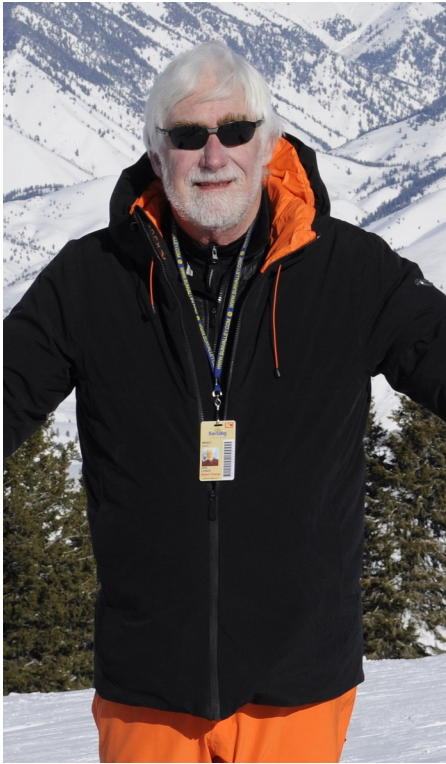


Western Ski Heritage Prize

John W. Lundin

Work to Preserve Ski Jumping History, Expressing Norwegian Identity, and its Role in the Development of Skiing in America



John W. Lundin is a prolific writer and award-winning author of books and articles regarding ski jumping, ski resorts and Sun Valley Ski Club. His book, *Skiing Sun Valley: a History from Union Pacific to the Holdings*, published in 2020, is an in-depth history of the country's first destination ski resort, where modern skiing in this country began.

During the COVID-19 quarantine, John also published two additional books, *Sun Valley, Ketchum & the Wood River Valley*, and *Ski Jumping in Washington State: a Nordic tradition*."

The second book is a companion to an exhibit on ski jumping at the Nordic Museum that he helped prepare.



He also wrote *Early Skiing on Snoqualmie Pass*, published in 2017. Both this book and his recent book on Ski Jumping in Washington State, were winners of the Skade Award from the International Skiing History Association (ISHA).

His most recent publication is a history of the Sun Valley Ski Club, founded in 1936.

John was born and raised in Seattle. He received B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Washington and a Master of Urban and Regional Planning from George Washington University. He practiced law in Washington, D.C. and Seattle as a federal attorney, and as a private practice trial attorney in federal court.

Lundin has introduced the history of ski jumping in this country to many thousands of people. Parts of his 2021 exhibit at the National Nordic Museum are available online (including his lecture and interview of Olympic ski jumpers). The Sun Valley exhibit was available during the March, 2022 Ski Week in Sun Valley. His ski jumping exhibit at the Washington State Ski & Snowboard Museum is ongoing.

His TV show on ski jumping in Sun Valley continues to attract viewers online, and his magazine articles are accessible to the public. His March 22 article, "Sun Valley's Ruud Mountain: the Forgotten Era of Ski Jumping," in *Skiing History* magazine can be seen online, and is a permanent part of ISHA's historical collection.

Awareness of the rich history of ski jumping has grown and its significance to this country has become much better known as the result of his work.

Collectively, he has raised awareness of how important ski jumping was to this country. Ski Jumping was brought to this country by Norwegian immi-

grants, which for decades was the most popular form of skiing. International ski jumpers competed all over the northern tier of our country, the Rocky Mountains and in California, against U.S. jumpers.

Tournaments regularly attracted 5,000-10,000 spectators, and national ones 100,000. It was not until the latter half of the 1930's that Alpine skiing became popular, later overtaking Nordic skiing in appeal and popularity.

John is now working internationally to link our ski jumping history with the old world. In July 2022 he met with the Director of the Holmenkollen Ski Museum in Oslo, Norway, and they are pursuing a formal relationship between that museum and the Washington State Ski & Snowboard Museum.

Lundin is a founding member and on the board of the museum. He has offered to help prepare an exhibit for their upcoming 100th Anniversary, on "Ski Jumping in America: Norway's Gift to the New World."

The Western Ski Heritage Award is sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation. The winner is awarded a trip for two to Steamboat.

