

Far West News *Flash*

September, 2022

Far West Ski Association

IKON PASS ADDS NEW RESORTS: Alterra Mountain Company's Ikon Pass has added Lotte Arai Resort in Japan and Panorama Mountain Resort in British Columbia. With these additions, the pass will now provide access to more than 50 destinations in 10 countries for the 2022-23 season. Full Ikon Pass holders will have access to seven days at both resorts with no blackout dates. Ikon Base Pass holders will have five days at each with holidays blacked out at Panorama. Panorama is also available on the Ikon Session Pass. It is the fourth mountain resort and fifth destination in British Columbia on the Ikon Pass, joining Revelstoke Mountain Resort, RED Mountain, Cypress Mountain, and CMH Heli-Skiing & Summer Adventures.

VAIL RESORTS TO LIMIT TICKET SALES IN 2023: After "Apocalyptic Lift Lines" last year, Vail Resorts will cap ticket sales at all 37 of their North American resorts this year. EPIC Pass holders, however, will not be affected! This is not just a high season or a holiday plan. The company will set a daily cap at each resort, and it will be in effect all season long. Vail will show the availability of daily tickets on each resort's website, and skiers can purchase as far in advance as they want. Once lift tickets are sold out for the day, there will be no walk ups or further tickets sold. For Vail Resorts, especially at their largest and busiest ski areas such as Breckenridge, Vail Mountain, Heavenly, and Stowe, it comes down to the balance between preserving the ski experience and keeping the sport accessible to all guests. James O'Donnell, president of Vail Resorts' Mountain Division states "this will help us provide our guests with an Experience of a Lifetime this winter".

HISTORIC CLIMATE BILL EXPECTED TO BENEFIT SKI INDUSTRY: In the recent Inflation Reduction Act, signed by President Biden, the package includes the largest climate, energy, and environmental justice investment (\$370 billion) in U.S. history, from which the U.S. ski industry stands to benefit. The legislation will invest billions in sustainable forestry, wildfire risk reduction, and drought response, among other provisions—all of which will be helpful to the entire ski industry long-term. Bonnie Hickey, the sustainability director at Bridger Bowl, notes several positive potential outcomes from the bill. In Montana, she believes that the investment in renewable energy will create in-state jobs, bolstering the local economy. "Anything that is good for Montana's economy is good for the ski area". Bridger Bowl also stands to benefit from investments in wildfire risk reduction and water security. The ski area had wildfire approach within a few miles last year, and much of the West and the Plains have suffered from ongoing drought. Aspen Skiing Company, Vail Resorts, and Arapahoe Basin all tweeted out support for the bill as it was making its way through Congress, as well, as did NSAA.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

NORTH AMERICAN SKI WEEK: Jackson Hole Mountain Resort will be the destination for the 2023 Ski Week. Dates for this trip are: **January 21 – 28, 2023**. Stay tuned for further information, or contact Nancy Ellis, VP of North American Travel: fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net.

FWSA MINI SKI WEEK: Taos, New Mexico will be the destination for the **2023 Mini Ski Week**. Dates for this trip will be February 25 - March 2, 2023. Sara Clemons, with Sports America Tours, will be the Tour Operator for the mini ski trip. We will have online registration through Sports America. Trip information and sign-up details will be available soon on the fwsa.org website.

FWSA 2023 INTERNATIONAL TRIP: *Registration is now OPEN* for The Far West 2023 International Ski Week, which will be to *Zermatt, Switzerland*, with an extension to *Costa del Sol, Southern Spain and Mallorca*. For further information, contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel: fwsaintltravel@prodigy.net

FAR WEST COUNCILS

NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL: *HURRY! There's still time to register:* Northwest Ski Club Council will be holding the 15th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, on Friday, September 30, 2022 at McMenamin's Edgefield, in Troutdale, OR. The tournament was postponed due to inclement weather at this year's Convention. We will be having a 10 a.m. Shotgun Start, on that Friday morning. Lunch will be provided at the Parshall home, following. Prizes and awards will also be done at that time. Please contact Sheri Parshall if you are interested in playing: cougskier@aol.com.

SIERRA LEAGUE AND COUNCIL: The Las Vegas Ski Club is supporting the *Huntman's Senior World Games*, October 3-15, 2022, in St. George, Utah. For those of us who want to remain in shape for the snow skiing season, we recommend attending these Games. Pat Smith, new member of LVSC, has attended as a volunteer, spectator, and as a registrant for mountain bicycling in 2021. Since the Games have over 34 sports, you may identify as a potential athlete and list yourself under "Partner Finds." Check it out. The experiences of "Active Aging" and "Living Your Best Life" are certainly celebrated! Members interested in learning more can sign into: www.seniorgames.net. You can also contact Pat directly at: psmith7959@icloud.com

INTERMOUNTAIN SKI COUNCIL: The Northern Wasatch Ski & Social Club (Utah) held its first fundraising event on Aug 20th in Mountain Green to raise funds for the Ogden Valley Adaptive Sports (OVAS) program. They organized a "Yoga In the Park" fundraiser, led by a certified instructor and local resident. They also held a raffle drawing with items donated by local merchants. Between yoga class fees, raffle tickets and donations the club raised \$735 for OVAS. The money raised will go towards equipment and scholarships for OVAS participants.

LOS ANGELES COUNCIL OFSKI CLUBS: "Thailand with a Twist". The Conejo Ski & Sports Club is planning a custom, action-packed itinerary developed specifically for members of their club who are looking for just the right combination of outdoor adventure, cultural exploration, and relaxation. 16 days, 15 nights (5-Star hotels), roundtrip air on Japan Airlines, with 25 meals provided. The dates are November 18 – December 4, 2022. Begin your trip in Bangkok, and end it in Phuket, with lots of great stops in-between. Contact Carolyn Phillips for more information: phillipscaroc@gmail.com, or 805-796-7015.

FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION

CONVENTION 2022 PHOTOS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: If you were one of the many attendees at this year's convention, you were part of the Phil & Steve Mahre "experience". These two "wowed" our guests on Saturday, at lunchtime, as our Keynote Speakers, and then joined us again for dinner. Many, many photos were taken by our Convention Photographer, Adam Bacher. Far West would like to offer up copies of the photos to those who had their picture taken with these former Olympians. For a nominal donation of just \$20, YOU may purchase these awesome photos. All funds will be directed to the Far West Ski Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations will be contributed to its missions of: **Building for the Future** - Athletic Scholarships for Junior Racers, **Rehabilitation and Renewal** - adaptive ski programs, **Sustaining Snowsports** - Fly Girls and Women's Ski Jumping, and **Preserving the Legacy** - snowsports history. You can designate which program (s) your donation would support. Send payment, made payable to FWSF, to Randy Lew: 829 SE 11th Pl., Battle Ground, WA 98604. An electronic copy of the photo will be sent to you.

Stay Safe! Stay Healthy!