organization!**



*FWSA Past Presidents attending this 2022 Convention Awards Banquet are shown with Steve and Phil Mahre. STANDING LEFT TO RIGHT: Steve Coxen (2000 - 2003, 2015 - 2018); Gloria Raminha (2018 - 2022); Jane Wyckoff (1981-1985); Mike Sanford (2004 - 2006); Harry Davis (1996-2000); and Randy Lew (2006 - 2013). photo by Adam Bacher*

# Educational Opportunities at Convention Snowsports Leadership Academy Sessions

by Jean McCasey  
Vice President - Membership, FWSA

Three Snowsports Leadership Academy sessions were presented at the Annual Convention this year. The modules provided education on specific topics of interest to ski club officers and members. The purpose of the Academy is to provide an informational forum to the members attending the FWSA Convention, and has evolved into a valuable resource. It is designed to provide Far West members training and tools to enhance and expand their club programs, and be recognized industry wide as having a measure of standards and consistency.



**"Strategic Travel - in a Changing World"** was moderated by **Debbie Stewart** with presenters: **Sandy Gaudette - SkiGroup.net**, **Maxine Jensen - Alpine Adventures**, **Sean McErlean - Holiday Ski Tours**, and **Gloria Saiya-Woods - Ski.Com**.

These highly knowledgeable industry partners addressed the latest up-to-date information needed for club trip directors that are facing an ever-changing world of travel. Discussion included some of the "most asked questions" regarding international and domestic rules and regulations, protocols, lodging issues, transportation challenges, pandemic and COVID mandates, insurance and much more.

**"Avalanche Safety and Mountain Rescue"** was presented by **Steve Rollins** and **Paige Baugher, Ph.D, EMR, WFR**, Rescue Leaders from **Portland Mountain Rescue (PMR)**.

Paige is also a PMR Public Information Officer, a Professional Observer and Avalanche Awareness Instructor, Northwest Avalanche Center and an Avalanche Educator, Outdoor Pursuits, Pacific University of Oregon. Portland Mountain Rescue is a non-profit mountain rescue team that conducts Search and Rescue (SAR) missions for lost or out-of-bound skiers and snowboarders, rescues fallen climbers, and provides other search and rescue services at the request of law enforcement. This team specializes in high mountain, all-weather rescues including avalanche, crevasse rescue, zero visibility navigation, technical rope rescue, and helicopter operations. In addition to providing a review of rescue operations, they provided valuable insight into how not to get into a situation that requires a rescue. They also extended their appreciation to all FWSA members who have been or are currently volunteer members of the National Ski Patrol, for the work they do the mountain.

**"How to Jumpstart Your Facebook Social Media Presence"** was presented by **Marc Galt - Founder of Ski the Northwest** and **Todd Hood - Treasurer, National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region**.

The workshop shared actionable steps so users can utilize standard free Facebook tools to grow their social media audience immediately, and provided a lot of opportunity for questions and audience interaction. Since convention, subscribers to the new E-mail list for Social Media administrators have been receiving Social Media Sunday E-mails featuring one helpful guide each week. Interested participants can still subscribe to receive the weekly guides at <https://cardvaletservice.aweb.page/p/43c777e6-38b0-47b2-b731-6ceb18d06028>.



**LEFT: Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel, FWSA** provided valuable information to travel planners at the Snowsports Leadership Academy module, **"Strategic Travel - in a Changing World."** photo by George Stewart

**RIGHT: The "Avalanche Safety and Mountain Rescue" Snowsports Leadership Academy** was presented by **Paige Baugher, Ph.D, EMR, WFR**, and **Steve Rollins, Rescue Leaders from Portland Mountain Rescue.** Adam Bacher



**Marc Galt-Founder of Ski the Northwest, and Todd Hood-Treasurer National Brotherhood of Skiers Western Region, led the Snowsports Leadership Academy session "How to Jumpstart Your Facebook Social Media Presence."**

Adam Bacher



*Panelists for the morning Public Affairs Panel "Weather Changes Affecting Mountain Operations & Public Safety," with Lina Arnold, FWSA VP of Public Affairs were L to R: Matt Zaffino, KGW-TV Chief Meteorologist; Dave Tragethon, Vice President of Marketing, Sales & Communications, Mt. Hood Meadows; and Jordan Elliott, President of the Northwest Ski Areas Association. photos provided by Lina Arnold*



*Lina Arnold, FWSA VP of Public Affairs with the panelists for the afternoon Public Affairs Panel "Athletes & 10th Mt. Division, Olympic Medalists Steve and Phil Mahre and Trux Dole, President of the 10th Mountain Division Foundation.*

## Public Affairs Panelists Address Snowsports Issues

by Lina Arnold

Vice President - Public Affairs, FWSA

Two Public Affairs sessions were conducted on Saturday, June 11, at the 2022 Far West Ski Association Convention held in Portland, Oregon.

The morning session had a very knowledgeable group of panelists that addressed current snowsports issues, and in particular, climate related challenges impacting not only western resorts, but resorts throughout the US. Valuable insight was provided into how leading ski organizations were creating programs to address these challenges. Panelists included: Matt Zaffino, KGW-TV Chief Meteorologist; Dave Tragethon, Vice President of Marketing, Sales & Communications, Mt. Hood Meadows; and Jordan Elliott, President of the Northwest Ski Areas Association.

The afternoon session featured Keynote Speaker Phil Mahre 1984 Olympic Gold Medalist, with a surprise visit from his twin brother Steve Mahre, 1984 Olympic Silver Medalist, who entertained us with their wisdom and knowledge of skiing and racing. Also included on the panel was Trux Dole, President of the 10th Mountain Division Foundation, who spoke about its mission to honor and perpetuate the legacy of the soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division, past, present and future. Included was the notable impact these soldiers had on the early development of ski resorts in the United States. ▲▲

### 10th Mountain Division Foundation

The US Army's 10th Mountain Division was created in 1941 during World War II. It is the only Division of its size in the US military to receive specialized training for fighting in mountainous conditions. The 10th has served in wars since WW II, including Afghanistan and Iraq, and still exists today. World War II veterans of the 10th Mountain Division established the Tenth Mountain Division Foundation in 1958, to memorialize the history and exceptional achievements of the Division, and to perpetuate its legacy for future generations. The completely volunteer board is comprised of descendants and volunteers committed to perpetuating the 10th Mountain legacy and supporting 10th soldiers and their families. It is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. For additional information, their website is located at

<https://10thmountainfoundation.org/>. ▲▲



*Members of Snowsports Foundations discussing Foundation Initiatives at the FWSA Convention. L to R: Trux Dole, President, Tenth Mountain Division Foundation; Alan Christian, President, Far West Ski Foundation; and Randy Lew, Trustee, Far West Ski Foundation. photo / Adam Bacher*

## Hans Georg Award



Sheri Parshall, Northwest Ski Club Council, received the Hans Georg Award, the FWSA's highest recognition, for long-term service to the Association. The award was presented by Nancy Ellis, the 2021 recipient. photo / Adam Bacher

## Jordan - Reily Award



Heidi Logosz, Mt. Hood Meadows, was honored with the Jordan-Reily Award, presented by Gloria Raminha, FWSA President. This award recognizes achievements in Public Affairs programs. photo / Adam Bacher

## J. Stanley Mullin Award



Joe Harvis (right), the 2019 recipient of the J. Stanley Mullin Award, presented John Reinhardt, Northwest Ski Club Council, (left) with this year's award. The award recognizes a man who has made significant contributions to skiing over the past two years. photo / Adam Bacher

## Jimmie Heuga Award



Dr. John Gray, a member of The Unrecables, was presented with the Jimmie Heuga Award for significant contributions to rehabilitative and adaptive snowsports programs. Gloria Raminha, FWSA President, presented the award. photo / Adam Bacher

## Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood Award



Sandy Blackwell, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs, was presented with the Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood Award from Chris Gill, the 2021 recipient. The award recognizes a woman who has made significant contributions to skiing over the past two years. photo / Adam Bacher

## Terry Smith Award



Bob Ellis, FWSA Vice President-Racing (right), presented the Terry Smith Award to Peter Dodd, Northwest Ski Club Council PACRAT League (left), for his outstanding contributions to recreational racing. photo / Adam Bacher

## FWSA 2022 Awards

by Steve Coxen  
Awards Chair, FWSA

### Service Awards

#### Hans Georg

*Sheri Parshall,*  
Northwest Ski Club Council

#### J. Stanley Mullin

*John Reinhardt,*  
Northwest Ski Club Council

#### Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood

*Sandy Blackwell,*  
Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

#### Jordan-Reily

*Heidi Logosz,* Mt Hood Meadows

#### Jimmie Heuga

*Dr. John Gray,* The Unrecables

#### Bill Mackey

*Michael J. Ballingall,*  
Big White Ski Resort

#### Tommie Tyndall

Aspen Snowmass

#### Terry Smith

*Peter Dodd*  
Northwest Ski Club Council  
PACRAT League

### Snowsports Builder Award

*The Kohnstamm Family*  
Timberline Lodge & Ski Area,  
Mt Hood

*The Drake Family*  
Mt. Hood Meadows, Mt Hood

*Kirk Hanna*  
Mt. Hood Skibowl, Mt Hood

### Media Awards

#### Bill Berry – Hard News

*The Tahoe Weekly*

#### Bill Berry – Featured Article

*Lindsey Vonn,*  
author of "Rise: My Story"

#### Warren Miller Award

*Coolfire Productions,*  
for documentary film  
"Magic in the Mountains"

### Public Affairs Award

#### Western Ski Heritage

*Lowell Skoog, "Written in the  
Snows: Across Time on Skis in  
the Pacific Northwest"*

### President's Award

#### President's Award

Joe Harvis, Interlachen Ski Club,  
Pacific Northwest Ski Club Council

Bill Mackey Award



*Michael J. Ballingall,  
Senior Vice President  
of Big White Ski Resort,  
was the recipient of the  
Bill Mackey Award,  
for outstanding  
service to the skiing  
public by a ski area  
employee.*

*photo provided by  
Big White Ski Resort*

## Michael J. Ballingall of Big White Ski Resort Receives the 2022 Bill Mackey Award

by Randy Lew, Past President  
and Debbi Kor, Vice President -  
Marketing and Sponsorship, FWSA

*Michael J. Ballingall*, Senior Vice President of Big White Ski Resort, Ltd. was honored by Far West Ski Association at its Annual Convention as the 2022 recipient of the Bill Mackey Award. This award recognizes outstanding service to the skiing public by a ski area employee.

Michael J., as he is affectionately known by his friends in Far West Ski Association, has been a great long-time supporter of the Association and organized skiing. He first started working seasonally for Big White in 1984, then left from 1990 to 1995 going to work for AusSterio Radio Network in Australia. Five years later, Michael, his wife Diana and their two sons decided to return to the mountains and Big White for two years. They obviously liked it since that was almost 27 years ago!

Big White Ski Resort is one of British Columbia's most popular winter resorts and summer bike destination. His dynamic leadership, broad industry knowledge, and marketing and sales skills, infectious enthusiasm, and humor serve him well in leading his team. Michael J. has mentored an amazing sales and operations team over the years including Jim Loyd, Katie Balkwill, Robb Creighton, and Norm Kreutz, two of whom are previous recipients of the FWSA Bill Mackey Award.

His vision of increasing the recognition and name branding of the resort resulted in the long-term Big White sponsorship of the **Councils' Volunteer of the Year Program** (formerly the Councils' Man & Woman of the Year), where the movers and shakers at the

council level were recognized and presented a trip to Big White. This has been extremely effective in building brand recognition and resulted in many club and council trips to Big White.

Michael J. is a well-known figure in the Okanagan Valley through his involvement as **Chair of the Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association**, Chair of the **TELUS Interior and Northern BC Community Service Board**, President of the **Tourism Big White Society**, Director of the **Canadian Ski Council**, Director of **Tourism Kelowna**, Director of the **Tourism Industry Association of BC**, member of the **YLW Air Service Action Committee**, and founding member of the **Okanagan Bucket-list**. On September 7, 2022, he was honored to receive the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Pin** and **Local Outstanding Service Medallion** for his community service.

He strongly believes that moving people around the province in both summer and winter is the fastest way to recover from the pandemic and grow tourism numbers, and that reliable roads and affordable air are more important than ever at this time. His passion, experience, and dedication is aimed at creating the ultimate winter ski vacation and outstanding customer service.

Because of his strong support of organized skiing, the snowsports public, and the Far West Ski Association, we truly believe this recognition was long overdue. Michael J. Ballingall truly embodies the spirit of the **Bill Mackey Award**. ▲▲

**Congratulations, Michael! Thank you for all you have done!**



Mary Manning, Sr. National Sales Manager for the Aspen Skiing Company, accepted the Tommi Tyndall Award on behalf of Aspen Snowmass, from Gloria Raminha, FWSA President. The award recognizes a ski area that has made a distinguished contribution to skiing. photo / Adam Bacher

## Aspen Snowmass Receives the Tommi Tyndall Award

by Gloria Raminha, Past President  
and Nancy Ellis, Vice President -  
North American Travel, FWSA

Aspen Snowmass was the 2022 recipient of the Tommi Tyndall Award, presented to an industry member that has made a distinguished contribution to skiing. The award was announced at the FWSA Convention in Portland.

Aspen Snowmass was given this award in recognition of its outstanding support of the skiing public, the local community and the Far West Ski Association. The resort has been a devoted supporter of the Far West Ski Association, having donated ski vacation packages to the **Annual Convention Silent Auction** for thirty-two years. In addition, Aspen Snowmass has been a Convention event sponsor for eleven years, with sponsorships that have included the annual golf tournament, beverages, Awards Banquet, and musical entertainment.

Aspen Snowmass was the **Safety Person of the Year Sponsor** for five years and for the past six years has sponsored the **Environment Award**. An early leader in the ski industry in reducing their carbon footprint, Aspen Snowmass proposed the Environment Award for FWSA in 2015. The Environment Award is designed to encourage good stewardship of our environment. The resort desires to inspire and reward creative efforts to conserve and protect our environment.

Strong community, value-led action, and lasting connections with both people and the planet, are important to Aspen Snowmass. **The Environment Foundation** was estab-

lished in 1997, and is unique in the ski industry. Employee contributions are matched by the Aspen Skiing Company Family Fund and the Aspen Community Foundation. Additional support is received from Lavazza, their coffee partner. A board of directors, comprised of Aspen Skiing Company employees, governs the foundation and decides which projects to fund. More than 1,600 employees contribute annually to the program, volunteering to contribute through a payroll deduction plan. With employees giving as little as one dollar a week, the foundation has donated more than \$4 million to hundreds of projects since the Foundation's inception. Through the Environment Foundation, they are working to protect habitat, ecosystems, and the biodiversity that they depend upon.

This year, Aspen Snowmass hosted FWSA with another successful North American Ski Week, as they have many times in the past. In addition, Aspen Snowmass has continuously supported the production of the *Far West Skier's Guide* through advertising support, and donated prizes for club and council events.

For their outstanding support of the skiing public, the local community, the Far West Ski Association, clubs and councils, and development of leading programs in conserving and protecting our environment, Aspen Snowmass is certainly deserving of recognition as a recipient of the **Tommi Tyndall Award**. ▲▲



Lowell Skoog, author of "Written in the Snows: Across Time on Skis in the Pacific Northwest," accepts the Western Ski Heritage Award. The award was presented by Lina Arnold, FWSA Vice President - Public Affairs, and Larry Young, Senior Sales Manager, Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation. photo / Adam Bacher

## Lowell Skoog Awarded FWSA's 2022 Western Ski Heritage Award

by John Watson  
History Chair, FWSA

Lowell Skoog is a longtime skier, climber, writer and photographer with an avid interest in the skiing history of the Northwest.

He has been involved with the creation of, and is an active member of the Washington State Ski and Snowboard Museum. He is also the chairman of the Mountaineer's History and Library Committee. He created the [www.alpenglow.org](http://www.alpenglow.org) website dedicated to the history of skiing in the Pacific Northwest. Skoog's years-long historical documentation was most recently published in book form by Mountaineers Books, "*Written in the Snows: Across Time on Skis in the Pacific Northwest*."

"*Written in the Snows*" is the first definitive book on the origins and growth of skiing in Washington. The book is illustrated with 150 black-and-white and color photographs. He documents the development of skiing in Washington from the late 1800s to the present, covering the beginnings of ski resorts and competitions, and the importance of wild places in the Cascade and Olympic mountain ranges.

The Western Ski Heritage Award is sponsored by **Steamboat Ski & Resort Corpora-**

*Convention photos of award winners in this section taken by Adam Bacher unless otherwise noted.*

## FWSA President's Award



Gloria Raminha, FWSA President, presented Joe Harvis, FWSA Vice President - Communications, with the President's Award for his outstanding assistance during the past year;

*The Far West Ski Association Service Awards program recognizes club and council volunteers and members of the snowsports industry, for outstanding service over a designated period of time or long-term service. Members of the FWSA Board of Directors and Past Service Award Recipients are eligible to nominate and vote on the awards. Any member of FWSA is encouraged to contact the Awards Chair with a nomination they feel to be worthy to be recognized with an award.*

## 2022 FWRA Racing Awards

### Roma McCoy Award



Lina Arnold accepted the Roma McCoy Award on behalf of the San Diego League Racers, given for the most points per racer in the Adult Division of the Far West Racing Association. Adam Bacher

### Roma McCoy Award



Paul Vlasveld, Bay Area Snow Sports Council President, accepted the FWRA's Roma McCoy Award - Junior Division on behalf of Open League for the most points per Junior Racer. Adam Bacher

### FWRA Championships



Jo Simpson, President of the Sierra League & Council, accepts the Far West Racing Association Championships 2022 Award. Sierra League won both the Adult and Junior Divisions. photo / Adam Bacher

### Joe Ross Award



The Joe Ross Award for the ski club with the most points for racing at the 2022 North American Ski Week at Aspen Snowmass was the Phoenix Ski Club from the Arizona Ski Council.

## **The Drake Family Founders and Operators of Mt. Hood Meadows**

In 1966, a company headed by Franklin Drake and his two brothers, Donald and Mitchell, edged out a Hood River-based group and secured a 30-year lease from the U.S. Forest Service to build and operate a ski resort on Mt. Hood's east side.

Franklin Drake, an enthusiastic skier himself, used helicopters to haul concrete and steel for the two original chairlifts. He managed to build a lodge, a parking lot, all the infrastructure and the lifts in a year, and opened for business in 1967.

Mt. Hood Meadows now draws about half-a-million people a year, second only to Mt. Bachelor. Drake managed the resort until 2006, when his son, Matthew Drake, took over. Franklin Drake died in 2021.

The Drake family has maintained a philosophy of continuous improvement and development at Mt. Hood Meadows. The ski resort has expanded over the years, and the most notable was the development of the adjacent Heather Canyon Ski Area in the 1980's. In 1984, they began adding triple and quad express lifts.

While Mt. Hood Meadows had always been committed to preserving and maintaining the environment in which it operates, it was in the 1990's when it became recognized as being on the leading edge of these environmental issues.

The resort was the recipient of the National Ski Areas Association's prestigious "Golden Eagle Environmental Excellence Award" in 2015, and received the "Recycler of the Year" from the Association of Oregon Recyclers in 2016.

Mt. Hood Meadows began construction of the new Sahale Lodge in 2019. It is the first significant commercial improvement at the Resort since 1999. The Lodge was designed to add 10,000 square feet for dining and 13,500 square feet for skier services. Sahale is equipped with a heated roof and concrete embedded hydronic snow melt system in the outdoor dining area and entry slabs.

Mt. Hood Meadows was named to the list of "100 Best Companies to Work for in Oregon" by *Oregon Business Magazine*, as well as, making the *Top 100 Green Companies to Work For*, marking the seventh year in a row Meadows received the award.

*The FWSA Snowsports Builder Award is given to individuals who have made an indelible positive impact on snowsports. The builder may be honored for achievements in athletics, the press, publishers, historians, industry; humanitarian work, area development, or technology. In short, they honor those who have made significant contributions to snowsports.*



## **Mt. Hood Legends Receive FWSA Snowsports Builder Award**

**by Steve Coxen**  
*Service Awards Chair, FWSA*

### **Kirk Hanna Operator, Mt. Hood Skibowl & Developer Collins Lake Resort**

Kirk Hanna purchased the Mt. Hood Skibowl ski area in 1987. Mt. Hood Skibowl is located just below Government Camp. The resort's origin dates back to 1928, making it one of the oldest remaining ski resorts in the country. The ski area began as two separate resorts -- **Skibowl** and **Multorpor**.

While Skibowl's name was derived from the natural shape of its Upper Bowl, Multorpor's name came from the combination Multnomah County, Oregon and Portland.

The famous Jump Hill on Multorpor Mountain was developed by Everett Sickler in 1928 and one year later the newly-formed Cascade Ski Club began holding competitions at Multorpor's Jump Hill. The area gained national recognition after holding an official National Ski Association event.

Kirk Hanna purchased Skibowl out of bankruptcy in 1987 and formed H-Ski Corporation. He made major improvements to the resort by adding the 300 acres outback, cutting the Olympic Certified Reynolds Run and expanding the night skiing to 34 lighted runs, making Skibowl "**America's Largest Night Ski Area.**" He also remodeled and reopened the Historic Warming Hut. Hanna also built upon the summer activities, adding mountain biking, Indy Karts, Miniature Golf, group func-

tions, and some inflatable summer recreation. In 1993, Skibowl added a 100 foot Bungee Tower to its summer attractions. Skibowl's success has been its year-round recreational activities.

The Lower Bowl was completely rebuilt and everything was replaced but towers and chairs. The Upper Bowl also received new improvements. The Multorpor Chair and the Lower Bowl lift terminal are completely rebuilt, resulting in shorter rides, faster chairlifts and more seating.

Kirk Hanna also developed Collins Lake Resort, providing luxury lodging in the heart of Government Camp near Mt. Hood Skibowl.

### **The Kohnstamm Family Operators of Timberline Lodge & Timberline Ski Area**

Richard L. Kohnstamm was the president and area operator of Timberline Lodge and Ski Area from 1955 until 1992, when he turned the operation over to his son, Jeff.

Dick Kohnstamm passed away in 2006. U.S. Representative Earl Blumenauer memorialized him before the House of Representatives as a "visionary leader who conceived and then for half a century led the Kohnstamm family crusade to restore the jewel that is Timberline Lodge".

When he first saw Timberline Lodge in 1955, Dick Kohnstamm was immediately enamored of the building. Built in 1936-1937

# SNOWSPORTS BUILDER AWARD 2022



**Gloria Raminha, FWSA President,** presented **Matthew Drake** with the Snowsports Builder Award for the Drake Family, founders and operators of Mt. Hood Meadows. *photos by Adam Bacher*



under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration, and furnished with art and furniture commissioned under the Federal Art Project, the lodge had opened to the public in 1938. It fell into disrepair and was closed in 1955. The U.S. Forest Service, which administers the lodge, revoked the permit and sought a new operator.

With the encouragement of lodge employee and former WPA worker, Jim Duncan, Kohnstamm applied for and was awarded the permit. He formed R.L.K. and Company and set about developing the lodge and ski area – a labor of love to which he devoted his life.

Kohnstamm installed the Pucci and Victoria Station chairlifts, and he purchased Sno-Cats to transport skiers and tourists to snow fields above the lodge's 6,000-foot elevation. Kohnstamm created the first summer skiing opportunities in North America with the completion of the Palmer chairlift in 1978.

When Kohnstamm lobbied Congress for



**Kirk Hanna, Operator of Mt. Hood Ski Bowl and Developer of Collins Lake Resort,** was a recipient of the Snowsports Builder Award. The Award was presented by **Gloria Raminha, FWSA President.**

funds to build a convention center and day lodge for skiers, he told congressional committees that Timberline was both a hotel and a museum. Running the lodge without a day lodge, he said, was “like trying to run an exclusive restaurant in the Lincoln Memorial.” Congress added supplementary funds to the U.S. Forest Service budgets for the new wing and the day lodge, The C.S. Price Wing was completed in 1975, and the Wy’East Day Lodge opened for the 1981-1982 ski season.

Recently, under Jeff Kohnstamm’s leadership, Timberline purchased a small ski area called “Summit” in Government Camp. Now called “Summit Pass,” the area will be the location of a new day lodge and a new Timberline Gondola that will shuttle guests from the Government Camp area to Timberline Lodge and Ski Area. The Timberline Gondola is the cornerstone of Timberline’s Upgrade Plan which was reviewed and accepted by the US Forest Service in 2022. ▲▲

**Mt. Hood is an 11,245’ volcano, the tallest mountain in Oregon. Its resorts offer one of the longest ski seasons in North America, historically beginning the winter season in mid-November and lasting through the end of May. Meteorologists are predicting another La Nina (cold phase) winter for 2022-2023, which would be for a third year in a row. La Nina tends to organize the wintertime jet stream in a way that favors the Pacific Northwest and Northern Tier of states with the most consistent winter snowfall. Looks like it’s going to be another great season of skiing and boarding on Mt. Hood!** *photo of Mt. Hood / Pexels*



**John Burton, Director of Marketing, Public Relations & IT,** accepted the Snowsports Builder Award on behalf of the Kohnstamm Family, Operators of Timberline Lodge and Timberline Ski Area, from **Gloria Raminha, FWSA President.**





*The 2022 Club & Council Communications & Social Media Recognition Award winners.*

*Standing LEFT TO RIGHT: Sigrid Noack, Dr. John Gray & Hannah Nishimoto, Unrecables; Emilio Trampuz, Mountain High; Linda McGavin, Northwest Ski Club Council and Paul Vlasveld, Bay Area Snow Sports Council.*

*Sitting LEFT TO RIGHT: Anelli Ford, San Diego Council; Sandra Blackwell, Los Angeles Council and Marc Galt, Northwest Ski Club Council.*

*photo by Jane Wjckoff*

## Club & Council Communications Awards

by Bill King

*Club & Council Communications Awards Chair, FWSA*

### Wentworth Outstanding Club Publications

	Club Name	Council	Editor/ Webmaster
<b>Masters</b>			
1st Place	Mt. High Snowsport Club	NWSCC	Emilio Trampuz
2nd Place	The Unrecables	LAC	Gordon Cardona

### Advanced

1st Place	Castro Valley Ski Club	BAC	Dennie Warren
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### Outstanding Club Websites

	Club Name	Council	Editor/ Webmaster
<b>Masters</b>			
1st Place	Mt. High Snowsport Club	NWSCC	Emilio Trampuz
2nd Place	Inskiers Ski & Snowboard Club	BAC	Bob Burke
3rd Place	The Unrecables	LAC	Dee Armstrong

### Advanced

1st Place	Torrey Pines Ski Club	SDC	Judy Fontanella
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### Outstanding Council Websites

	Club Name	Council	Editor/ Webmaster
1st Place	Northwest Ski Club Council	NWSCC	Linda McGavin
2nd Place	Inskiers Ski & Snowboard Club	BAC	Bob Burke
3rd Place	The Unrecables	LAC	Dee Armstrong

### Outstanding Council Publications

	Club Name	Council	Editor/ Webmaster
1st Place	Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs	LAC	Gordon Cardona
2nd Place	Bay Area Snow Sports Council	BAC	Dennie Warren
3rd Place	Northwest Ski Club Council	NWSCC	Linda McGavin

## Club & Council Social Media Awards

by Todd Hood

*Social Media Awards Chair, FWSA*

Club Name	Council	Administrator
1st Place	Northwest Ski Club Council Facebook Group, NWSCC	Marc Galt
2nd Place	Reno Ski & Recreation Club Facebook Page, Sierra Council,	Sue Jacox
3rd Place	Get Off Your Rockers Ski Club Facebook Group, San Diego Council,	Linda Sterger



STANDING LEFT TO RIGHT: Recipients of the 2022 Charities & Our Community Recognition Awards: Jane Gutierrez, 4 Seasons West; Tina Weber, Skiyente; Sandra Knapp, Grindelwald; Fran Long, SLO Skiers; Chris Gill, Get Off Your Rockers; Paul Vlasveld, Monterey; Bill King, Mountain High; Karen Bonine, Arizona Ski Council and Sigrid Noack, FWSA Charities & Our Community Chair.  
KNEELING LEFT TO RIGHT: Sheri Parshall, PACRAT Race League; Barbara Bryant, Bogus Basin and Monica Palmer, Reno Ski & Recreation.  
photo by Jane Wyckoff

## Outstanding FWSA Ski Clubs Give From the Heart

by Sigrid Noack

Charities and Our Community Chair, FWSA

Far West Ski Association is very proud to have so many clubs and councils actively supporting a huge variety of charities. The Association established the "Charity and Community Service Recognition" program 16 years ago to recognize our ski club and council member efforts. By openly honoring so many groups within our FWSA family at our conventions, we encourage others to become more involved with charity activities and donations.

FWSA's 10 participating ski councils have always been committed to supporting charitable giving and volunteerism. Through the generous donations and volunteer services of our individual members, we hope to enhance the quality of life within our communities. Congratulations to the members of our clubs and councils, the presidents, and their charity program organizers. These are admirable groups, who selflessly support so many charities.

Most of our clubs and councils are in some way involved with charitable activities, doing amazing work for those who are less fortunate. At this year's convention in Portland, FWSA gave special recognition to clubs and councils, who wanted to share their charity activities, by including them in our second FWSA Charities Video. This video was interesting and inspiring. Delegates and industry friends were able to watch it throughout the weekend convention. The video was sent to all participating clubs and councils and has been posted for the world to view on the [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) website.

The following groups were recognized in this year's charities video:

**Arizona Ski Council**  
**Bogus Basin Ski Club - Intermountain Ski Council**  
**Four Seasons West Ski and Snowboard Club - Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs and National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region**  
**Grindelwald Ski Club - Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs**  
**Get Off Your Rockers Ski Club - San Diego Council of Ski Clubs**  
**Monterey Ski & Social Club - Bay Area Snow Sports Council**  
**Mountain High Snow Sport Club - Northwest Ski Club Council**  
**Reno Ski & Recreation Club - Sierra League & Council**  
**SLO Skiers - Central Council of California**  
**Skiyente Ski Club - Northwest Ski Club Council**  
**PacRat Racing - Northwest Ski Club Council**

These outstanding clubs and council received a FWSA Charity Recognition Certificate of Appreciation and an electronic FWSA Medallion to post on their website and to use in their newsletters.

CONGRATULATIONS and a great big THANK YOU to our FWSA members for being so involved with charity work and putting forth this great effort in supporting your community organizations. ▲▲

Check it out! <https://youtu.be/6H0rBswJC6E>



Make your plans to join us in Boise, Idaho for the 90th Annual FWSA Convention in June of 2023! photos courtesy of The Grove Hotel, Boise, ID

## “Adventure Awaits in Boise!” FWSA 90th Annual Convention June 15 - 18, 2023

by **Debbi Kor**  
Convention Chairperson, FWSA

Far West Ski Association's 90th Annual Convention is set for June 15-18, 2023, in Boise, Idaho. It will be, once again, co-hosted by Intermountain Ski Council and Bogus Basin Ski Club, with a little help from Arizona Ski Council. The Grove Hotel, the original AAA Four Diamond full-service hotel in Boise, will be the host hotel. Located in downtown Boise, it is just 10 minutes from the airport. All of the Convention activities and meetings will be held at the state-of-the-art Boise Centre...just a short walk across the commons. We last visited this area in 2017, with the beautiful Boise River nearby, and foothills that rise above the town.

The Capitol Building is three blocks away, and is a popular tourist attraction. The Boise Greenbelt is close by, with its wonderful walking and bicycle paths, which will lead you along the river, and down to the famous “Blue Turf” Albertson's Stadium of Boise State University. ISC and Bogus Basin Ski Club have planned some outstanding activities for everyone to participate in, beginning Wednesday evening, June 14, with a relaxing Happy Hour at one of the local Brew Pubs. This will give the “early birds” a chance to meet and greet their friends, enjoy some pizza and have a nice adult beverage or two while we play catch-up with what's been happening since we were all together in Portland, in June, 2022.

Thursday is shaping up with an exciting River Rafting trip on the Payette River, beginning at 8 a.m. There will also be a guided Bike Tour on either a regular or electric pedal-powered bike along the Greenbelt, which will include a Wine Tour and Lunch. Arriving back around 3 p.m. we will have time to get ready for the 26th Annual Pub Crawl. We will be visiting three of Boise's finest Brew Pubs/Restau-

rants to mix and mingle for the evening.

On Friday, the 16th Annual Michael Germain Memorial Golf Tournament - With a Twist will take place at Top Golf. This is a new craze that has hit the golf world, and Boise will be opening the doors to their Top Golf shop by the end of 2022. We will have an opportunity to team up, and have some fun competition for prizes, as well as, network with our industry partners, and finish off with a great lunch and awards. You will also have the option of doing “A Day on the Mountain,” a Bogus Basin adventure. There will be hiking, mountain biking, Zip-lining, and the new Mountain Coaster all at your disposal. Choose any or all of these activities to keep you busy for the day. Lunch will be provided, as well.

That's not all!! Boise will be busting out all kinds of fun for us in 2023! Since The Grove does not have an on-site pool -- in lieu of our typical Pool Party and Club Happy Hour, we will be combining those two activities into two-and-a-half hours of interesting and enticing activities at JUMP. JUMP was the brain-child of Jack (JR) Simplot. It stands for Jack's Urban Meeting Place, with the mission: “Creating an environment for inspiring human potential”. Do group team-building sessions, make a short movie, choreograph a dance, or just spend time getting to know one another. Food and beverages will be part of the experience.

We will be done with all this in plenty of time to get to the Boise Centre for the 37th Annual Silent Auction and Snowsports Trade Show on Friday evening. Network with your favorite ski resorts, plan trips for your club and council, get trip details and pricing, and participate in a fantastic Silent Auction that

can bring you a plethora of adventure trips for the coming season. On Saturday, you will have the opportunity to sit in on some fascinating Snowsports Leadership Academy Sessions, Public Affairs Panels, listen to outstanding guest speakers, and spend time at lunch and dinner socializing with all of your Far West friends who come to this event.

The Saturday Evening Awards Banquet will recognize the industry partners and volunteers for outstanding contributions to FWSA and snowsports. This will be followed by musical entertainment and dancing!

Sunday delegates will participate in the FWSA General Session and Elections, and the Club and Council Communications Awards and Charities & Our Communities recognition certificates will be presented. A fabulous breakfast buffet will be served to enjoy before heading home.

For any of those who plan to stay over, a separate Adventure Trip has been planned. CALLING ALL FISHERMEN, a trip to Hells Canyon for Sturgeon fishing has been set up.

### **Trip includes:**

- 2 nights stay at Best Western Motel in Riggins, Idaho.
- Fishing trip on Monday morning, June 19, off the Pittsburg Landing.
- Return to Riggins for 2nd overnight stay.
- Head home on Tuesday morning, June 20.

For additional information regarding the Annual Convention, Contact **FWSA Convention Chair Debbi Kor**, [fwsadebbi@comcast.net](mailto:fwsadebbi@comcast.net) or **Host Council Convention Coordinator Jennifer Coutts** at [jcoutts29@yahoo.com](mailto:jcoutts29@yahoo.com).

A “Save the Date” will be sent out sometime this fall. Convention Registration materials will follow in mid-February. See you in Boise! Come early, stay late. We certainly want you to enjoy your awesome trip to Boise, Idaho. ▲▲

# Experience Luxury

WELCOME FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION



THE GROVE HOTEL  
DOWNTOWN BOISE

## FWSA 90th Annual Convention

June 15 - 18, 2023



## THERE'S A NEW GOLD RUSH HAPPENING IN THE WEST.

Boise is the many-layered, vibrant, urban hub of the Mountain West.

To take advantage of exclusive offers while you visit, check out [VisitBoise.com/show-your-badge/](https://VisitBoise.com/show-your-badge/)



boise  
CONVENTION  
& VISITORS BUREAU

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The Far West Ski Association's Public Affairs portfolio is responsible for a wide variety of programs, and has historically been very active in a host of areas that impact ski area development, safety, volunteer liabilities, transportation, taxation, ski history, environment, climate change and diversity in snowsports. As *"The Voice of the Western Skier"* it is our responsibility to present our positions to the outside world. We also work to educate our own members, on the impact of changing demographics, efforts to modernize state ski laws, expanding snowmaking capabilities, consumer tendencies, the Forest Service's role in area development, and to meet various needs based on demographics such as age, capabilities, interests, and other factors.

The Association strongly encourages all snowsports enthusiasts to get informed and involved in issues that might affect them, by keeping abreast of industry news, government activities, area developments, legislation, public meetings, safety issues and product developments. To help you stay informed, we encourage you to visit our website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), and subscribe to the *Far West News Flash* (a no cost monthly electronic newsletter).

## AREA DEVELOPMENT

### Vail Resorts

Through its subsidiaries, Vail Resorts has become a leading global mountain resort operator, and currently operates 41 destination mountain resorts throughout the United States. Their stated product is the great outdoors and their mission is *"Experience of a Lifetime™"*. The real estate planning and development subsidiary of Vail Resorts is the Vail Resorts Development Company.

In September of 2021, Vail Resorts announced a \$320 Million Capital Plan across 14 resorts to enhance guest experience for the 2022-2023 season. The initiative is called the *"Epic Lift Upgrade."* Readers are invited to explore and follow progress of all these transformational projects at [www.snow.com/EpicLiftUpgrade](http://www.snow.com/EpicLiftUpgrade), which includes videos of the initiatives.

This will be the company's largest single-year investment into the mountain experience. It is designed to materially reduce wait times, and increase uphill capacity with 19 new chairlifts, including 12 new high-speed chairlifts, a new 8-person high-speed gondola, 6

new fixed-grip chairlifts, new lift-served terrain and an expanded restaurant. It will make getting on and around its mountains easier, faster and more enjoyable.

*"Our mission at Vail Resorts is to provide an Experience of a Lifetime to anyone who visits our resorts – and delivering on that mission requires constant re-imagination and investment into the guest experience,"* said Rob Katz, Chairman of Vail Resorts.

Following are projects planned for the 2022 - 2023 season in Canada and the western region. Note that the projects are subject to government approval, and the completion of each project and its availability for the 2022 - 2023 season will be based on the timing of the approvals.

### Whistler Blackcomb, Canada:

A new high-speed 8-person gondola, the Creekside Gondola, will replace the existing 6-person gondola. It will significantly improve wait times and increase out-of-base uphill capacity by 35% in the Creekside area, especially on high-volume days. The replacement of the existing high-speed 4-person lift Big Red Express, with a high-speed, 6-person chair will increase the uphill capacity by nearly 30% and enhance and modernize the guest experience mid-mountain out of the Creekside area. ([www.whistlerblackcomb.com](http://www.whistlerblackcomb.com))

### Vail Mountain, CO:

The installation of a new high-speed 4-person chair in the Sun Down Bowl from the base of Chair 5 (High Noon Express) to the Wildwood restaurant will materially reduce wait times on peak days at Chair 5 and create the opportunity for skiers and riders to much more conveniently access the trails in Sun Down Bowl. Skiers and riders will see improved reliability and capacity in the popular Game Creek Bowl with the replacement of the current 4-person chair with a new high-speed 6-person lift, increasing capacity by nearly 50%. ([www.vail.com](http://www.vail.com))

### Breckenridge Ski Resort, CO:

The beginner ski and ride school experience will be enhanced at the highly utilized Peak 8 base area by replacing the current fixed-grip double Rip's Ride Lift, with a high-speed 4-person chair, increasing uphill capacity by nearly 70% and improving out-of-base circulation. ([www.breckenridge.com](http://www.breckenridge.com))

### Park City Mountain, UT:

A high-speed 6-person chair with a new mid-station will replace the existing Eagle Lift, significantly reducing crowding and wait times, and improving the guest experience, especially for beginner skiers and ski and ride school guests. Vail Resorts' first-ever high-speed 8-person chair, the Silverlode, will replace an existing 6-person chair, and increase uphill capacity by 20% and reduce wait times at a critical spot to circulate guests on mountain. ([www.parkcitymountain.com](http://www.parkcitymountain.com))

### Northstar California, CA:

A new high-speed 6-person chair will replace the existing mid-mountain 4-person chair and is designed to reduce wait times at Comstock Lift, one of the mountain's most popular lifts, and increase uphill capacity by nearly 50%. ([www.northstarcalifornia.com](http://www.northstarcalifornia.com))

### Heavenly Ski Resort, CA:

The replacement of an existing fixed-grip triple with a high-speed 4-person chair will increase uphill capacity by more than 40% and reduce the combined ride time of the Boulder and North Bowl Lifts, which is expected to reduce wait times at the Stagecoach and Olympic lifts. ([www.skiheavenly.com](http://www.skiheavenly.com))

### Keystone Resort, CO:

Enhancements to Bergman Bowl will include a new high-speed 6-person chairlift, increasing lift-served terrain by 555 acres. Additional enhancements include 16 new trails, a ski patrol facility and snowmaking infrastructure. This project unlocks access for novice and intermediate guests and provides expanded entry to expert terrain in Independence and Erickson Bowls. An approximately 6,000 square feet expansion of the existing Outpost Restaurant will add 300 more indoor seats and 75 more outdoor seats for guests.

Keystone Resort issued an update to its Bergman Bowl Project in early August, 2022. It has been working closely with the U.S. Forest Service on issues that arose during construction. The U.S. Forest Service has approved the resort's restoration plan which is intended to fully restore the affected area in the high alpine. It had been determined that high alpine portions of the project will need to undergo further environmental review and as a result, Keystone will not complete the Bergman Bowl Express lift for the 2022-2023 season. However, it does plan to open Bergman

by Lina Arnold

Vice President - Public Affairs, FWSA

Bowl for hike-to skiing and riding. Parts of the project that will continue include the expansion of the Outpost Restaurant, as well as, snowmaking and trail work.

Chris Sorensen, VP & GM at Keystone Resort, noted that *"Our priority is preserving and caring for our natural environment. We take our role as stewards of the environment and of National Forest Service Land extremely seriously, and we will operate with that at the heart of the work we execute for the restoration plan and the full Bergman Bowl project...We are grateful for the U.S. Forest Service's partnership throughout our work together on this project. We greatly respect their expertise and look forward to working together on both the restoration plan and the supplemental environmental review. We are optimistic that we will be able to complete the Bergman Bowl project next summer for the 2023/24 season."* (<https://www.keystonerestort.com>)

#### ***Andermatt-Sedrun Sport AG, Switzerland:***

On August 4, 2022 Vail Resorts, Inc. announced that it had closed on its purchase of a majority stake in Andermatt-Sedrun Sport AG, a renowned destination ski resort in Central Switzerland that controls and operates the resort's mountain and ski-related assets including all lifts, most of the restaurants and a ski school operation. This acquisition is Vail Resorts' first strategic investment in, and opportunity to operate, a ski resort in Europe. Andermatt-Sedrun is less than 90 minutes from three of Switzerland's major metropolitan areas (Zurich, Lucerne and Lugano) and approximately two hours from Milan, Italy. It is thought to be one of the most ambitious resort development opportunities in Europe. Vail Resorts' final purchase price of CHF 149 million will be fully reinvested into the resort.

Epic Pass Holders will receive unlimited and unrestricted access to Andermatt-Sedrun (*without Matterhorn Gotthard Bahn access*) for the upcoming 2022 - 2023 season. Epic Local Pass Holders will receive five days at the resort, and Epic Day Pass Holders with All Resorts Access will be able to visit using any of their days. The Epic Pass also provides European access to partner resorts including five days at Verbier4Vallées in Switzerland, seven days at Les 3 Vallées in France, seven days at Skirama Dolomiti in Italy and three days at Ski Arlberg in Austria. In addition to the Epic Pass products, the local Andermatt-Sedrun-Disentis Annual Pass (ASDA) that will remain available for the 2022 - 2023 ski and ride



***Vail Resort's skiers and snowboarders will see improved capacity and up-hill speed with new high-speed lifts this year..*** photo by Glade Optics on Unsplash

season. The Vail Resorts company website is [www.vailresorts.com](http://www.vailresorts.com) and consumer website is [www.snow.com](http://www.snow.com).

#### ***Alterra Mountain Company***

Alterra Mountain Company is a family of 15 iconic year-round destinations, including the world's largest heli-ski operation, offering the Ikon Pass. It's holdings span six U.S. states and three Canadian provinces. The company owns and operates a range of recreation, hospitality, real estate development, food and beverage, retail, and service businesses and is headquartered in Denver, Colorado. Alterra Mountain Company is rooted in the spirit of the mountains and united by a passion for outdoor adventure. ([www.alterramtnco.com/](http://www.alterramtnco.com/)) In late February, 2022, the Alterra Mountain Company announced its largest single year investment of \$334 Million for Capital Improvements, with new gondolas, base area redevelopment and enhanced facilities planned for the 2022 - 2023 winter season. This will bring the money invested in transformational changes over the past five years to over \$1 bil-

lion. With this commitment, the company reaffirms its dedication to enhance the guest experience at its 15 North American destinations.

This year's \$344 million plan includes \$237 million in large scale resort development, including \$93 million in increased capacity and terrain expansion, \$91 million in skier services upgrades, and \$16 million in guest experience technology to improve the booking and on-site experience. The largest focus of the annual investment will support five major destinations, including the continuation of major developments at Steamboat, Colorado and Palisades Tahoe, California. In addition, significant multi-year developments will kick off at Deer Valley Resort in Utah, Mammoth Mountain in California, and Crystal Mountain in Washington.

*"This historic investment is clear evidence of our commitment to deliver a premier guest experience at our North American destinations and our engagement towards the long-term future of our mountains,"* said Rusty Gregory, CEO, Alterra Mountain Company.



*Steamboat's Full Steam Ahead transformation is bringing significant changes, and includes the relocation of the lower gondola terminal. It is expending \$200 million on and around the mountain to enhance the Steamboat experience for all visitors. In the process, with an appreciation for the impact of the construction projects on the environment, critical strategies were developed to be as green and sustainable as possible.*

*photo courtesy of Steamboat Resort*

### ▶▶▶ **Steamboat, CO:**

Phase 1 of Steamboat's Full Steam Ahead transformation last season brought significant changes, including the relocation of the lower gondola terminal, the installation of escalators and the demolition of Gondola Square to make way for the new Steamboat Square amenities. Phase II will include the relocation of the lower terminal of the Christie Peak Express lift and the first leg of the Wild Blue Gondola, which will take guests to the new Greenhorn Ranch learning center at mid-mountain. Redevelopment of Steamboat Square continues with The Range Food Hall, Skeeters Ice Rink and slope-side guest amenities including new and expanded restrooms, lockers and more.

With an appreciation for the impact of the construction projects on the environment, the resort has stayed focused on four critical strategies to be as green and sustainable as possible.

■ **Waste Reduction:** All steel and concrete materials were recycled during the demolition project for a 70% diversion of demolition waste. For construction, building materials that contain a high level of recycled content are being used.

■ **Energy Efficiency:** In the new base area buildings, steps are being taken to be as efficient with energy and water, as possible. Energy and water use is being monitored in real time, which allows operations to be adjusted to conserve energy and water throughout the day.

■ **Guest Education:** Guests and staff

are being educated about the resort sustainability efforts and how they can take action to preserve our environment.

■ **LEED Certification:** All base area buildings will be LEED Certified, which is a rigorous government review process. Therefore, not only will the buildings use less energy, but they will also be healthier for staff and guests.

For a complete timeline of Full Steam Ahead projects, visit [www.steamboat.com/fullsteamahead](http://www.steamboat.com/fullsteamahead).

### **Palisades Tahoe Ski Resort, CA:**

(Formerly Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows): The highly anticipated \$65 million Base-to-Base Gondola will be completed for the upcoming season. Linking the two legendary base areas has been a dream of many for decades. When completed, it will give skiers and riders a brand new way to access a combined 6,000 acres of storied terrain. It is estimated that Palisades Tahoe will now be the 3rd largest ski resort in North America. Connecting the Olympic Valley and Alpine Meadows Ski Resorts, the base-to-base gondola will climb and descend nearly 2,000 vertical feet over a 16-minute ride offering panoramic views of Lake Tahoe and the Sierra Nevada. It will be the first gondola of its kind in North America, with 4 terminals, 3 of which you can disembark to go ski or snowboard. Additional enhancements include a full replacement of the Red Dog lift, expansion of the Funitel Plaza, and installation of automatic

snowmaking systems at both parts of the resort. (<http://gondola.palisadestahoe.com/>)

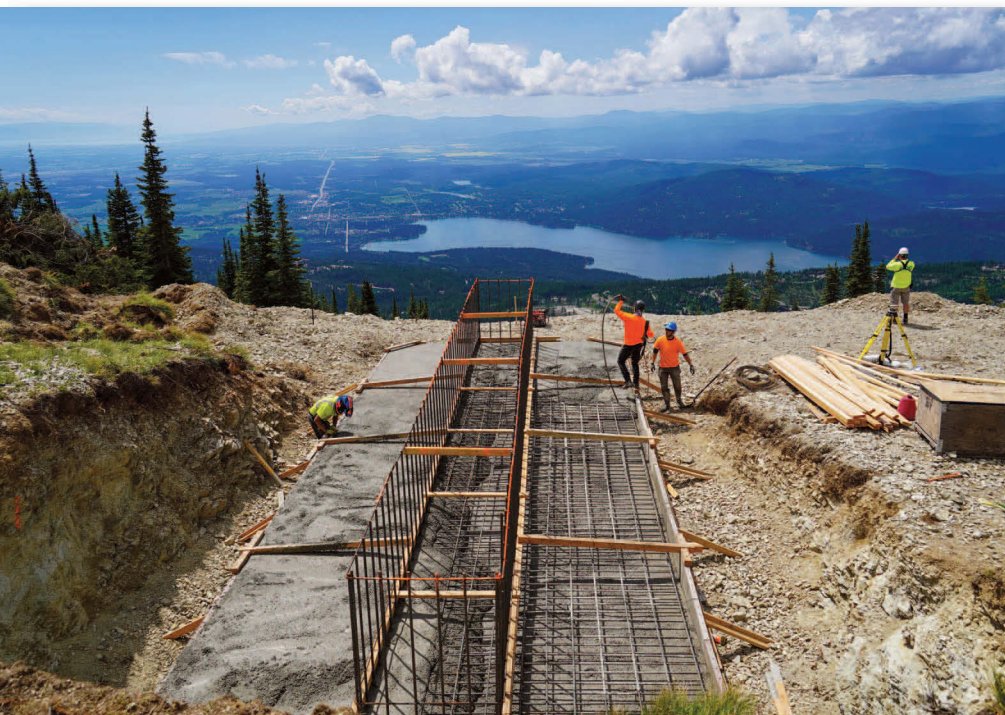
### **Crystal Mountain, WA:**

Over the next five years, \$100 million in infrastructure and service advancements will be invested at Crystal Mountain, and will transform the base of one of the Pacific Northwest's most beloved mountains with a focus on greater access, more space and significantly enhanced skier services. Work began in the spring with a \$25 million investment in additional parking and a new 25,000 sq. ft. skier services facility, called Mountain Commons. The existing skier services building will be replaced with a two-story building, and will include a new guest services and ticketing experience, retail, dining, and an expanded slope-side beach area. The project is expected to open for the 2023 - 2024 winter season.

(<https://www.crystallmountainresort.com/>)

### **Mammoth Mountain, CA:**

The beginning stage of ground and infrastructure work to facilitate the replacement of two key lifts, Canyon Express (Chair 16) at Canyon Lodge and Broadway Express (Chair 1) at Main Lodge began this summer. These new high-speed six-pack lifts are planned to be operational in winter 2023-2024. Also begun were improvements to the popular Mill Café that includes expansion of indoor dining seats, restrooms, with new furnishings and an exterior refresh. Mammoth began a multi-year snowmaking enhancement program that



**Construction this past summer took place to create a new Chair 4. This will be the first six-pack lift for Whitefish Mountain Resort, Montana.** photo courtesy of Chad Sokol, Whitefish Mountain Resort

includes higher efficiency equipment to open more terrain faster in the early season. In addition, Mammoth initiated a multi-year upgrade at Woolly's Adventure Summit by re-orienting, expanding, and lengthening the tube runs and installing a summer tubing surface for year-round fun. Future phases will include the installation of one of the longest mountain coasters in North America, and the addition of adventure ropes courses and a permanent base lodge with food and beverage services. When complete, it is anticipated that Woolly's will become a year-round adventure center with a variety of activities for kids of all ages. Mammoth Mountain continues to work on the planning and entitlement process for the eventual redevelopment of the Main Lodge and Mammoth Mountain Inn.

(<https://www.mammothmountain.com/>)

### **Deer Valley Resort, UT:**

The renaissance of the Snow Park Village is currently in the permitting process with Park City Municipal. It will create a premier arrival experience designed to transform the base area. Plans include a reimagined plaza and transit arrival with hospitality accommodations, new food and beverage options, retail, and an expansive ski beach. The project is currently planned to break ground in 2023. New for winter 2022 - 2023, the Burns Express chairlift will debut on Deer Valley's Wild West learning area. The new chairlift will connect the Snow Park base area to Little Baldy Mountain, providing an additional option for

skiers to navigate out of the main arrival area and offer Ski School access to more beginner teaching terrain. ([www.deervalley.com](http://www.deervalley.com))

### **Other Resort Developments Taos Ski Valley, NM:**

Taos is in the midst of a "Resort Renaissance" worth \$300 million, which began in 2019, to enhance the guest experience while maintaining the authenticity of the unique destination. The aim was to grow the resort better, not bigger. It included a frontside to backside gondola, plus other major lift upgrades. Snowmaking coverage has been expanded to include 100% of all beginner and intermediate terrain, with the addition of 30 new high-capacity tower guns along with 50 new hydrants. With consideration for all that is environmentally friendly, Taos Ski Valley has also invested in a new food digester to reduce food waste and upgraded the recycling program.

### **Whitefish Mountain Resort, MT:**

The main highlight for the upcoming season is the new Chair 4, the resort's first six-pack lift. The new chair will shuttle an estimated 2,200 guests per hour from the Base Lodge area to the top of Inspiration Ridge, providing a much-needed alternative route to the upper elevations of Big Mountain. The builder, Leitner-Poma, has poured concrete foundations for some of the 25 towers that will support the new lift. A Black Hawk helicopter recently was used to carry wet concrete and

concrete forms to the top of the new lift line. The chopper also hauled away towers from the old Chair 4, which was recently dismantled.

The old Chair 4, a much smaller lift, was installed back in 1978, before the Base Lodge existed. Now the Base Lodge is the primary portal to the mountain, and it's where most of the resort's parking area is located. To reach the upper mountain terrain, guests have had to take Chair 6 from the Base Lodge, followed by either Chair 1 to the summit or Chair 2. The new Chair 4, dubbed the Snow Ghost Express, will provide direct flights to the upper terrain without that layover, and help alleviate traffic on those other lifts.

A trip on the new lift will last just seven minutes and cover 2,200 vertical feet. From the top, guests will be able to shred some frontside runs or head down to Chair 5, where they can then access all of the backside terrain. The \$10 million investment will also improve the skiing experience in the beginner area.

### **A New Utah Resort is on the Horizon Mayflower Mountain Resort, UT:**

The largest and most important driving force in Utah is the planned new Mayflower Mountain Resort, which will add over 1,000 new skiable acres. In 2018, the owners of the Mayflower Mine sold the majority of their remaining holdings adjacent to Deer Valley Resort to Extell Development of New York. Extell Development had been in negotiations with Deer Valley for several years, planning a major expansion of the resort eastward to the slopes overlooking the Jordanelle. The base village will include the development of up to 5 new ski lifts, three new hotels, as well as, an array of luxury ski-in / ski-out homesites, as well as, a walkable commercial zone. The lifts, runs, and snowmaking infrastructure are currently being designed and constructed, with the first lifts expected to be operational by the 2023-2024 ski season. Their Master Plan, expected to be a long term, 20 to 30 year project, includes some 3 million square feet of commercial and residential development. It would make it ultimately comparable to the nearby Canyons ski area of Park City Resort in overall size.

(<https://www.lakesideatmayflower.com/mayflower-mountain-resort>) ▲▲

# Safety is Not an Afterthought!

by Monica Palmer  
Safety Committee Chair, FWSA

## Is Skiing/Riding Safe?

Some people consider skiing or riding to be a dangerous sport, based on watching Olympic events, local news reports, or listening to a friend's experiences. Actually, when participants are trained, follow the rules, and use properly maintained equipment, skiing/riding is a relatively safe sport. Skiers are more likely to be injured in an automobile accident, either driving to or from the ski resort, than they are to be injured on the slopes. According to the National Ski Areas Association, the number of ski related deaths is less than one per million.

### *Every new skier should be made aware of the Skier's Responsibility Code:*

1. Always stay in control.
2. People ahead of you have the right of way.
3. Stop in a safe place for you and others.
4. Whenever starting downhill or merging, look uphill and yield.
5. Use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
6. Observe signs and warnings, and keep off closed trails.
7. Know how to use the lifts safely.

Complementing the Responsibility Code and its seven tenets, there are also three actions every skier and rider can take to help keep themselves and those around safer on the slopes.

### **1. Be Ready    2. Stay Alert    3. Plan Ahead**

Ease up at blind spots, check uphill when merging onto trails, and give other skiers plenty of room when passing. Look out for spots on the run where traffic merges or you can't see what's coming next. If you are unfamiliar with a run, take it easy the first time down it, and make note of places where you'll want to slow down, such as cat tracks and rollers. Also, give other skiers and riders lots of room, especially if you are passing them. There's plenty of space out there, so there's no need to crowd each other.

Following these rules and skiing within your ability can reduce your risk of injury or death. It is a good idea to inspect your equipment for damage and wear. Any damage to the base or edges should be done by a professional, unless you have the knowledge and proper tools to tune your own skis or snowboards. You should inspect your helmet any time after a fall. You may not have been injured, but there may be damage to the helmet, making it less effective. The interior shell can also deteriorate over time. The binding release should be professionally tested, at least annually. Skiers are more likely to be injured when bindings fail to release during a fall. When possible, ski on weekdays, not weekends or holidays, to avoid bigger crowds on the hill. As with any active sport, there are risks, but if you follow the 7 rules of the Skier's Responsibility Code, Be Ready, Stay Alert and Plan Ahead, these risks can be minimized.

(Sources: [www.nsaa.org](http://www.nsaa.org), [www.skiisblog.com](http://www.skiisblog.com), [www.skiinglab.com](http://www.skiinglab.com))

### ***FWSA Safety Person of the Year Award Re-Named***

The Far West Ski Association is a constant proponent of safe skiing and riding. Safety should be given the highest regard by both ski resorts and snowsports enthusiasts. Safety should be a forethought, not an afterthought. The **Safety Person of the Year Award** has been changed to the **Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award**, in honor of Richard Lubin, who served as the Far West Ski Association's Safety Chair for 16 years, passing away in 2020.

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 FWSA Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award is graciously being sponsored by **Mammoth Mountain Ski Area**.

Any FWSA member, either a direct member or club member, can participate in the award program. Watch for details on our website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). The entry form and due date will be posted under Awards. ▲▲

# FWSA Environment Program

by Fran Long  
Outgoing Environment Chair, FWSA



*Aspen Snowmass, The Gant Aspen and The Crestwood Condominium Hotel has been the Sponsor of the FWSA's Environment Program since its inception in 2015.*

*photo courtesy of Aspen Snowmass*

FWSA is committed to doing its part to preserve and protect our snowsports environment. As an organization of 50,000+ snowsports enthusiasts, FWSA's environment program encourages snowsports participants to take an active role in conserving and protecting our environment in our clubs, homes, communities, and mountains.

One way in which FWSA encourages individual club and council members' efforts to promote and implement practices that will support a healthier environment in their communities and snowsports areas, is through the FWSA Environment Award recognition program.

The Environment Award is designed to encourage good stewardship of our environment. We want 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 a difference.

■ Conduct or arrange an event(s) for your club, council or the general public that focuses on the principles of **"Protect Our Winters' (POW)"** mission to engage and mobilize the snowsports community to lead the fight against climate change with a focus



*Skiers and boarders love Aspen's powder!*  
photo courtesy of Aspen Snowmass

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 <https://protectourwinters.org/about-pow/> ■

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 the National Ski Areas Association's Environmental Charter at <https://www.nsaa.org/Sustainability>.

Since its inception, the Environment Award has been graciously sponsored by *Aspen Snowmass*, *The Gant Aspen* and *The Crestwood Condominium Hotel*. Aspen Snowmass, an early leader in the ski industry reducing their carbon footprint, proposed this award for FWSA in 2015.

More information about the award, the award application, and about previous winning programs, can be found on the FWSA website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

The incoming program chair, *Janine Rands* ([environment@fwsa.org](mailto:environment@fwsa.org)), will happily work with you to submit an application for this very important award. ▲▲

# Far West Ski Association Supports Climate Control Initiatives...

by Jane Wyckoff  
Past President, FWSA

We are now into the third decade of climate control initiatives by the winter sports industry, and leaders have intensified their efforts to make climate control and carbon reduction considerations in the forefront of resort operations.

## *Sustainable Slopes*

The National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) *Sustainable Slopes* program provided a way for ski areas to commit to sustainable practices across their operations. To date, over 200 US ski areas have signed on to the program.

When ski areas endorse Sustainable Slopes, they join their industry peers as a leader in sustainability, can access sustainable artwork, use their comprehensive badge program to help green their operation, and apply for sustainability grants to support environmental projects. They demonstrate their commitment to sustainability in 10 topic areas: Energy, Climate Action, Climate Advocacy, Transportation, Water, Design & Construction, Education & Outreach, Waste, Forest Health & Habitat, and Supply Chain.

<https://www.nsaa.org/Sustainability>

## *Climate Collaborative Charter*

On June 10, 2021 Alterra Mountain Company, Boyne Resorts, POWDR and Vail Resorts, four of the largest ski industry leaders, announced a joint commitment to fight climate change. The idea was formed at an industry conference in October of 2019. The *Climate Collaborative Charter* was one of the industry's first unified efforts to combat climate change with the shared commitments around sustainability and advocacy.

They agreed to operate their respective resorts with sustainability at the forefront and use their collective voice to advocate for effective public policy on climate action in order to leave a positive legacy for future generations of skiers, snowboarders and outdoor enthusiasts. This resulted in further implementation of sustainable practices, including elements from the Sustainable Slopes platform.

<https://www.alterramtnco.com/social-responsibility>

## *ClimateUnited*

Snowsports Industries America (SIA) launched *ClimateUnited* to give every winter outdoor business the opportunity to execute an ambitious and practical climate strategy, building an industry-wide movement against climate change. ClimateUnited is a two-part initiative.

**Step 1. Unite the Industry** - The ClimateUnited Pact aligns the industry around a set of achievable principles and signals the industry's strength and commitment to tackle climate change at the speed and scale that it demands.

**Step 2. Mobilize the Industry** - For businesses that want guidance in their climate action planning, the Climate Lab and 1.5C Business Playbook give businesses a balanced and achievable framework focusing on what really matters, prioritizing advocacy and leadership alongside emissions reductions.

<https://www.snowsports.org/climate-tools/climateunited/>

At the Far West Ski Association's 89th Annual Convention in Portland on June 12, 2022, the ski club delegates at the General Session voted to approve the following resolution in support of the Snowsports Industries America (SIA) ClimateUnited initiative. The Resolution was written by Randy Lew, a Past President of the Association.

**WHEREAS**, *our planet is getting warmer, threatening not just our snowpack, but increasing the number of wildfires, droughts, and devastating storms; and*

**WHEREAS**, *the winter sports \$76 billion industry is dependent on consistent winter seasons which have already become shorter and more volatile; and*

**WHEREAS**, *the Far West Ski Association (FWSA) membership of approximately 51,000 recreational skiers and riders in the twelve western states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming hope to enjoy robust winter seasons for many years to come;*

**AND WHEREAS**, *FWSA was the first Ski Council in the US to support the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) "Sustainable Slopes Initiative" which every major ski resort is now a participant in;*

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT, FWSA enthusiastically supports the Snowsports Industries America (SIA) Climate-United initiative for their membership of manufacturers and retailers to work with their supply chain partners to reduce emissions from product manufacturing and transportation.

One of the Public Affairs Panels featured earlier that weekend at the FWSA Convention was **"Weather Changes Affecting Mountain Operations & Public Safety."** A very knowledgeable group of panelists addressed climate related challenges impacting ski resorts. Valuable insight was provided into how leading ski organizations were creating programs to address these challenges. Panelists included: Matt Zaffino, KGW-TV Chief Meteorologist; Dave Tragethon, Vice President of Marketing, Sales & Communications, Mt. Hood Meadows; and Jordan Elliott, President of the Northwest Ski Areas Association.

**Nick Sargeant**, President of SIA, in his August 18, 2022 "Inside Tracks" E-Newsletter carried a letter from him entitled **"The Winter Outdoor Industry Can Be The Catalyst For Climate Change."** In it he stated, "...Earlier this week, I wrote about the news of President Biden signing the Inflation Reduction Act, the most significant climate, clean energy, and environmental justice investment in U.S. history, into law. The bill is the piece of climate legislation we've been waiting decades to see, driving the clean energy economy forward and helping build a stronger, more resilient winter outdoor industry."

Over many months, SIA and our member businesses rallied with industry leaders across other sectors to meet lawmakers, sign letters, and elevate our voices to help drive this legislation forward. This accomplishment is a direct action of using our collective business voice. I applaud the efforts of those who took part in this monumental legislation that makes our vision of a clean energy economy more achievable. But we can't stop here. We all need to continue this work to ensure that the future of the winter industry is bright.

The impacts of climate change are already apparent. The winter season that sustains our industry is already shorter in many places, impacting every business along our industry's supply chain.

And while I realize there are other competing priorities, do they matter if we don't have snow?

Like you, I am in the business of winter. My job is to help grow your business and create a thriving industry well into the future. And while I know it can be hard to wrestle with these critical issues, this year, more than ever, it is imperative that every business makes addressing climate part

of your business strategy with a climate action plan aimed at protecting the future of the winter outdoor industry."

### **Certified B Corp**

Taos Ski Resort is the first ski area in North America to earn the B-Corp badge. B-Corp Certification is a designation that a business is meeting high standards of verified performance, accountability, and transparency on factors from employee benefits and charitable giving to supply chain practices and input materials. This certification helps ensure that Taos meets the highest standards of verified social and environmental performance, sustainability, public transparency, and legal accountability. Becoming a B Corp also means that their long-held values of inclusion, sustainability, and respect for all are validated. By practicing reverence for their local environment, they hope to promote a more resilient and robust community that celebrates the region's rich, diverse culture.

As part of its B-Corp commitment, Taos is on its way to meeting an ambitious goal to reduce its carbon footprint by 20 percent by next year, through investments in more efficient snowmaking and grooming, an electric fleet, and the purchase of carbon offsets for its Taos Air flights. ([www.skitaos.com](http://www.skitaos.com))

### **Do Your Part**

Think about the following for a moment... two of the remaining glaciers in the Alps that have still been offering summer skiing in recent years did not offer it in 2022. Val d'Isère in France announced they won't be opening the lifts on their Pissailas Glacier for summer skiing and were cancelling 2022 summer ski operations. Then, the Mölltaler Glacier in Austria confirmed that it won't open for snowsports for the summer, either.

The two glaciers are among an ever-diminishing number of ski centers offering summer glacier skiing. The numbers peaked in the 1980s at around 50 resorts, dropped to about 40 by the year 2000, and has now dropped to fewer than 20, and most of those that are still open in summer are open for shorter and shorter periods.

([www.saveoursnow.com](http://www.saveoursnow.com))

We all need to do our best, as individual snowsport enthusiasts, to reduce our carbon footprints. And, we need to support the local, regional, national and international industry organizations that are addressing climate change impacting our sport. ▲▲

# **National Ski Patrol - Recruitment Efforts on the Rise**

by **Barbara Razo**  
National Ski Patrol



**Big Bear Ski Patrol Chair Evacuation Training, with Patroller Barbara Razo lowering Patroller Tony Lambrose, next to Damon Kawa - Chair Evacuation Trainer assisting, while Jake Huxman, VP Mountain Operations of Big Bear Mountain Resort, observes.**

photos provided by Barbara Razo

This year marks the start of my 22nd Season as a Member of the National Ski Patrol and Volunteer Patroller at Big Bear Ski Patrol in the Southern California San Bernardino Mountains. The motivation to join is personal to each snowsport/outdoor enthusiast who is inspired to begin this journey. The National Ski Patrol (NSP) in the USA was founded in 1938 by the NSP's first chairman, Charles Minot Dole. "Minnie", as he was known, decided that a "service and safety" organization was in order after he hurt himself skiing at Stowe, Vermont and had trouble evacuating himself from the slope.

The NSP is a dynamic, membership-driven organization. Our goal is to create a more diverse membership and increase our membership participation, both by delivering more knowledge and value to our members and increasing the number of patrols and Patrollers. Education is the cornerstone of NSP's ability to service the public. We develop our education curriculum with the goal



*The Big Bear Ski Patrol, shown at the Annual Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) Skills Refresher in October, was named the Far West Division's Outstanding Large Ski Patrol Runner Up for 2022.*



*The 2022 OEC Class Graduates with their Graduation Certificates, and their instructors at their course completion. L to R: Sherry Ross, Kent Schwitkis, Johanah Martinez, Doug Jernigan, Rhonda Longmore-Grund, Barbara Baxter, Brianna Song, Barbara Razo, Jay Pettibone, Daryl Caring. Front: Nathan Mulchay.*

of being the gold standard for volunteer, medically oriented programs. Our education programs must exceed our members' expectations for quality, relevance, and timeliness. The NSP brand is a valued and visible presence in the ski industry and on the hill.

**NSP Mission Statement:** *To help keep people safe on the mountain and during other outdoor activities.*

**NSP Core Values:** *Excellence, Service, Camaraderie, Leadership, Integrity, and Responsiveness.*

The requirements are clear and obtainable in a single season. Here is how to get started:

1. *Must be 15 years of age.*
2. *Contact the NSP Patrol Representative (Director) at the local patrol you are interested in joining.*
3. *It is suggested that you attend a Ski with a Patroller (SWAP) event. You will shadow seasoned Patrollers and participate in a ski/ride evaluation at your local resort.*
4. *Create an account at [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org) and join the NSP as a Candidate.*
5. *Once the Patrol Representative (Director) approves your interest, they will add you to their patrol roster.*
6. *Successfully complete the OEC (Outdoor Emergency Care) Course. This is the education program to be a NSP First Responder Patroller. This is usually a 10-week didactic course held in various communities/counties near the resort of your choice.*
7. *Pay your membership fees; NSP, Local, Region and Division Dues.*
8. *Complete all local patrol resort training requirements within the Patroller roles you have selected; Alpine (Hill Patroller), Patroller*

*(Base Patroller), Host (Hill Safety, Host Patroller), Bike Patroller (Summer Program).*

9. *Attend and complete all OEC and Local Resort On-The-Hill Refresher Trainings every year.*

*(Source: NSP 2021 Policies and Procedures)*

National Ski Patrol education programs offer the chance to learn about emergency care, search and rescue, avalanche control, lift evacuation, mountaineering, toboggan handling, and other interesting topics. Patrollers also receive a free subscription to *Ski Patrol Magazine*, which provides timely information about emergency care techniques, skiing and snowboarding tips, association news, and more. There are special benefits that come with being a NSP Volunteer Patroller. Most Patrollers and their dependents are issued an unlimited season pass for their local resort, plus discounts on equipment.

I am honored to say I am a NSP Patroller. The camaraderie of this organization is unparalleled. I hold my fellow Ski Patrollers whether volunteer or paid staff, in very high regard. We are family. I have taken my patrol career to a new level this year and have recently completed the Instructor Development Mentoring Program to become an Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) Educator.

I asked my Big Bear Ski Patrol Representative and Far West Division Recruitment Advisor Scott Goodman, to share his thoughts about our incoming Candidates. He stated, "I love the process of meeting people that are interested in patrolling, and following their journey, starting with Outdoor Emergency Care, continuing with their Candidate season, and ultimately earning the coveted Patrol Cross. These new patrol Candidates create lifetime bonds with their instructors, mentors, and classmates."

While being mentored as an instructor at the 2022 Long Beach OEC Course this fall, I

met and trained six wonderful students who are now NSP Patroller Candidates for the coming winter. One of the students from this class wrote a poem capturing the spirit and foundation of becoming a Patroller. It is my pleasure to share.

### **A Patroller's Journey** **Rhonda Longmore-Grund**

*Cravats and dressings,  
Quick splints and boards,  
We complete OEC.  
And now we move forward.*

*To train on our mountain,  
To test our new skills,  
And to pass new milestones.  
So that we can fulfill.*

*Our role as Patrollers.  
First on the hill.  
When the fresh snow is glistening  
And the mornings are still.*

*We'll care for our guests.  
In their time of great need,  
Taking SAMPLE, VITALS and ABCDs.*

*Triage, treatment and chairlift evac,  
Patrol rooms, responders – and air medi-vacs.  
We will close out the mountain, last off the hill.  
The sun will be setting, and the lifts will be still*

*We'll ponder the day and the guests that we served,  
With valuable learnings and lessons we have observed.  
We will answer the call to rescue in the snow, rain and cold.  
As we join the proud women and men of the National Ski Patrol. ▲▲*

**Barbara Razo – NSP #210399**  
**Southern California Region Jack Moskowitz**  
**Pursuit of Excellence Award (2022)**  
**Gold Merit Star / NSP Patroller of the Nation (2016)**  
**Silver Merit Star / Runner Up NSP**  
**Patroller of the Nation (2007)**

# Secret Swiss Destinations

By Jimmy Petterson  
*Skiing Around the World, Author*

*“...many things are done here  
in a very similar fashion to the way  
it all happened centuries ago.”*





*Jysky Lehto glides through light powder in Saint-Luc. photos provided by Jimmy Petterson*

## CHARMING SKI VILLAGES IN THE CANTON OF VALAIS

▶ In all of Europe, there is perhaps no country that is more resistant to change than Switzerland, and the rugged, mountainous canton of Valais in the far western section of the country is certainly typical of the country at large. Some people might call the Swiss conservative, inflexible and dogmatic, while a more sympathetic point of view would describe them as a people steeped in custom and tradition, but it is certain that many things are done here in a very similar fashion to the way it all happened centuries ago.

Tatu Lehmuskalio, Jysky Lehto, and I packed our boards and boots into my old Ford Explorer and embarked on a short road trip through Valais to learn more about this enigmatic section of Switzerland. Of course, we had all been here before, skiing in some of the more famous resorts – Zermatt, Verbier, and the Portes du Soleil – but we understood intuitively that there are a number of deep, back

valleys, small mountain hamlets, ancient cable cars and Poma lifts, and spectacular ski descents that are tucked away into some hidden crevasses of the geology here that rarely get seen by foreign eyes.

The Swiss, after all, are extremely self-sufficient, as they have always been, and don't really need international tourism. They might be happy to have a lot of foreign money resting in their bank vaults, but they are just as happy if the investors make their deposits and withdrawals with a simple phone call from abroad without transgressing the sanctity of the local soil.

The Swiss attitude seems to be similar when it comes to skiing. While the Austrians, Italians, and French work diligently hand-in-hand with foreign travel agencies to promote their indigenous ski and tourist industries, the Swiss seem quite satisfied to keep many of their best ski locations top secret.

They have stayed out of foreign wars for a thousand years or so, letting their beloved mountains protect them from invasion and in-

trusion, and they are certainly better off for their isolation.

Their cows still roam the alms in great numbers, producing milk and cheese and keeping food on everybody's table. Everyone in the country has a precision Swiss-made timepiece on their wrist to ensure that daily life will function with the same efficiency and punctuality that it always has. So why on Earth would the Swiss citizens be interested in opening their little paradise to a bunch of foreigners?

It is quite understandable that they have stayed out of the European Union – not wanting a bunch of external politicians in Brussels to decide over them, and it is equally clear to me that they have for years kept some of the world's best ski terrain clandestine from foreign intervention. Tatu, Jysky, and I, however, invaded the sanctity of Valais in an attempt to uncover some of the stunning scenery, quaint villages, and here-to-fore little-known freeride terrain that has not yet been overrun and destroyed by the masses.



*Jysky Lehto gazes down at the Aletsch Glacier – an impressive, 23-kilometer-long river of ice. photos by Jimmy Petterson*



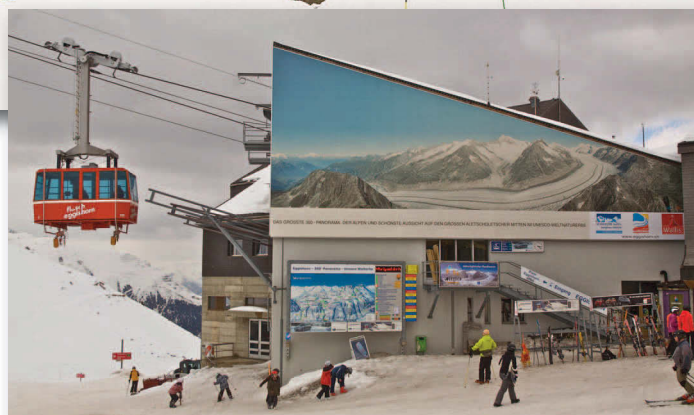
## FIESCH AND THE ALETSCH GLACIER – EUROPE'S LONGEST GLACIER

The first stop on our short road trip was the little village of Fiesch (1049 m), nestled into the Goms Valley, and connected by ski lift with the car-free villages of Bettmeralp and Riederalp. Here the Eggishorn (2926 m) rises almost two vertical kilometers above the valley floor, and offers a stunning panorama of the Aletsch Glacier. If you don't come here for the skiing, you could well visit for the view alone. The Aletsch is not your ordinary glacier. With a length of 23 kilometers and a surface area of 85 square kilometers, it is the longest and largest glacier in the Alps – a virtual river of ice that begins at the base of the famous Jungfrau and flows past the Eggishorn toward the Rhone Valley. In 2001, the glacier along with the Jungfrau was named as the Alps' first UNESCO World Heritage site, and one can view almost the entire area from the top of the peak.

It was not so odd that the Eggishorn became the first stop on our trip. From there, the famous Jungfrau (4158 m) was actually dwarfed by a number of big sisters, as the panorama surrounding the glacier includes the Monte Rosa (4643 m), the Alphubel (4206 m),

*TOP IMAGE: The village of Bettmeralp, located at the lower elevations of the Aletsch Glacier offers lift service to reach the lower trails nearby.*

*LOWER IMAGE: The cable car from Fiesch to the Eggishorn brings skiers to a viewpoint over the Aletsch Glacier.*



the Mischabel Dom (4545 m), the Nadelhorn (4327 m), the Matterhorn (4478 m), the Weiss-horn (4506 m), the Grand Combin (4314 m), the Aletschhorn (4205 m), the Finsteraarhorn (4274 m), and even Mt. Blanc (4808 m). Almost forgotten among all these mountains is the Fiescher Glacier, just a stone's throw to the northeast of the Eggishorn, which, at a length of 16 kilometers, is the second longest glacier in the Alps. Suffice it to say that there is enough spectacular mountain scenery in this corner of the Alps to keep a mountain aficionado busy for quite some time.

Our lookout point was not the most hospitable location on the mountain. The wind was picking up, storm clouds were brewing and it was time to generate some body heat by moving. We spent the day skiing around the pistes. There are some interesting off-piste possibilities in this area, but the conditions did not allow any exploration. We knew that our time

here was limited and made an immediate mental note to return sometime in the summer when the snow-free glacier is even more visually impressive and the list of nearby hikes is almost endless.

We enjoyed the village of Bettmeralp, where the vehicle-less streets are covered with snow and one can ski through the main street to find a suitable lunch spot. Cheese specialties are indigenous to all parts of Switzerland, and the Goms Valley is also known for their dried sausages and hams. We started with a small assortment of dried meats followed by a cheese fondue.

During lunch, one of the locals threw a few more interesting statistics about the glacier at us. At its thickest point, it is about 900 meters deep, and the weight of the ice is estimated to be 27 billion tons. If that ice were to melt, it would provide a liter of water for every human being on Earth each day for six years!



**LEFT:** Bettmeralp is a car-free village at the lower elevations of the Aletsch Glacier. Residents and visitors use their skis in the winter months to meander through the streets!

**RIGHT:** Jysky Lehto enjoys Lötschental powder as the Bietschhorn (3934 m) looms in the background.



While these kinds of large numbers are very impressive, a few smaller numbers, on the other hand, gave us reason to take pause and feel uneasy. Like virtually all of the world's glaciers, the Aletsch receded 100 meters in only one year during the past decade, and it has lost 3.5 kilometers of length and 300 meters of depth over the past 300 years.

The times have certainly changed. In olden times, the homes of Fiesch were forever threatened by floods, caused when blocks of ice from the glacier fell into the nearby Märjelensee. Ultimately, in 1678, the villagers began praying for the glacier to recede and promised to live virtuous lives in exchange for their prayers being answered. Their prayer was officially sent to Pope Innocent XI in the 17th century, and locals even began an annual five-hour march to a nearby church in the mid-1800s to back up their prayers with actions.

Today, the villagers have seen that a reversal of their prayer is necessary and they have once again asked the Pope to sanction their prayers – this time for the glacier to grow once more. Tatu, Jysky, and I are not really complete believers in divine intervention, and decided that we had best do as much skiing as we can on this trip. One can never know what tomorrow may bring. Even if a new ice age approaches, we would require a tad of divine intervention of our own to be allowed to enjoy the snowy fruits of a new epoch of ice. For the present, it was time to move on to our second destination in Valais – the Lötschental – and keep skiing.



**LEFT:** The gondola brings skiers and boarders to the summits in style. Even many hidden gems offer quality lifts and gondolas to ascend their well groomed pistes.

## THE LÖTSCHENTAL – BEAT'S PRIVATE PARADISE

Not far from Fiesch, in a parallel valley just to the north, is the Lötschental. This little-known region is comprised of the villages of Ferden, Kippel, Wiler, Blatten, Kühmad, and Fafleralp – a short list of villages that are certainly not even household names in Zurich or Geneva.

From Wiler (1419 m), a series of four lifts takes skiers up to the Hockenhorngrat (3111 m). These lifts are more or less all there is, but one really doesn't need anything more. The Hockenhorngrat is one of those rare

peaks where a well-situated top station opens up more off-piste terrain than many ski areas with five times as many lifts can offer. The uppermost gondola was constructed just a few years ago, transforming the Lötschental from a rather ordinary small and unknown ski area into an extraordinary, but still small and unknown freeride mountain that offers countless possibilities.

As Tatu, Jysky, and I rode up the first cable car, everyone around us was speaking in some sort of Swiss dialect that only a local mountain goat could understand. It was clear that the secret of the Lötschental had still not passed beyond the border. But there is one



*LEFT ABOVE: A day on the slopes in the Lötschental will probably include a lunch at one of the mountain huts.*

*RIGHT ABOVE: The Lauchmeralp chairlift shown here has recently been replaced by a six-seat lift.*

*LEFT: Beat Dietrich and Jysky Lehto amble through the hamlet of Ferden following an off-piste descent that ends a few kilometers down the valley from the lifts.*

Swiss local who, swimming against the stream, is interested in getting the word out. That is Beat Dietrich. This is a true three-ring circus of freeride terrain, and Beat is the ringmaster. Fortunately, we had Beat at our disposal for the next two days to show us around his little paradise.

Beat is the head of the local ski school. In addition, a few years ago, aware of the plans to build a new lift that would open up a plethora of off-piste options, he bought the Lötschenpass Hütte (2690 m). This is a sturdy building situated atop the pass of the same name, about a 40-minute traverse, hike and ski from the top station of the gondola. From the hut, freeride routes descend in a variety of directions.

An hour's hike with skins brings skiers to the Gitzefurgge, from where they can ski to

Leukerbad to the southwest. Directly from the pass, there is a very difficult route down to Kandersteg to the north. And to the south, are a whole slew of ridges, bowls, and valleys that descend to Ferden, Kippel, Wiler, or back to the middle station.

We could have benefitted from some fresh snow and a full week of vacation to get a real idea of what the Lötschental had to offer. We had neither, and to seek an audience with the Pope at this moment seemed rather fruitless. We did, however, have Beat to guide us, and in the Lötschental, that may well be more valuable than either the Vatican or the hand of God! The conditions were much too dangerous for the run to Kandersteg, but some corn snow was beginning to develop on the south faces, and Beat led us first on a corn-snow run back to the middle station, and later

on a lovely descent all the way down to Ferden.

Our corn snow adventures were followed by another headfirst dive into the local cuisine, with a *raclette* lunch, a meal that originates in Valais. Lo and behold, by the time we had digested the cheese to the extent that we were ready to reemerge from the hut, the fickle March weather had answered my prayers and snow was puking down. By the time an hour had passed, the sun again lit up the slopes to reveal a nice layer of boot-top powder all around us.

To enjoy this little March surprise, we didn't even need Beat's assistance. There was fresh snow wherever we pointed our skis, and we were almost alone on the slopes. I was beginning to be smugly pleased about the Swiss penchant for keeping a secret.



photos by Jimmy Petterson

## SAINT - LUC AND CHANDOLIN –

The final stop on our short road trip was to the linked villages of Saint-Luc and Chandolin in the Val d'Anniviers. These two ski areas are primarily south facing, and we expected to have the chance to ski some spring snow. But now that my powder pleas had been heard, there was no way to backtrack on my wish. I could only hope that the villagers of Fiesch would have better luck at redirecting their vow from the 17th century.

The erratic March weather followed us from the Lötschental and we awoke to sunshine and about 20 centimeters of fresh snow in Saint-Luc, a picturesque village of classic Walliser houses. I stepped onto the veranda of my bedroom in the charming hotel La Pension to admire the Matterhorn across the valley. While Zermatt is without question one of the most beautiful ski resorts in the world, here I could see the Horn without having to share the view with the crowds. It was Easter week, and the pistes were full of young children, but away from the marked trails, we were again almost alone.

The ski area is comprised almost entirely of old Poma lifts with one train from the village and a couple of older chairlifts. While the Poma springs needed some oil and had a tendency to nearly jerk my arms out of their sockets, by now I was in harmony with the

**ABOVE:** Tatu Lehmuskallio blasts through fresh powder in Saint-Luc with Le Toïno (3,018 m) seen in the distance.

**RIGHT:** Tatu Lehmuskallio throws up a veil of powder as he skis past some cliffs in Saint-Luc.

*There are 60 km of ski terrain, serviced by 15 lifts. The majority of the slopes are rated as intermediate, with approximately a third of the slopes classified as easy, leaving 10 km for those desiring an expert thrill!*

whole Swiss way of life. With no new investment in lifts and infrastructure, no additional customers were necessary . . . hence no marketing, empty slopes, and lots of virgin powder.

The area offered an excellent combination of open upper slopes and tree-skiing on the lower mountain. It even had a number of steep couloirs tucked away between the pistes. We warmed up with a 1200-vertical-meter-long cruiser from the highest lift, the Bella Tola, down the Pas de Boeuf and then we were ready to explore.

Departing the Bella Tola in the opposite direction, to the southwest, we were completely alone – fresh tracks to be made everywhere. I don't think we could have possibly used up the powder there if we had stayed a week, but we wanted to see the whole area. There was so much to explore – an excursion down the north face from Bella Tola, a ski tour to the spectacular peak of Tounot and its couloir, and the Illhorn Couloir were all on our list.

Some of the steepest chutes in the area



go down the north side along the Arete des Ombreints, and we began with one of them. The snow was relatively stable, but halfway down, the weather took a turn for the worse. The clouds closed back in, the light got flat, and it was time to drop into the trees. We found some lovely tree skiing off the Rotzé and the Tsape lifts and played in the forest for the rest of the day. That kept us below the clouds.

The following day was our final one in Valais. The snow had continued to fall during the night, and some of the steep alternatives we had hoped for would be too avalanche dangerous. It didn't matter much. There was plenty of untouched snow within spitting distance of the trails. We didn't need any secret back valleys or steep chutes to make first tracks. This was skiing as it had been intended by God or Mother Nature – the way it had been before man intervened by building ski lifts helter-skelter all over the Alps, bringing droves of people to clutter the slopes.

I had only spent five days in Valais, but I had reached a true understanding of the retro-conservative Swiss mentality.

Inflexible? Stand up for what you believe in.

Dogmatic? If the system works, don't change it.

Old-fashioned? That makes them quaint, right?

Backwards? Backwards doesn't necessarily mean bad.

Antiquated? Why build new lifts if the old ones still function adequately?

Anachronistic? Yes, sir. Me too!

If I could, I would happily hop in my time machine and set the date for 1935. I would land in some idyllic mountain village untouched by the modern-day ski industry. I would stroll through the narrow alleyways of a cozy village amidst old wooden houses with stone roofs until I found a local farmer to guide me. We would skin up the nearby peaks and glide back down through pristine virgin fields of snow. There would be nobody else in the vicinity except us.

I don't have a time machine, but it doesn't really matter much. I can travel, instead, to Valais, find Beat and have him lead me through his own private world of the Lötschental or I can wander through the old cobblestone streets of Saint-Luc, ride up their ancient Pomas and ski in solitude through virgin meadows of white on either side of the piste. That part is easy. I still may have to seek an audience with the Pope, however, to insure a continuation of white winters. ▲▲



ABOVE: Tatu Lehmuskallio finds a nice line in the trees in the Saint-Luc area.



LEFT: The scenery in and around Saint-Luc is beautiful exemplified by the rolling terrain and interesting rocky abutments. Don't forget to bring your camera!

Jimmy Petterson's career as a ski journalist began back in 1985, and he shows no signs of slowing down. In 2005, he published *Skiing Around the World: Volume I*, an anthology of his travels, which included chapters about 47 countries in which he had skied. He recently completed *Skiing Around the World: Volume II*. He has visited, skied in, and written about, more than 500 ski resorts in over 75 countries. Whether you are interested to read about the world's most famous resorts like Kitzbuhel, Ischgl, Zermatt, Banff, Aspen, or Sun Valley, or you prefer to learn about hidden ski gems around the world, you will find a treasure trove of information in his Two Volume Set. Go to [www.skiingaroundtheworld.com](http://www.skiingaroundtheworld.com) for more information. Also refer to page 2.

# What is a Snowsports Council?

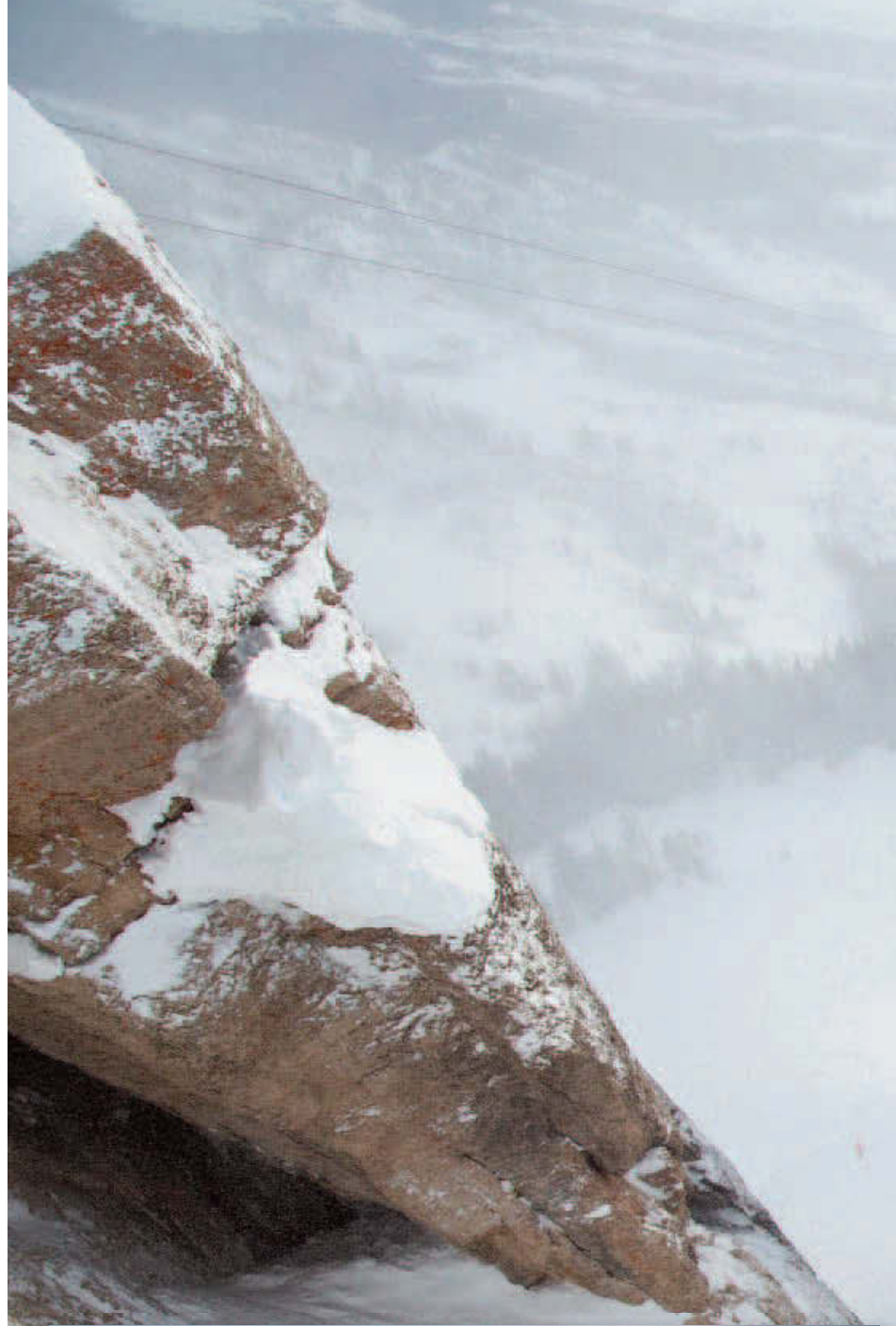
In its most general case, a snowsports council is an organization composed of clubs and individuals who have continuing interests and objectives in common. The interests may include race scheduling, fundraising, social events, off-season sports, travel, government affairs and communication, both internal and with other entities. It is normally centered on population centers because the travel distances required for monthly meeting attendance is lessened. Historically, the oldest councils operated independently of national or regional organizations and then joined the Far West Ski Association, (FWSA), founded in 1930 as the California Ski Association.

The Far West Ski Association has ten councils and they collectively make up the region that it calls its service area, extending from Alaska to the southern border and from the Colorado border to Hawaii. New councils may be added at the discretion of the FWSA Board of Directors if the candidate council can be effectively served.

The original four councils in FWSA were the Bay Area Snow Sports Council (formerly Bay Area Council of Ski Clubs), Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs (formerly Southern Council), Central Council of California (formerly a district of the California Ski Association), and San Diego Council of Ski Clubs. The Orange Council of Ski Clubs originated from the Los Angeles Council in 1971. Northwest Ski Club Council (formerly Portland Area Ski Club Council) joined in 1982 and Arizona Ski Council in 1993. Sierra League and Council (formerly Sierra Ski Racing League) joined in 2002. The newest councils are Intermountain Ski Council, joining in 2007, and the National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region, joining in 2018. NBSWR is a region of the National Brotherhood of Skiers, one of the largest ski organizations in the country.

The FWSA Council/Club Section lists all the member clubs in each of the ten councils. The clubs offer a wide variety of activities, which include not only winter snowsports trips, but programs for all seasons of the year. There are plenty of social activities and the opportunity to support your community through various projects. In addition, as a club member, you become a member of the council and Far West Ski Association, eligible for member benefits, an extensive travel program, racing in the Far West Racing Association, attending the Annual FWSA Convention plus much more! Also, our councils are part of the National Ski Council Federation, which represents councils throughout the nation, with its own activities and programs. Find a club near you and visit a meeting. You'll be glad you did!

*Source: The Far West Ski Association Turns 90 booklet.*



# FWSA Council/Club Section



*The 2023 FWSA North American Ski Week will be held  
at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Wyoming.  
photos courtesy of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort*



*With the Arizona Snow Bowl in their backyard, the resort is very accessible for both Phoenix Ski Club (shown) and Scottsdale Ski & Social Club members for day and weekend ski trips often planned during the winter months. photo provided by Phoenix Ski Club*

## Arizona Ski Council

by Kristy Welsh,  
ASC President

The Arizona Ski Council (ASC) was formed in 1991 and represents two active ski/activity clubs, totaling around 500 members, serving skiers, snowboarders, hikers, bikers, social members and all types of adventurers. Our clubs share reciprocity between each other, so one only needs membership in one of the clubs, to enjoy the benefits of both.

The council and our clubs typically plan activities throughout the year and COVID-19 seems like it's finally in the rear view mirror. The year ahead has a full roster of trips planned, from ski trips (of course), to sailing, to scuba adventures. The social and activity calendar is going full steam ahead, with a variety of weekend activities like hiking, biking and camping planned and enjoyed throughout the year.

Clubs that participate in ASC are the *Phoenix Ski Club* and the *Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club*. These clubs are not limited to activities in the United States, but all over the world. Follow the individual links connected to each club.

The **Phoenix Ski Club** (PSC) - is much more than just skiing.

PSC is an active adult social club, whose focus is on going full speed ahead with year-round activities. PSC is always open to new suggestions for events, activities and adventures. They pride themselves in offering a variety of activities designed to appeal to everybody. Traveling out of the country or down the road to bike, hike, sail or ski, this group focuses on connecting with new friends and experiences. PSC is also involved in a number of charities, such as *Adopt-a-Highway*, *Showbox Ministry*, *Sojourner Center*, *Toys for Tots*, the *Phoenix Rescue Mission* and distributing bottles of water for the *Salvation Army*.

The Phoenix Ski Club's ongoing initiative is offering family events to engage kids in winter activities. The hope is to engage more parents to get their kids involved in skiing.

Check out their activities, trips and social gatherings, on their website. There are some very fun adventures, such as a Tanzania Safari.

The **Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club** (SSSC) - is oriented towards active adults 21 years or older. SSSC provides year-round

activities including snow skiing and snowboarding for all levels, hiking, biking, rollerblading, tubing, theme parties, camping, road trips, day and weekend outings, out of town trips, art walks, wine tasting, boating, water and jet skiing, scuba diving, kayaking, paddle-boarding, as well as, weekly happy hours and monthly dinners at local restaurants. They are a club on the move. Look for exciting trips like the New Zealand Adventure, North & South, coming up in 2023. Don't just dream of having an exciting life - join the Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club and make it happen.

The Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club has a cell phone app for your convenience. Their website has downloading instructions.

Follow the individual links, connected to each club, to see some of the amazing trips planned for the upcoming ski season. Be sure to check out

### Arizona Ski Council

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### Arizona Ski and Social Clubs Member Clubs & Contact Information

#### PHOENIX SKI CLUB

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#### SCOTTSDALE SEA AND SKI CLUB

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#### Facebook Pages:

[Arizona-Ski-Council / Facebook](#)

[Phoenix Ski & Social Club / Facebook](#)

[Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club / Facebook](#)

**Watch out 2023.  
We're on the move!**

## Bay Area Snow Sports Council

by Paul Vlasveld, President

The Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC) is a very active part of the Far West Ski Association and the National Ski Council Federation ([www.skifederation.org](http://www.skifederation.org)). Our focus is Having Fun.

One might ask, "Who should join a BAC club?" A very simple answer is **YOU!**

We welcome snowboarders, skiers, cross country skiers, snowshoers, and those who prefer non-snow social activities. Bay Area Snow Sports Council has fun doing a variety of club and council activities on and off the snow.

The BAC has 16 active member clubs based in the greater San Francisco Bay area which extends as far north as the Napa Valley, south to Monterey / Carmel and east to Modesto. We feature two separate leagues within the BAC. Our **Open League** has 12 clubs and welcomes individuals, couples, families, and their children. Our **Singles League** is made up of four clubs with their full members being over 21 years of age. You'll find fun things to do all year long with our clubs.

There is the social aspect to the BAC clubs! Non-skiers



*Bay Area Snow Sports Council delegates to the 89th Annual FWSA Convention held in Portland in June of*



*Club members from the Bay Area Snow Sports Council participate in a European adventure. They enjoyed a Bike and Barge Trip to Italy in August. photo by Jeff Plotner*

and non-snowboarders find their way to our member clubs for activities such as dancing, hiking, camping, bike riding, tennis, golf, adventure travel, etc. In fact, we have members who have been on all seven continents of the world. Yes, that includes Antarctica!

You will be amazed by the variety of trips available through the BAC, our various clubs, and the Far West Ski Association. The locations include many Tahoe venues, domestic locations, adventures to Europe and just about all points on a compass. You can find members of the BAC going to the slopes just about any time during the winter! As an example, in 2022, we had members skiing at Aspen Snowmass, and a Bike and Barge in August. In 2023, there is a ski week in Jackson Hole and a mini trip to Sun Peaks. Many of

the member clubs organize trips.

Another wonderful part of the BAC clubs and our members is how we volunteer our time and energy through community outreach and fund raising programs. Many of the clubs volunteer time and money to their designated charitable organizations.

The history of the Bay Area Snow Sports Council is just as amazing as what is taking place today. In mid-1940, the Bay Area Ski Federation was organized "For the welfare of Bay Area Skiers" and voted to join the Far West Ski Association as the Bay Area Council (BAC) of Ski Clubs in 1961. To embrace all snow sports activities, the current name of the BAC is "**Bay Area Snow Sports Council**." During all four seasons our BAC clubs are very active!

We, in the leadership of the BAC, are very lucky to have our clubs and their members associated with us along with having the Lake Tahoe area in our "backyard." Our members are amazing and the amount of history and diversity of local places to ski / snowboard is a true gift.

Our Recreational Race Schedules for 2023 may feature Alpine Meadows, Sugar Bowl, and Northstar. In addition, there are the Far West Championships at either Mammoth or a Lake Tahoe resort. Become one of our "racers." Come out and have a great time! Even if you don't race, please join us on the slopes during any of our on-mountain events. Cow bells are encouraged!



*photo by Adam Bacher*

*2022 gather with the Keynote Speakers, Olympic Medalists Mahre Brothers. Steve is on the front left, while Phil is on the right.*

In our continued efforts to share information with our BAC members, we have a monthly BAC General Meeting where we welcome and look forward to having guest speakers who talk about their resorts, products and/or travel opportunities. This year, we are also putting a great deal of energy into sharing information on how to improve our various clubs through informative and interactive conversations!

If you have any questions or need more information about the BAC, please contact me at [bac.president@skibac.org](mailto:bac.president@skibac.org) or look at our website: [www.skibac.org](http://www.skibac.org).

To our members, clubs and those who donate and support our efforts, I always like to say – "Thank You for Being the One Who Makes the Difference!"

Please check out one of our clubs, come to the slopes with us and have fun with our Volunteer Non-Profit Organization!

## Bay Area Snow Sports Council

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## Bay Area Snow Sports Council Ski and Social Clubs Member Clubs & Contact Information

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**APRES SKI CLUB**  
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**BLADERUNNERS SKI & SPORT CLUB**  
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**CASTRO VALLEY SKI CLUB**  
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**FIRE AND ICE SKI CLUB**  
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**INSKIERS SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB**  
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**MARIN SKI CLUB**  
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**MONTEREY SKI & SOCIAL CLUB**  
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**OAKLAND SKI CLUB**  
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**THE OLYMPIC CLUB**  
(Private – Member Sponsored)  
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**RUSTY BINDINGS SKI CLUB**  
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**SOUTHBAY SKI CLUB**  
[www.southbayskiclub.org](http://www.southbayskiclub.org)  
President: Frank Oei  
[president@southbayskiclub.com](mailto:president@southbayskiclub.com)

**SUNBURST SKI CLUB**  
President: Jeff Mulligan  
[jbmull@gmail.com](mailto:jbmull@gmail.com)



*Fresno Ski Club getting organized at the top of the run with a large group of members skiing at China Peak.*



*SLO Skiers volunteers at a Beach Clean Up Day. Many ski clubs participate in activities giving back to their local communities. photos provided by Fran Long*

**Central Council of California**  
by Fran Long, President

As you can determine in this section, councils are composed of ski clubs in a designated geographical area. Central Council is made up of ski clubs in the central part of California. Clubs are located in Bakersfield, Fresno, Clovis, Salinas, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara. Some of those clubs are significantly large, while others are rather small, but all have activities to offer their membership.

**Avalanche Ski and Sports Club**, in Bakersfield, is one of our smaller clubs. They meet monthly at different restaurants in the Bakersfield area. While they do not organize ski trips on their own, they do support the FWSA ski weeks, as well as, other FWSA travel trips. Additionally, they often join SLO Skiers for a fun-filled SLO Skiers Ski Week.

**Camber Ski Club**, located in Salinas, is a fairly inactive club but has a number of members that organize informal ski trips. Some active new members would certainly give this club a boost!

**Fresno Ski Club**, serving the greater Fresno area, is a large, active, vibrant club. In addition to one or two ski weeks per year, Fresno Ski Club supports its local ski area, *China Peak*, with multiple 2-3 day trips. In addition to skiing, Fresno Ski Club has an active summer program encompassing many outdoor adventure opportunities.

**Santa Barbara Ski Club** is on par with Fresno Ski Club. Again, one of our clubs offering a wide variety of programs, Santa Barbara Ski Club offers a couple of week-long ski trips each winter, and supports their local mountain, *Mammoth Mountain*, with multiple 3-4 day bus trips

each year. Summers are filled with happy hours, bike rides, and a multitude of other fun in the sun types of activities.

**SLO Skiers**, serving San Luis Obispo County and northern Santa Barbara County, is also one of our larger clubs. SLO Skiers plans two week-long ski trips each year and sprinkles in a few local trips to Tahoe or Mammoth. Other year-round activities abound...wine downs, dine-arounds, happy hours, and summer adventure trips.

In addition to just having fun, all Central Council clubs are involved in doing some sort of charitable or philanthropic activities within their geographic communities. If you are looking for camaraderie or friendship, or just some like-minded people to share activities, one of the Central Council Ski Clubs will likely be a good fit for you.

**Central Council of California**  
[www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org](http://www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org)  
President: *Fran Long*  
(805) 712-5781  
francat87@gmail.com

**Central Council of California**  
**Member Clubs & Contact Information**

**AVALANCHE SKI AND SPORTS CLUB**  
Serving Bakersfield, Kern County  
[www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org](http://www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org)  
President: *Donna Webb*  
dblazekwebb@gmail.com

**CAMBER SKI CLUB**  
Serving the Salinas Valley and parts of Monterey County  
Activities: *Jayne Camic*  
camicski@aol.com

**CLOVIS SKI AND TRAVEL CLUB**  
Serving Clovis and Fresno County  
President: *Kim Riehl*  
kimriehl18@gmail.com

**FRESNO SKI CLUB**  
Serving Fresno County  
[www.fresnoskiclub.com](http://www.fresnoskiclub.com)  
President: *Mark Vester*  
markvesterski@att.net

**OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS**  
Serving Fresno County  
Facilitator: *Chuck Nacino*  
cnacino@gotsky.com

**SANTA BARBARA SKI AND SPORTS CLUB**  
Serving Santa Barbara County  
[www.sbski.org](http://www.sbski.org)  
President: *Ginny Nixon*  
president@sbski.org

**SLO SKIERS, INC., A SKI SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB**  
Serving San Luis Obispo, Southern Monterey and Northern Santa Barbara Counties  
[www.sloski.org](http://www.sloski.org)  
President: *Stacey King*  
president@sloski.org

**SNOW TRACKERS**  
Serving Exeter, California  
[www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org](http://www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org)  
President: *Helen Salisbury Jacobsen*  
helenzz@aol.com

**Join us for the fun!**



**TOP:** Intermountain Ski Council members snowshoeing at North Fork Nordic Park in Utah in January, 2022. **LOWER:** Intermountain Ski Council members enjoying great snow at the 2022 Far West Ski Week to Aspen Snowmass. **LEFT TO RIGHT:** Sue Baker, Barb Bryant, Ron Rausch, Eric Elliott, Carrie Elliott, Doug Baker, Henry Gonzalez and Judy Liedke. photos provided by Jenn Coutts

## Intermountain Ski Council

by Jennifer Coutts,  
President

Intermountain Ski Council (ISC) covers five states in the intermountain West and currently has 11 clubs on its roster. We typically organize one council ski trip during the year to Sun Valley, Idaho. This past January's trip was a success with 60 members enjoying the snow and sunshine on beautiful Mt. Baldy. We look forward to another great trip in January 2023 and hope to see even more member clubs participate.

The ISC is excited to be hosting the 90th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention in Boise, Idaho, in 2023, and we

have a team of folks actively planning for this event. The convention will be held at Boise Centre with accommodations at The Grove Hotel in downtown Boise. The optional activities will include a River Rafting Trip down the Payette River, a Mountain Adventure Day at Bogus Basin Mountain Recreation Area, Golf Tournament, Pub Crawl and Bicycle Tour through downtown.

You can check out our website for more information on our member clubs and activity calendar. You can also find us on Facebook and Instagram!

## Intermountain Ski Council

[www.intermountain](http://www.intermountain)

[skicouncil.weebly.com](http://skicouncil.weebly.com)

President: Jennifer (Jenn) Coutts

(817) 832-5364

[jcoutts29@yahoo.com](mailto:jcoutts29@yahoo.com)

## Intermountain Ski Council

Member Clubs &

Contact Information

## BLACK HILLS SKI CLUB

[www.sites.google.com/site/black-hillsskiclub](http://www.sites.google.com/site/black-hillsskiclub)

Serving the Rapid City,  
South Dakota area

Contact: Kent Stenson

[bhskiclub@gmail.com](mailto:bhskiclub@gmail.com)

## BOGUS BASIN SKI CLUB

[www.bogusbasinskiclub.org/](http://www.bogusbasinskiclub.org/)

Serving the Boise, Idaho area

President: Lynda Clark

[president@bogusbasinskiclub.org](mailto:president@bogusbasinskiclub.org)

## CHEYENNE SKI CLUB

[www.cheyenneskiclub.com](http://www.cheyenneskiclub.com)

Serving the Cheyenne,  
Wyoming area

Contact: Pete Sokolosky

[cheyenneskiclub@gmail.com](mailto:cheyenneskiclub@gmail.com)

## IDAHO FALLS SKI CLUB

[www.ifskiclub.com](http://www.ifskiclub.com)

Serving the Idaho Falls, Idaho area

President: Delisa Rogers

[ifsc.delisa.rogers@gmail.com](mailto:ifsc.delisa.rogers@gmail.com)

## NORTHERN WASATCH SKI AND SOCIAL CLUB

[www.northernwasatchski.org](http://www.northernwasatchski.org)

Serving northern Utah

President: Jenn Coutts

[jcoutts29@yahoo.com](mailto:jcoutts29@yahoo.com)

## PARK CITY MOUNTAIN SPORTS CLUB

[www.pcmsc.org](http://www.pcmsc.org)

Serving the Park City, Utah area

President: Judy List

## POCATELLO SKI & SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION

[www.pocatelloskiandsnowboardassociation.com](http://www.pocatelloskiandsnowboardassociation.com)

Serving the Pocatello, Idaho area

President: Bryan Tikalsky

[admin@pocatelloskiandsnowboardassociation.com](mailto:admin@pocatelloskiandsnowboardassociation.com)

## PRIMETIMERS

<https://bogusbasin.org/programs/social-ed-programs/>

Serving the Boise, ID area

Contact: Paul Markowitz

[pmarkowitz47@gmail.com](mailto:pmarkowitz47@gmail.com)

## SUBLETTE COUNTY SKI AND SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION

[www.sublettecountysnowsports.org](http://www.sublettecountysnowsports.org)

Serving the Western Wyoming area

President: Cassy Johnston

[scssaclub@gmail.com](mailto:scssaclub@gmail.com)

## HILL SKI CLUB

Serving the Ogden/Layton, Utah area

President: Norm Bates

[Waterskillayton@comcast.net](mailto:Waterskillayton@comcast.net)



Ron Rausch skis in Sun Valley during the January, 2022 Intermountain Ski Council trip. photo: Steve Strickland

**The ISC serves clubs in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, South Dakota and Colorado.**



*The Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs was well represented at the 89th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention held in Portland, Oregon in June. Joining them were the Keynote Speakers, Olympic Medalists, Phil and Steve Mahre.*

*photo by Convention photographer, Adam Bacher*

## Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

by Sandra Blackwell, President

The Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs, Inc. has 20+ snowsports (skiing, boarding, and social) clubs that cover almost all of the Los Angeles County. LAC is one of the largest of the 10 councils of the Far West Ski Association, and is included in the National Ski Council Federation.

There are many, many very active, very enthusiastic members in the Los Angeles Council clubs. Summer finds the clubs out for hiking, biking, kayaking, sailing, and up to Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort for their summer programs. Winter, of course, sets the mood for wonderful snow covered mountains, with trails that twist and turn, or - just go straight down the hill! With California and our western states



*Bruce Bailey, President of Kronenstadt Ski Club of Pasadena, enjoys skiing at Mammoth on a club trip.*

*photo provided by Kronenstadt Ski Club*

ski resorts having some of the best winter snow that can be imagined, there are lots of opportunities for our clubs to go skiing. Due to the large population and number of ski clubs in the Los Angeles area, the types of clubs are quite different. We have small clubs and large clubs, with a myriad of winter and summer sports programs offering activities for everyone. Sometimes, the clubs get together to obtain better pricing on their trips, offer different events to do, and more people to attend, which just makes for more fun!

The main ski resort for ski trips, by bus or drive up, is Mammoth Mountain, a five hour drive from central Los Angeles. Mammoth offers a myriad of year

round outdoor activities (*skiing in winter; mountain biking, hiking and camping in summer*). This is also where most of the council races happen, and are part of Far West Racing Association. Los Angeles supports its ROKKA race leagues, and our own **Laura Priess** (also our VP of Travel) is its President. Included on the schedule are: ROKKA Race Camp; the Ski, Ride & Race Week; three race weekends, the SoCal Championships, and the Far West Racing Association Championships.

Los Angeles Council participates in the FWSA Annual Ski Week each season, and earlier this year found 40 council members at Snowmass, Colorado. This year gave us some of THE VERY BEST SNOW I've seen in years. Laura Priess did a wonderful job of hosting, connecting, checking, and leading or keeping up with all the groups in our council that attended. Due to a COVID outbreak in the local area - this ski week had its challenges (thus no welcome party, no banquet), but we were lucky enough to find a restaurant in the lower village that was welcoming and accommodating to most of everyone's needs. So all was good! The week was made so special because of all those that attended. Everyone was very gracious, very accommodating, and happy to be at a great ski resort.

For the FWSA 2023 annual ski week, our participants, 40 of them, are so looking forward to Jackson Hole Ski Resort, with the races at Snow King in town. We are also hoping for a jaunt out to Grand Targhee and a trip into Yellowstone for a side trip or two.

LAC also takes advantage of FWSA's international trips with Zermatt, Switzerland coming up in 2023 and the "Mini Week" ski trips, where we are headed to Taos, New Mexico in 2023. The FWSA trips have become popular for their interesting ski re-

sort choices and great pricing. We also have a few of our of LAC ski clubs with trips going to Banff and Lake Louise, Canada (Century City Ski Club); Thailand with a Twist (Conejo Ski Club), and others as their plans come together.

As the clubs post their Mammoth and other ski trips on their websites, the LAC website posts those trips and dates to make it easy for someone to find a group to join to go skiing.

The 89th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention in 2022 was conducted in Portland, Oregon. It was lots of fun, was a beautiful area and hotel, and LAC and its clubs won a variety of awards:

- **Council Website** - Novice: 3rd place LAC (**Sandra Blackwell**, webmaster)
- **Club Website** - Master: 3rd place Unrecables (**Dee Armstrong**, webmaster)
- **Council Newsletter** - 1st place LAC (**Gordon Cardona**, Editor)
- **Club Newsletter** - 2nd Place Unrecables (**Gordon Cardona**, Editor)
- **Jimmie Heuga Award** for outstanding humanitarian service to **Dr. John Gray** (Unrecables)
- **Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood Award** for outstanding service to organized skiing to **Sandra Blackwell** (Wailers)

A highlight of this convention was guest speakers, **Steve and Phil Mahre** (*World Cup and 1984 Olympic Medalists*). There are always fun and very interesting speakers at the Convention. So, the upcoming one in Boise in June of 2023 should not be missed.

**Iris Williams**, VP of Programs, along with the board, plans social events for our council. An event is being planned with the highlight being meeting each club's Volunteer of the Year (*formerly Man and Woman of the Year*) and announcing the win-

ner. The LAC Volunteer of the Year will then go on to represent LAC at the FWSA Convention. Convention is such an awesome gathering of all the FWSA councils featuring: the Friday night Silent Auction - where many a ski trip or other great travel bargain can be had; the Saturday night Banquet where the awards are given out; and then the Sunday morning General Session and breakfast, with the last few awards and your last chance to say hi to those you have not had a chance to catch up with over the weekend.

Los Angeles Council continues to be represented within Far West Ski Association as members of the Board of Directors, its various committees and the Far West Ski Foundation. There are six members currently who hold positions as shown below:

■ **Sigrid Noack**  
(Unrecables), Charities and Our Community Chair

■ **Todd Hood**  
(Snowbusters), Succession Planning Chair

■ **Jane Gutierrez**  
(4 Seasons West), Social Media Chair

■ **David Krupp**  
(Century City), Athletic Scholarship Program Chair

■ **Jane Wyckoff, Sandra Blackwell & Norbert Knapp**, Trustees, Far West Ski Foundation. **Jane** is also the Editor of the *Far West Skier's Guide*

I would like to thank my LAC Board members for their continuing hard work, diligent efforts, and assistance in making the council a great team to work with: Treasurer, **Norbert Knapp** (*Grindelwald*); Secretary, **Sandra Knapp** (*Grindelwald*); VP Membership, **Todd Hood** (*Snowbusters*); VP Programs, **Iris Williams** (*Executive Board*); and VP Travel, **Laura Priess** (*Century City*). We are also grateful to have **Gordon Cardona** (*Unrecables*) as our Newsletter Editor,

and he does a wonderful job for us. My thanks to everyone on my board who continues to support Los Angeles Council.

For details regarding all of the Los Angeles clubs and activities, please visit us at our website: [www.lacouncil.org](http://www.lacouncil.org).

### Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

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President: *Sandra Blackwell*  
(818) 441-6191  
President@lacouncil.org

### Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs Member Clubs & Contact Information

**AEA (AEROSPACE) SKI CLUB**  
South Bay  
[www.aeclubs.org/ski](http://www.aeclubs.org/ski)  
President: *John Nolan*  
AEA@LACouncil.org

**ASIAN SKI & BOARDING CLUB OF LOS ANGELES**  
Los Angeles  
[www.asbcla.org](http://www.asbcla.org)  
Contact: *Warren Tanaka*  
Asian@LACouncil.org

**AUSLICH SKI CLUB**  
Belmont Shore/Long Beach  
President: *Joe Vanderhoof*  
Auslich@LACouncil.org

**BEACH CITIES SKI CLUB**  
Beach Cities  
[www.bcskiclub.org](http://www.bcskiclub.org)  
President: *Bruce Lee*  
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**BUCKHORN SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB**  
Angeles National Forest  
[buckhornlodge.org](http://buckhornlodge.org)  
President: *Rich Geist*  
Buckhorn@LACouncil.org

**CCSC SPORTS**  
West Side Los Angeles  
[www.ccscsports.org](http://www.ccscsports.org)  
President: *Kay Collins*  
CCSC@LACouncil.org

**CONEJO SKI & SPORTS CLUB**  
Thousand Oaks  
[www.conejoskiclub.org](http://www.conejoskiclub.org)  
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**EDELWEISS SKI & SPORT CLUB**  
San Fernando Valley  
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President: *Nadia Pissova*  
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**EXECUTIVE BOARD SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION**  
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President: *Cheyenne Aldridge*  
EBSA@LACouncil.org

**FOUR SEASONS WEST SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB**  
Los Angeles  
[www.4sw.com](http://www.4sw.com)  
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4SW@LACouncil.org

**GRINDELWALD SKI CLUB**  
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**INLAND EMPIRE SKI AND SPORTS CLUB**  
Riverside  
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**KOREAN AMERICAN SKI CLUB**  
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**KRONENSTADT SKI CLUB**  
Pasadena  
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Kronenstadt@LACouncil.org

**LONG BEACH SKI CLUB**  
Long Beach/South Bay  
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**LOS PADRES SKI CLUB**  
Ventura County  
[www.lospadresskiclub.net](http://www.lospadresskiclub.net)  
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**ON THE HILL GANG - LOS ANGELES**  
Los Angeles  
[www.ohgla.org](http://www.ohgla.org)  
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**PACIFIC RIM ALLIANCE**  
Southern California  
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PacificRim@LACouncil.org

**SAGA SKI CLUB**  
Los Angeles  
[www.sagala.org](http://www.sagala.org)  
President: *Kevin MacVane*  
SAGA@LACouncil.org

**SANTA BARBARA SKI & SPORTS CLUB**  
Santa Barbara County  
[www.sbski.org](http://www.sbski.org)  
President: *Ginny Nixon*  
SantaBarbara@LACouncil.org

**SNOWBUSTERS SKI CLUB**  
Pasadena  
<https://www.facebook.com/SnowBustersCA>  
President: *Jerry McGhee*  
Snowbusters@LACouncil.org

**SPACE PARK SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB (TRW)**  
South Bay  
<http://spaceparkskiandsnowboardclub.org/>  
President: *Michael Munn*  
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**THE UNRECABLES**  
Los Angeles  
[www.unrecables.org](http://www.unrecables.org)  
President: *Michelle McCarthy*  
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**WAILERS SKI, SNOWBOARD & SOCIAL CLUB**  
San Fernando Valley/Los Angeles  
[www.wailersskiclub.org](http://www.wailersskiclub.org)  
President: *Vaughn Manthe*  
Wailers@LACouncil.org

**WESTWOOD SKI CLUB**  
West Los Angeles  
[www.westwoodskiclub.org](http://www.westwoodskiclub.org)  
President: *Scott Peer*  
Westwood@LACouncil.org

**WINTER FOX SKI & SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION**  
Los Angeles  
[www.winterfox.org](http://www.winterfox.org)  
President: *Ida Cochrane*  
WinterFox@LACouncil.org

Visit one of our clubs located near you!

Join us at the Far West Ski Week in Jackson Hole!



*NBSWR members attended the Induction ceremony of founders Ben Finley and Art Clay into the US Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame, and honored one of their Western Region founding clubs, All Seasons Ski & Snowboard Club in Oakland, CA. The NBS and NBSWR have recognized them for their service and commitment to promoting, enhancing, and providing recreational opportunities in Winter Snowsports within the African American and minority communities. All Seasons Ski Club was formed in 1972 by a small pioneering group of African American skiers who encountered few like themselves on the slopes. In 1974, ASSC and 11 other ski clubs across the US founded their national umbrella organization, the NBS. The club offers group ski packages to venues all over the world, social outings, activities, and networking opportunities to reflect the diverse interests of our members - single and married, male and female, skiers, boarders, mono-skiers, and non-skiers alike. ASSC also provides support to its namesake youth organization, All Seasons Youth Ski Club (ASYSC). photo / David Geiger*

## National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region (NBSWR)

by David Geiger  
Vice President

The National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS), founded in 1973, is comprised of over 50 clubs throughout the United States, with approximately 3,500 members throughout its member clubs. The NBS hosts its Annual Summit, one of the nation's largest gatherings of skiers and snowboarders. The Annual Summit is a fundraiser that supports the NBS Olympic Scholarship Fund and its mission to identify, develop and support athletes of color who will compete in Olympic and international winter sports competitions, representing the United States, and increase participation in winter sports. There are four regions within the NBS, the western, rocky mountain, mid-west, and eastern regions. Each region has a Vice President and Board of Directors and report to the current NBS President, Henry Rivers.

The National Brotherhood of Skiers Western Region (NBSWR) covers California, Nevada, Arizona, Oregon, and Washington and is currently comprised of 14 member clubs serving their area communities. Many of our member clubs have year-round adult and family activities from skiing, Alpine and Nordic, snowmobiling, bicycling, hiking, camping, river rafting, houseboating, and attending jazz festivals. "We are focused on the growth and prosperity of our clubs, supporting the mission of the NBS, promoting diversity in snowsports with passion, unity, and harmony through fun and education." - David Geiger, Vice President NBSWR.

Currently, the NBSWR is in full swing marketing and preparing for an entire week of snowsports activities and fun at the NBS 50th Anniversary Summit

to be held February 4-11, 2023, at Vail Resort in Colorado. The event is expected to draw over 2,000 participants from the United States and internationally. Additionally, the NBSWR has sold out its summer FunFest 2022 fundraising trip to Panama City, Panama, at the all-inclusive Westin Playa Bonita Resort, taking 104 travelers.

The NBSWR has partnered with the Far West Ski Association to increase cultural awareness in snowsport and create opportunities to educate and expose member clubs and councils to diversity, equity, and inclusion concepts. Members of the NBSWR actively participate in the Far West Ski Association (FWSA) Annual Convention. At the FWSA Annual Convention 2022, held in Portland, Oregon, Todd Hood (SnowBusters Ski Club of Pasadena and Immediate

Past VP of NBSWR) served as a moderator for the Snowsports Leadership Academy Sessions, and Lori Moore (Four Seasons West Ski & Snowboard Club of Los Angeles) represented the NBSWR in the Councils' Volunteer of the Year Program. Also, Jane Gutierrez (Four Seasons West Ski & Snowboard Club of Los Angeles) currently serves as the FWSA Social Media Chair.

The National Brotherhood of Skiers Western Region is open to working with other snowsports organizations in pursuing initiatives and promoting diversity and inclusion in winter sports. We are proud of the work we have done thus far and look forward to greater opportunities.

**...NBS 50th  
Anniversary  
Summit...**



**LEFT: Club Delegates from the National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region attended the Awards Banquet at the 89th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention, in Portland Oregon. Joining them were the Keynote Speakers, Olympic Medalists Steve and Phil Mahre.**

*photo provided by Adam Bacher*

*It was announced this summer that the National Brotherhood of Skiers is the recipient of the "Top of the Hill" Award, and will be part of the 2022 Class of Inductees for the Annual Recognition Award as part of the 45th Colorado Snowsports Museum Hall of Fame Ceremonies. The event celebration will take place in Vail, Colorado. This award's purpose is to recognize entities that have contributed to the development of snowsports in Colorado.*

## **National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region**

[www.nbswr.org](http://www.nbswr.org)

Vice President: David Geiger

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[vicepresident@nbswr.org](mailto:vicepresident@nbswr.org)

## **NBSWR**

*Member Clubs &*

*Contact Information*

### **ALL SEASONS SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB**

Oakland, California

[www.facebook.com/allseasonskiclub](http://www.facebook.com/allseasonskiclub)

President: Gary Garrett

[AllSeasons@nbswr.org](mailto:AllSeasons@nbswr.org)

### **BLADERUNNERS SKI CLUB**

Los Angeles, California

President: Gale Frazier

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### **CAMELLIA CITY SKI CLUB**

North Highlands, California

President: Charles Ward

[CamelliaCity@nbswr.org](mailto:CamelliaCity@nbswr.org)

### **EBONY SKI & RACQUET CLUB**

West Sacramento, California

[www.facebook.com/EbonySkiClub](http://www.facebook.com/EbonySkiClub)

President: Sharon Sargeant

[Ebony@nbswr.org](mailto:Ebony@nbswr.org)

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

### **SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION**

Los Angeles, California

President: Cheyenne Aldridge

[EBSA@nbswr.org](mailto:EBSA@nbswr.org)

### **FIRE & ICE SKI CLUB**

San Jose, California

[www.facebook.com/Fire-Ice-Ski-Club](http://www.facebook.com/Fire-Ice-Ski-Club) 183377125181/

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### **FOUR SEASONS WEST SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB**

Los Angeles, California

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President: Clifford Sims, Jr.

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### **INLAND EMPIRE SKI & SPORTS CLUB**

Riverside, California

President: Teri Allard

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### **MOUNTAIN VIEW SKI CLUB**

San Diego, California

President: Shirley Wallace

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### **SIERRA SNOW GLIDERS, INC.**

Las Vegas, Nevada

[www.facebook.com/SierraSnowGliders/](http://www.facebook.com/SierraSnowGliders/)

President: Carolyn Haywood

[Sierrasnowgliders@nbswr.org](mailto:Sierrasnowgliders@nbswr.org)

### **SNOWBUSTERS SKI CLUB**

Pasadena, California

[www.facebook.com/SnowBustersCA/](http://www.facebook.com/SnowBustersCA/)

President: Jerry McGhee

[Snowbusters@nbswr.org](mailto:Snowbusters@nbswr.org)



**David Geiger, NBS VP of Western Region and Gary Garrett, President of All Seasons Ski & Snowboard Club, enjoying the All Seasons 50th Anniversary at a summertime outdoor BBQ event held on July 30, 2022, at the San Leandro Marina Park. The event was very well attended!**

*photos provided by David Geiger*

### **NBS SNO PROS SERVICE CLUB**

Pasadena, California

[www.facebook.com/groups/425685350955739](http://www.facebook.com/groups/425685350955739)

President: Forrest King Shaw

[nbsnopros@nbswr.org](mailto:nbsnopros@nbswr.org)

### **U2 CAN SKI CLUB**

Stockton, California

<https://nbswr.org/u2cs/>

President: Steven "Skip" Roberts

[U2canski@nbswr.org](mailto:U2canski@nbswr.org)

### **WINTER FOX SKI ASSOCIATION**

Los Angeles, California

<https://www.facebook.com/winterfox1>

President: Ida Cochrane

[Winterfox@nbswr.org](mailto:Winterfox@nbswr.org)

**February 4 - 11, 2023  
Vail Resort,  
Colorado**

## Northwest Ski Club Council

by Christine Ciardi,  
NWSCC President

The Pacific Northwest is a wonderful area of the USA, now add in Hawaii, and we've got it all. The Northwest Ski Club Council ("NWSCC") includes clubs in the beautiful states of Oregon, Washington and Hawaii. Our member clubs enjoy many activities and organize trips, both single day and multiple day. Trips include partaking in many sports and activities; such as skiing, snowboarding, hiking, golfing, biking, camping, backpacking, sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, canoeing - you name it. Some trips combine several activities. Other entertainment opportunities abound - the list seems never ending. Thanks to our clubs, members can add camaraderie and fun competition to their lives while enjoying the great outdoors. Often clubs include participation from other clubs at their events, activities and trips to increase the fun.

Having the great northwest as our backyard lets NWSCC members enjoy a wide variety of natural beauty. Everyone is out in nature and the great outdoors. NWSCC has 30 member clubs and 13 non-profit organization members. Skiers, snowboarders, and all other outdoor sports are represented in our member clubs.

Our racing league, PACRAT, continues their two groups, one racing on Friday and one on Sunday. This started as a COVID solution, and has been so popular that they are continuing to keep it. They have a combined party at the end of the season, which announces the "Winner." The 2022/23 season schedule is in the works. Check out their website at <https://www.pacrats.org/>.

NWSCC continues to invest in our Facebook presence. It's been effective in getting more people interested in what we do. We have also had a few new



**ABOVE:** Members of the Mountain High Snowsport Club enjoy spring skiing on Mt. Hood in Oregon, with the Timberline Lodge in the background. photo provided by Christine Ciardi

**RIGHT:** The Northwest Ski Club Council hosted the highly successful 89th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention in Portland. NWSCC had a large delegation, shown at the Awards Banquet with Olympic Medalists Phil and Steve Mahre, who were the Keynote Speakers photo by Adam Bacher



clubs request information about joining. We always promote our industry members using Facebook, which will now reach a larger audience. Our page likes and group members continue to rise. Please like our page <https://www.facebook.com/NWSkiers> and join our Group at <https://www.facebook.com/group/s/northwestskiclubcouncil>.

Zoom has made it easier for NWSCC to invite all individual club members to attend council meetings. We continue to see increased interest from our clubs and individuals from outside the Portland area. Guest speakers from the ski and snowboard industry, regional ski areas, media, and resort properties continue to give updates. During our meetings, time is available for clubs to spotlight events and trips to help encourage additional participation. Council meetings begin

with an informal social time, followed by presentations. Everyone is invited to attend and encouraged to get involved.

Succession planning continues, as the Board of Directors continues to change. We are actively looking for additional Board members to act as liaison between clubs and the council, and any individual club members are welcome. Board meetings are held monthly via Zoom.

Don't know about a club in your area? Check out our website <https://nwskiers.org/>. There is information about each club with links to their websites. As the season starts we will update the calendar with club and council events and trips. There is a search function also. The 2023 ski season trips and events are still in the planning stages. Watch the website for continuous updates.

## Northwest Ski Club Council

[www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org)

President: Christine Ciardi  
[president@nwskiers.org](mailto:president@nwskiers.org)

## Northwest Ski Club Council Member Clubs & Contact Information

### Hawaii

#### HAWAII SNOW SKI CLUB

Location: Aiea, Hawaii  
<http://www.hawaiiskiclub.com/fmain.htm>  
President: Toby Kravet  
[pres@hawaiisnowskiclub.com](mailto:pres@hawaiisnowskiclub.com)

### Oregon

#### ALTAIR SKI & SPORTS CLUB

Location: Eugene, Oregon  
<http://www.altairsports.org/>  
President: Larry See  
[larrysee52@gmail.com](mailto:larrysee52@gmail.com)



Several members of NWSCC joined other council members on the FWSA Ski Week to Aspen Snowmass. Pictured are John and Christine Ciardi, Tonya Drayden and Bob Voss at the top of Snowmass during the Ski Week. Certainly looks like they are having a wonderful time!

photos on this page provided by Christine Ciardi

#### BEND SKI CLUB

Location: Bend, Oregon  
<https://www.bendskiclub.net/>  
 President: Eric Hansen  
 emh1951@gmail.com

#### BERGFREUNDE

**MOUNTAIN FRIENDS**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
<http://www.bergfrunde.org/>  
 President: Jean Yates  
 jeanyates@comcast.com

#### CABERNET SKI & SAIL CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon  
 President: John Reinhardt  
 Johnreinhardt@hotmail.com

#### CASCADE PRIME TIMERS (50+)

Location: Portland, Oregon  
<https://www.cascadeprimetimers.org/>  
 President: Lucianne Phillips  
 president@cascadeprimetimers.org

#### CASCADE SKI CLUB & LODGE

Location: Government Camp, Oregon  
<http://www.cascadeskiclub.org/>  
 President: Jackie Lane  
 president@cascadeskiclub.org

#### INTERLACHEN SKI CLUB

(Private)  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
 President: Sheri Parshall  
 cougskier@aol.com

#### MOUNTAIN HIGH SNOWSPORT CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon  
<http://mthigh.org/>  
 President: Bill King  
 president@mthigh.org

#### MOUNT HOOD GANG

Location: Portland  
 Contact: Jim Inkster  
 Inkster.jim@outlook.com

#### MULTNOMAH ATHLETIC CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon  
<https://themac.com/>

#### NWXVENTURE

Location: Mt. Hood, Oregon  
<http://www.instagram/nwxventure>

#### OREGON NORDIC CLUB - PORTLAND CHAPTER

Location: Portland, Oregon  
<https://onc-pdx.org/>  
 President:  
 oncpdxpresident@gmail.com

#### SCHNEE VOGELI SKI CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon  
 (men only)  
<http://www.schneevogeli.com/>  
 President: Bob Brown  
 robertbrown@gmail.com  
 SVSC\_Info@schneevogeli.com

#### SKIYENTE SKI CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon  
 (women only)  
<http://www.skiyente.com>  
 President: Tina Weber  
 president@skiyente.com

### Washington

#### ALP DU LAKEMONT SKI CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington  
<http://adlskiclub.com>  
 info@adlskiclub.com

#### BURIEN BACKSLIDERS

Location: Seattle, Washington  
<https://burienbackslidersskiclub.org/>  
 President: kubin@mediae.com

#### DESERT SKI CLUB

Location: Tri-Cities, Washington  
<http://desertskiclub.clubexpress.com>  
 President: Joe Cruz  
 info@desertskiclub.org

#### LONGVIEW SKI CLUB

Location: SW Washington  
<https://www.facebook.com/longviewskiclub>  
 President: kubin@mediae.com

#### MERRY MOUNTAIN SKI CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington  
<http://www.merrymountain.com>  
 tuesdayskibus@gmail.com

#### S'NO JOKE SKI CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington  
<http://www.snojoke.org/>  
 President: Jim Anderson  
 president@snojoke.org

#### SEATTLE EASTSIDE

#### SKIING AND SNOWBOARDING MEETUP

Location: Seattle, Washington  
<http://www.meetup.com/SeattleEastsideSkiers>  
 Organizer: Clint Lunde  
 clintlunde@hotmail.com

#### SEATTLE SKI & SNOWBOARD MEETUP

Location: Seattle, Washington  
<http://www.meetup.com/SkiSeattle>

#### SKI THE NORTHWEST

Location: Seattle, Washington  
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/skithenorthwest>

#### WIHSKI CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington  
 simber206@gmail.com

### Charitable Associate Members

#### CHILL PORTLAND

Location: Portland, Oregon  
<http://www.chill.org/portland/>  
 Director: Jack Hochberg  
 jackh@chill.org

#### HOPE ON THE SLOPES/ SKI & RIDE FOR A CURE

Location: Gig Harbor, WA  
<https://skiandrideforacure.org/>  
 President: Dave Ludwig  
 ed@skiandrideforacure.org

#### MT. HOOD CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM

Location: Government Camp, OR  
[www.mthoodmuseum.org/](http://www.mthoodmuseum.org/)  
 info@mthoodmuesum.org

#### MT. HOOD SKI PATROL

Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.mthoodskipatrol.org](http://www.mthoodskipatrol.org)  
 mhsp@onebox.com

#### NORTHWEST TRAIL ALLIANCE

Location: Portland, Oregon  
<https://nw-trail.org>  
 President: Juntu Oberg  
 junt@nw-trail.org

#### OREGON ADAPTIVE SPORTS

Location: Bend, Oregon  
<http://oregonadaptivesports.org/>  
 info@oregonadaptivesports.org

#### OREGON CANCER SKI OUT

Location: Milwaukie, Oregon  
<https://cancerskiout.org/>  
 President: Ed Ariniello  
 cancerskiout@gmail.com

#### OUTDOORS FOR ALL FOUNDATION

Location: Seattle, Washington  
<http://outdoorsforall.org/>  
 info@outdoorsforall.org

#### SISTERS IN ACTION SPORTS

Location: Washington  
<http://www.sistersinactionsports.org>

#### SKI TO DEFEAT ALS

Location: Portland, Oregon  
<https://www.facebook.com/chelsey.hirtzer.77>  
 Contact: Chelsey Hirtzer  
 chelseyhirtzer@alsoregon.org

#### SKIDUCK

Location: Redmond, Washington  
<http://skiduck.org>  
 Director: Clint Lunde  
 clintlunde@hotmail.com



There are numerous opportunities to bike within the scenic terrain throughout the state. The Cove Palisades State Park, Madras, OR is one of the popular areas the NWSCC members can enjoy.



**ABOVE:** Huntington Beach Ski Club members enjoy a fabulous day of skiing at Mammoth Mountain on one of their club trips.

*photos provided by Maxine Hanlon*

## **Orange Council of Ski Clubs**

**by Maxine Hanlon,  
OCSC, Past President**

The Orange Council of Ski Clubs supports our clubs in their year 'round activities. From the local beaches and Back Bay to the mountains you can find Orange Council clubs doing what they enjoy. Activities range from water sports, volleyball, biking, tennis to winter sports.

Clubs in our council were active before our council was established in 1971. Our council is a member council and active in the Far West Ski Association, National Ski Council Federation and Far West Racing Association.

Our Council President, Sheila van Guilder, is a member of the FWSA Board of Directors, and is responsible for organizing our Annual Picnic. George Kish is the FWSA By-Laws Chairman and Orange Council Treasurer. Anne Barneson is our Council Secretary. We welcome Jess Gorman to the Council Board as VP of Travel, and will be responsible

**RIGHT:** Balboa Ski Club of Newport Beach has had an active tennis program for their members for many years. The sport is enjoyed by members of all ages and ability levels.



for coordinating our travel with FWSA. Jess led our Aspen/Snowmass trip in 2022 as part of the FWSA Ski Week, and is in charge of the council group attending the Association's 2023 trip to Jackson Hole. In the position of VP of Travel, he will also help coordinate the 2024 trip to Steamboat Springs. He works directly with our clubs and FWSA on coordinating these trips. Maxine Hanlon is VP of Racing and also coordinates Public Affairs and Communications for the council. As VP of Racing, she is head of the Schusski Race League and represents the Orange Council members at racing events. Through ROKKA Race League, our racers will participate in Mammoth Mountain races.

Our clubs also enjoyed trips to: Taos, New Mexico; Steamboat Resort, Colorado; and Telluride Ski Resort, Colorado this last season. Additional trips planned for the upcoming season are Park City, Utah and Sun Valley, Idaho. This does not include trips to our number one destination, which is Mammoth Mountain Resort.

**Fountain Valley Ski Club's** well known Wednesday on Water (WOW) events were still going strong as the summer was winding down. Hikes, biking events, stand up paddle boarding, beach picnics, club gatherings, volleyball and golf are all part of the club's event picture.

**The United States Adaptive Recreation Center (USARC)** is hosting its annual Peak to Peak bike ride fundraiser, where riders bike from Bear Mountain to Mammoth Mountain Resort, October 5-9, 2022. The money raised will help support their adaptive programs for the year ahead.

**Balboa Ski and Sports Club** hosted its annual Packages of Gratitude event in June, where members join together to pack and send packages to United States military personnel. This is an annual event, and a way for members to give back to the community by supporting our military personnel.

The Orange Council 10th Annual Picnic is to be held October 8 in Newport Beach. Food, games and a great opportunity for our club members to interact is all part of the fun.

Check our council website, [www.orangecouncil.org](http://www.orangecouncil.org) for updated council and club event information. The main function of our clubs is to interact with the members through sports and social events. Please take time to investigate our clubs. There is one that will fit right into your picture!

## Orange Council of Ski Clubs

[www.orangecouncil.org](http://www.orangecouncil.org)

President: Sheila van Guilder

(714) 656-6032

[svanguil@yahoo.com](mailto:svanguil@yahoo.com)

## Orange Council of Ski Clubs Member Clubs & Contact Information

### AUSLICH SKI & SPORTS CLUB

Belmont Shore/Long Beach

President: Joe Vanderhoof

[jvanderhoof@netscape.net](mailto:jvanderhoof@netscape.net)

### BALBOA SKI & SPORTS CLUB

[www.balboaskiandsportsclub.com](http://www.balboaskiandsportsclub.com)

President: Jess Gorman

[ejessgorman@gmail.com](mailto:ejessgorman@gmail.com)

### FLATLANDS SKI CLUB

President: Dan Crawford

[macrci@aol.com](mailto:macrci@aol.com)

### FOUNTAIN VALLEY SKI CLUB

[www.fountainvalleyskiclub.org](http://www.fountainvalleyskiclub.org)

President: Greg Murphy

[fv\\_president@fountainvalleyskiclub.org](mailto:fv_president@fountainvalleyskiclub.org)

### HUNTINGTON BEACH SKI CLUB

[www.hbskiclub.com](http://www.hbskiclub.com)

President: Kip McGuire

????@????

### ORANGE COUNTY SKI CLUB

[www.ocskiclub.org](http://www.ocskiclub.org)

President: Anne Barneson

[annebarneson@yahoo.com](mailto:annebarneson@yahoo.com)

### SNOWBOUNDERS SKI CLUB

[www.snowbounders.org](http://www.snowbounders.org)

President: Roger Philips

[enrapt@gmail.com](mailto:enrapt@gmail.com)

### UNITED STATES ADAPTIVE RECREATIONAL CENTER

[www.usarc.org](http://www.usarc.org)

Program Coordinator: Sara Rosell

[sara@usarc.org](mailto:sara@usarc.org)

Orange Council ski clubs have active community service projects. Join a ski club near you and you too, can contribute back to your community!

## San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

by Ira Lindenfeld,  
President

The San Diego Council of Ski Clubs offered some amazing trips this past year. We all know the huge impact the COVID-19 Pandemic placed on our industry and favorite sport. We all persevered and continued our sport, within our individual comfort levels, and still enjoyed the winter. We alternated between in person and monthly Zoom Board Meetings per COVID recommendations. Our clubs have been resourceful and emerged from the Pandemic with creative solutions to keep members engaged. We had a strong delegation at the FWSA Portland Convention in June 2022. Our Mosel Bike and Barge Trip in August was a huge success!

Our goal as a council is to keep our local skiers interested and aware of industry changes and news. We share all information that affects their snow adventures with safety, equipment, and resort information with individual club representatives at our monthly meetings.

We have full capacity for the FWSA Ski Week in Jackson Hole in February 2023, and our international trip is a river cruise on the Douro River in Portugal, scheduled for October 4-14, 2023. Anyone interested in traveling with our group, please contact Annelie Ford at [traveldir@ski-sandiego.org](mailto:traveldir@ski-sandiego.org).

We are very thankful for the clubs we have in the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs. Our clubs have offered many destinations for skiing and snowboarding both domestically and internationally. Some clubs consistently have strong race teams each winter. Other clubs specialize in their athletic choices here in San Diego. Another club has many retired folks that no longer ski but want to maintain their friendships of several decades by joining in social activities. One very distinctive club owns their own chalet at Mammoth Mountain and offers it to members only using a reservation system. We truly have clubs for every age group and interest level in our beautiful city.

*San Diego Council members enjoy a great day of skiing and boarding at Aspen at the 2022 Far West Ski Week! photo: Annelie Ford*

**Action Ski Club** is an active social group of singles and couples 21 and up, that offers year-round activities designed for all types of fun seekers. It is a friendly, informal bunch who enjoy skiing and snowboarding, dining out, biking, rollerblading, holiday sushi boat cruises, hiking, happy hours, paddle boarding, kayaking and camping. Several philanthropy events are conducted annually. Ski Trips planned for the upcoming season include: Mammoth Mountain Annual Super Bowl, CA; Salt Lake City, UT; Sun Valley, ID; Mt. Bachelor, OR; Sun Peaks, Canada; Zermatt, Switzerland; and Frisco, CO. [www.actionski.org](http://www.actionski.org)

**Don Diego Ski Club** was founded in 1959, is still going strong, and wants YOU to join and become part of the great San Diego to Mammoth tradition. There are plenty of other social and recreational activities to participate in with the club year-round so check the website for events. A special shout-out to any prospective member who would be interested in forming a pickleball team! DDSC offers year-round activities, including weekly

SAN DIEGO COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS



Many clubs and councils offer summer travel opportunities. Favorite destinations include Bike and Barge adventures along many of Europe's famous rivers and coasts...  
...the Danube, Rhine, Loire, Mosel & the Croatian Coast!



ABOVE: Far West Ski Association Ski Councils offer numerous travel opportunities around the world for their members, all year long. These San Diego bikers traveled to Europe to experience a Mosel River Bike & Barge Trip. LEFT: The Mosel is a west-bank tributary of the Rhine River that flows across northeastern France and western Germany. What a great experience! photos provided by Chris Gill

hikes, weekly bike rides, monthly happy hours, regular picnics, house parties, museum tours and more. [www.dondiegosc.clubexpress.com](http://www.dondiegosc.clubexpress.com)

**Get Off Your Rockers** Get Off Your Rockers (GOYR) membership has over 325 members. New activities of dancing, camping, bowling, and bridge have been added to a wide variety of water sports, pickleball, foot golf, biking, birding, tennis, golf, theatre shows, and historic tours. Socializing is fun at summer picnics at Mission Bay and happy hours throughout the county. Trips were taken this year to eastern Europe and Mackinac Island in Michigan, with a New Mexico adventure planned for July 2023. The club continues to donate volunteer time to local community organizations. Follow us on Facebook! [www.getoffyourrockers.org](http://www.getoffyourrockers.org)

**North Island Snowdrifters** not only enjoy skiing and snowboarding but keeps busy having fun throughout the year with social and other sport activities.

Last season the club traveled to Copper Mountain, CO, as well as, enjoyed several Mammoth Mountain bus trips. This year they are looking forward to Schweitzer Resort, ID. Summer meetings are really potluck picnics, while winter meetings are indoor social hours. Club members stay in shape with hiking, paddle boarding, bicycling, walking, outdoor games, dancing and whatever else strikes their fancy. [www.nisnowdrifter.com](http://www.nisnowdrifter.com)

**Pacific Rim Alliance** is active in San Diego with skiing, snowboarding, sight-seeing, photography, travel and public awareness. The club offers many other events including water skiing, wake boarding and bike rides. The Annual Winemaker Dinner in the fall features a fabulous 7 Course Gourmet Dinner with Wine Pairings, and generates funds donated to Can Do MS (formerly the Jimmie Heuga Foundation). Trips are offered to Cabo San Lucas and travel to Big White, Canada annually. [www.pacificrimalliance.org](http://www.pacificrimalliance.org)

**San Diego Ski Club** has its own chalet for members at Mammoth Mountain, and is maintained by annual work parties by club members and their families. This is a very dynamic, family-oriented club offering many activities including holiday parties, Warren Miller ski movie events, an annual member appreciation barbecue, end of year beach party and potluck. The club's altruistic efforts include an Adopt a Highway program and contributions to food drives for enlisted military families. San Diego Ski Club is open to both skiers and snowboarders and proud of their successful race team. [www.sdskiclub.org](http://www.sdskiclub.org)

**Torrey Pines Ski Club** members enjoy many various social activities. Monthly meetings are held outdoors at Mission Bay, a monthly Happy Hour, and members lead walks around town. Game nights are fun and members enjoy local tours. Summer concerts in Coronado are back, and other outdoor theatre includes the Moonlight Amphitheater in Vista. A highlight

this year was the return of the Summer Pops series at the new Rady Shell on the Embarcadero. Midweek ski trips to Mammoth are hosted with Don Diego Ski Club. Check the club out on Facebook and at [www.tpscds.org](http://www.tpscds.org).

We all look forward to an exciting upcoming ski season. [www.sdcsc.clubexpress.com](http://www.sdcsc.clubexpress.com)

**Stay safe and see you on the mountain!**

**San Diego Council of Ski Clubs**  
[www.sdcsc.clubexpress.com](http://www.sdcsc.clubexpress.com)  
President: Ira Lindenfeld  
inljel@cox.net

**San Diego Council of Ski Clubs**  
**Member Clubs & Contact Information**

**ACTION SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB**  
[www.actionski.org](http://www.actionski.org)  
President: Roger Hiltbold  
prez@actionski.org



Members share memories at the Torrey Pines Ski Club's 60th Anniversary Dinner held over the summer. LEFT TO RIGHT: Brad Davis, Louise Oliverio, Ira Lindenfeld, Debbie Schroeder, Janie Lindenfeld, Barbara Blase and Cheryl Buice. photo provided by Ira Lindenfeld

**DON DIEGO SKI CLUB**  
[www.dondiegosc.clubexpress.com](http://www.dondiegosc.clubexpress.com)  
 President: Leslie Anderson  
 anderson.leslie988@gmail.com

**GET OFF YOUR ROCKERS SKI CLUB**  
[www.getoffyourrockers.org](http://www.getoffyourrockers.org)  
 President: Eleanor Bolen  
 Bolener977@gmail.com

**NORTH ISLAND SNOWDRIFTERS**  
[www.nisnowdrifter.com](http://www.nisnowdrifter.com)  
 President: Kris Watkin  
 president@nisnowdrifters.com

**PACIFIC RIM ALLIANCE**  
[www.pacificrimalliance.org](http://www.pacificrimalliance.org)  
 President: Catherine Ohl  
 ohl@acatmeowz.com

**SAN DIEGO SKI CLUB**  
[www.sdskiclub.org](http://www.sdskiclub.org)  
 President: Bill Brick  
 bbrick@roadrunner.com

**TORREY PINES SKI CLUB**  
[www.tpscsd.org](http://www.tpscsd.org)  
 President: Hobe Schroeder  
 hobeschr@aol.com



Club members in the North Island Snowdrifters club know how to have a great time! A group of 40 skiers and riders traveled to Copper Mountain, Colorado to enjoy the slopes and the wonderful snow conditions! From left to right: Josh Goldsmith, Claudia Bertelli, Tom Wascher, and David Lau. photo provided by Mary Jo King



Sierra League junior racers show off their medals at the Far West Racing Association Championships at Mammoth Mountain. photo by Jo Simpson

## Sierra League & Council

by Jo Simpson,  
 President

Our eight Sierra Council clubs and race teams are looking forward to a fun ski season and winter social activities. They would love to have new members join in the fun. Our larger clubs offer a variety of year-round activities, including golf, tennis, campouts, hiking, bike riding and trips to summer outdoor productions. Their membership meetings provide additional opportunities for social interaction, as do their parties and happy hours.

Sierra Council clubs enthusiastically welcome new members to join in their trips, snowsports and social activities, and members enthusiastically participate in the Far West Ski Association trips. The council is looking forward to the 2023 North American Ski Week at Jackson Hole.

Our council spans a large geographic area in Nevada and northern California. There are two Sierra Council ski clubs in Las Vegas - the **Las Vegas Alpine Ski and Snowboard Club**

**Race with us...  
 It's exciting!**

and the **Las Vegas Ski, Snowboard and Sports Club**. They offer winter ski trips, hiking, and year-round social activities.

The **Tahoe Donner Senior Alpine Ski Club** members mostly live in Tahoe Donner. They enjoy group ski days at Lake Tahoe ski resorts throughout the winter, as well as, social activities.

The **RU Ski Club** draws primarily from the Bay Area. As the name indicates, many of their members are Russian.

In northern Nevada, the **Reno Ski and Recreation Club** offers a full schedule of social activities throughout the year, as well as, summer camping trips and group ski days at Lake Tahoe resorts.

The **Top Gun** Ski Club race team members include mostly active and retired military members and airline employees in northern Nevada and the Lake Tahoe area who enjoy racing.



**TOP: Reno Ski & Recreation Club members enjoy a bike ride at Palisades Tahoe.**  
photo by Holly Coughlin

**LOWER LEFT: Gary and Sherrie Rose pose at the Reno Ski & Recreation Club ugly sweater party.** photo by Sue Jacox

**Bobbie Beaudoin plays cornhole at a Reno Ski & Recreation Club campout.** Photo by Sue Jacox

▶ The **Sugar Bowl Ski Club's** members live in the San Francisco Bay area and call Sugar Bowl Ski Resort their home resort.

The **Sequoia Ski Club** members mostly live in Visalia, California.

Sierra offers a direct membership option to area skiers who want to race and travel with our council but are not interested in joining a year-round social club.

Recreational ski racing is a key activity of our council. We

share the race courses with the Bay Area Snow Sports Council's Singles and Open Leagues, and typically schedule six to eight races during the season. This collaboration keeps participation costs affordable and enhances the racing experience.

Sierra racers span all ability levels, and all skiers and boarders are welcome. Any skier or boarder who can make linked turns can have a fun time on the race course competing with skiers of similar ability. It's fun to meet and engage in friendly competi-

tion with members of other clubs.

Junior racers are welcome if accompanied by a racing parent or guardian, and they race for free! Our racers are generous with their time to introduce new racers to the world of friendly competition.

Check out our clubs. Sign up for a trip or activity. Ski clubs are a great way to meet active adults who enjoy outdoor recreation and a wide range of social activities.

## Sierra League & Council

[www.sierraleague.com](http://www.sierraleague.com)

President: Jo Simpson

(775) 787-7556

[jo\\_simpson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net)

## Sierra League & Council

**Member Clubs & Contact Information**

### ALPINE SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB

Las Vegas, Nevada

[www.alpineskiandsnowboardclub.com](http://www.alpineskiandsnowboardclub.com)

President: Craig Caples

[alpineskiclub@embarqmail.com](mailto:alpineskiclub@embarqmail.com)

### LAS VEGAS SKI, SNOWBOARD AND SPORTS CLUB

Las Vegas, Nevada

[www.lasvegasskiclub.com](http://www.lasvegasskiclub.com)

President: Mike Henderson

[eparco2@cox.net](mailto:eparco2@cox.net)

### RENO SKI AND RECREATION CLUB

Reno, Nevada

[www.renoskiandrec.com](http://www.renoskiandrec.com)

President: Dianne Hilliard

[dihilliard@msn.com](mailto:dihilliard@msn.com)

### RU SKI CLUB

Campbell, California

[www.bosin.net/ruski](http://www.bosin.net/ruski)

President: Pavel Bosin

[pavel@bosin.net](mailto:pavel@bosin.net)

### SEQUOIA SKI CLUB

Visalia, California

[www.sequoiaskiclub.com](http://www.sequoiaskiclub.com)

President: Woody Hogan

[whhiii@hotmail.com](mailto:whhiii@hotmail.com)

### SUGAR BOWL SKI CLUB

[www.sugarbowlskiclub.org](http://www.sugarbowlskiclub.org)

Norden, California

President: Dan Gross

[dan@gross.name](mailto:dan@gross.name)

### TAHOE-DONNER SENIOR ALPINE SKI CLUB

[www.tdski.com](http://www.tdski.com)

President: Stephen O'Brien

[stephob@comcast.net](mailto:stephob@comcast.net)

### TOP GUN SKI CLUB

President: Greg Peairs

[shiftyt@aol.com](mailto:shiftyt@aol.com) ▲

**Join a Race Team near you.**

**All ability levels and ages welcome!**



# FWSA 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Scuba Dive Trip

## Turks & Caicos Islands

**3<sup>RD</sup> Largest Barrier Reef System in the World!**



September 16 - 23, 2023

**Diver Land Package = \$2211.00 Standard Room - Double Occupancy**

**Non-Diver Land Package = \$1945.00 Standard Room - Double Occupancy**

**Single Supplement Standard Room Add = \$527.00**

**Lodging Upgrades Available – contact Randy Lew for details**

**(Air transportation not included in above pricing)**

### Price Includes:

- 7 nights at East Bay Resort in South Caicos – Dbl. Occupancy with all meals daily
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Non-motorized water sports and activities
- Resort fees, taxes & staff gratuities. Dive gratuities NOT included.
- 6 days of 2 tank boat dives, 5 days of afternoon boat dives & complimentary use of dive computer
- PADI CDC Center
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Resort Amenities
- Welcome Party and Farewell Dinner



*Enjoy the beautiful  
wildlife*



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



*Dive and enjoy the  
wildlife including turtles*



*Enjoy a Beautiful Resort*



### **Contact:**

**Randy Lew**

**FWSA Dive Trip Leader**

**829 SE 11<sup>th</sup> Place**

**Battle Ground, WA 98604**

**Cell: 530/304-0802**

**E-mail: FWSA13Randy@telis.net**

**Debbie Stewart**

**FWSA VP of Int'l Travel**

**430 S. Church St.**

**Visalia, CA 93277**

**Cell: 559/737-0882**

**FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net**

"The Voice of the Western Skier"

90<sup>th</sup> Annual

*Adventure Awaits in  
Boise!*



# Far West Ski Association Convention

June 15 - 18, 2023

at the

**Boise Centre**

850 S. Front Street, Boise ID

[www.boisecentre.com](http://www.boisecentre.com)



*FWSA Convention 2023*

Hosted by the *Intermountain Ski Council & Bogus Basin Ski Club*

## The Grove Hotel

245 S. Capitol Blvd., Boise, ID 83702.

[www.grovehotelboise.com](http://www.grovehotelboise.com)

**Reservations: Call 888-961-5000 or 208-489-2222 Option 1,**

Group Name: **Far West Ski Association.**

**Room Rates per night plus tax** single or double occupancy **\$162**

## Hotel Features

- The Grove Fitness Center and Spa
- Trillium Restaurant & The Bar
- Rates are available 3 days pre and post Convention
- Walking distance to shops, restaurants, museums, theaters & more

## Transportation

- Air Transportation is via Boise Airport (BOI), located 10 minutes from Boise Centre.
- The Grove Hotel offers free airport shuttle service.  
Call 208-333-8000 when you arrive. Ask for the Front Desk for ground transportation.

## Convention Highlights

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

## Optional Activities

### • Thursday

- Rafting on Payette River
- Bike Ride through Boise
- Pub Crawl

### • Friday

- 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
- A Day on the Mountain, Bogus Basin Mountain Recreation Area

Debbi Kor  
FWSA Convention Chairperson  
[conventionchair@fwsa.org](mailto:conventionchair@fwsa.org)  
503-314-7078

Jennifer Coutts  
Intermountain Host Council  
Convention Coordinator  
[hostconventionchair@fwsa.org](mailto:hostconventionchair@fwsa.org)  
817-832-5364

A portion of the Silent Auction proceeds will benefit TBA.

[www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)