

# Far West NewsFlash

November, 2023

**ALTERRA PURCHASES MIKE WIEGELE HELI-SKI:** Alterra Mountain Company has initiated the purchase of Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing (MWHS) in Blue River, BC, Canada. Officials at Alterra said the addition will complement the company's BC based CMH Heli-Skiing and Summer Adventures operation, and is expected to be completed late this year, pending closing conditions that include regulatory approvals.

**THE STEEPEST RUN IN THE COUNTRY:** *Rambo*, located at *Crested Butte Ski Resort* in Colorado, holds the prestigious title of being the steepest ski run in the United States. The pitch is set at an astounding 55 degrees, meaning you'll be holding on for dear life almost every turn. You'll be dodging trees and navigating through moguls, increasing difficulty in making it to the bottom of the run. Also lurking beneath the surface, are hidden rocks and stumps that can create a major problem if one wrong turn is taken. On top of all of this, you're fully committed once you drop in on Rambo. The only way to the bottom is successfully completing the run. Have fun, but be careful!

**SKI TOWNS DOMINATE MOST EXPENSIVE HOUSING IN THE U.S.:** Lending Tree recently published a report analyzing micropolitan areas with populations between 10,000– 50,000 to find the 50 areas with the most expensive median home values. It may come as no surprise that the list is dominated by ski towns known as popular vacation spots. *Jackson, WY*, comes in second, with *Breckenridge, CO*, third and *Steamboat Springs, CO*, a close fourth. These ski areas come only after Vineyard Haven, MA, the tiny town on Martha's Vineyard, where presidents and celebrities are known to vacation. Following after are: Hailey, ID, near Sun Valley, then Gardnerville Ranchos, NV, Tahoe, and Hood River, OR, by Mt Hood, round out the top seven.

**TOP 30 SKI RESORTS IN THE WEST:** The results of the 2024 SKI Reader Resort Survey are in, and here are the TOP 5 ranked resorts: *Taos Ski Valley #5; Aspen/Snowmass #4; Sun Valley #3, Snowbasin Resort #2; and #1 Powder Mountain*. A lot of other top favorite areas include: Keystone Resort (30), Heavenly Mountain Resort (27), Breckenridge Ski Resort (25), Steamboat Resort (16), Telluride Ski Resort (11), Jackson Hole Mountain Resort (8), and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (6).

**NSCF SILENT AUCTION:** The *NSCF 2023 Virtual Silent Auction* was a huge success with \$18,512.56 raised so far. Thanks to all who bid and who donated items to sell. A huge thank you goes to Michael Calderone, NSCF Vice President, who has masterminded the auctions since they began in 2018. There are still some items left to sell including a pair of skis, clothing, accessories and lodging. If you are interested in an item, you can get it for the list price plus postage by contacting Michael at [skimikec@aol.com](mailto:skimikec@aol.com). To see the available items go to the auction website <https://www.32auctions.com/NSCFAuction2023>. The auction proceeds help the NSCF to further pursue our goals of working with ski councils across the country and with our ski industry partners to serve member clubs and to influence issues relevant to snow sports. Additionally, NSCF has donated a box of children's snow pants and jackets to the Stratton Foundation which helps hundreds of low-income children across southern Vermont.

**SAVE THE DATE:** **Thursday June 6, through Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.** These are the dates set for the 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Far West Ski Association Convention. Convention will be held at the beautiful *Atlantis Casino Resort Spa*, In Reno, Nevada....co-hosted by *Bay Area Snow Sport Council* and *Sierra League & Council*. Watch for registration documentation to come your way in mid-February, 2024. Please make a note now that hotel registration will close **MAY 16<sup>th</sup>**. We're busy planning events and activities now, so stay tuned.

## FAR WEST TRAVEL

**FWSA 2024 NORTH AMERICAN SKI WEEK:** *Steamboat Ski Resort* is the location of the next North American Ski Week. The dates are **January 27 - February 3, 2024**. The trip includes: 7 nights lodging, a Welcome Party, a Farewell Party, and lots of fun with your Far West friends and family. Racing will be available, along with Council get-togethers, and many opportunities to wine, dine and shop your way through Steamboat. Lift tickets will be: \$533-\$622 for a 5-6 day ticket; or \$472-\$561 for Seniors. Steamboat is an **IKON** Pass Resort. IKON Holders can purchase a 6<sup>th</sup> day for just \$72. Go to [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) to get all of your Council Trip Leader contact information and request the Council's online registration link. For further information, contact Nancy Ellis: [fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net).

**FWSA 2024 INTERNATIONAL SKI WEEK:** **THERE IS SOME AVAILABILITY STILL!** The 2024 International Ski Week will be to *Madonna di Campiglio, Italy*, with an extension trip to Northern Italy. The dates for Ski Week are **February 25-March 3, 2024**. This trip will include 7 nights lodging at the 4 Star *Hotel Relais des Alpes*. The lodging package includes daily breakfast & 5 nights' dinner at the hotel providing 2 nights to dine out on your own in Madonna. *We will be offering an optional day tour during the week if one chooses to explore the local culture.* The **FULL EPIC Pass (7 consecutive days)** is also valid on this trip. **Skirama Dolomiti** can be used at: *Madonna di Campiglio, Pinzolo, Folgarida-Marilleva, Pejo, Ponte di Legno-Tonale, Andalo-Fai della Paganella, Monte Bondone, Folgaria-Lavarone* for. The extension trip - **March 3-10, 2024** - will be in Northern Italy, which will include Milan, Lake Como, Verona, balsamic tasting in Modena, La Specia/Cinque Terra, Portovenere...with day tours included and free time to explore on your own. Initial trip registration will be handled in the traditional method – you will complete the forms and send along with a check payment for your initial registration 1st payment. Subsequent payment may be made by check, cashier's check, money order OR via our online Pay Pal Credit Card process. For further information, contact: Debbie Stewart, [fwsaintltrlv@prodigy.net](mailto:fwsaintltrlv@prodigy.net).

**FWSA 2024 NORTH AMERICAN MINI SKI WEEK:** **COPPER MOUNTAIN** will be the destination for the 2024 Mini Ski Week. The dates of the trip are **March 17-22, 2024**. Noni Love, of Copper Mountain will be our representative host, while Sara Clemons, President of Sports America Tours will be the tour operator for this particular trip. For further information, contact Nancy Ellis: [fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net)

**FWSA 2025 NORTH AMERICAN SKI WEEK:** The North American Ski Week, 2025 will be to **BANFF, CANADA**. Dates for this trip will be **January 25 – February 1, 2025**. Steve Pampel, of *Ski Big 3* will be our Banff representative, and Sandy Gaudette, of *SkiGroup.Net* will be the tour operator. For further information, contact Nancy Ellis: [fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net).

## FAR WEST MEMBER BENEFITS

**FWSA MEMBER BENEFITS PROGRAM:** Check out some of the latest Member Benefits on our website. We've had renewals from many of our Lodging Partners, as well as THREE **NEW** ones: *Outbound Mammoth (formerly Sierra Nevada Resort)*. Receive 15% to 20% off lodging with your FWSA ID. *Hilton Garden Inn, Old Mill* is offering 12% discounted lodging in Bend, Oregon, and the *Hampton Inn, Old Mill*, is offering the same 12% Discount, also in Bend. *Peak 10 Skin Products* is offering a 25% discount on all product, including a **FREE** 15 Consultation to determine which products are right for you. Try their "Save My Soles" foot cream after skiing for those sore feet. *Ship Skis* is back, as well as *The Transportation Network* in Park City and the Reno/Tahoe Area. *The Powder House* in the Tahoe area offers 25% off on ski and board rentals and **FREE** boot fitting. Visit [www.fwsa.org/memnercorner](http://www.fwsa.org/memnercorner) and click on "benefits" to see what all we have listed there.

## FAR WEST COUNCILS

**LOS ANGELES COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS:** **ONE SPOT OPEN!** *Beach Cities Ski Club* has one spot left for a male sharing a room with twin beds with another male. Trip date is March 2-9, 2024 to Snowmass, CO. Trip participants are responsible for their own airfare, lift tickets and trip insurance. Cost is \$1,899.00. Premier lodging at Terracehouse, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condos, with full kitchens. Please contact [bcskiclub61@gmail.com](mailto:bcskiclub61@gmail.com) or go to our website [www.bcskiclub.org](http://www.bcskiclub.org).

*Wailers Ski Club* is holding their Holiday Soiree, Saturday, December 2. Come mingle and jingle the night away at the annual holiday celebration. Ticket price includes: Bits & Bites, beverages (1 adult beverage), DJ, dancing, and a photo booth set up to add to the fun. Tickets are \$45 for members, \$52 for guests...until November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Then, the price increases to \$55 for members. Contact the Wailers Ski Club @ [www.wailerskiclub.org](http://www.wailerskiclub.org).

**SAN DIEGO COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS:** Don Diego Ski Club is planning a number of trips to Mammoth this year. The dates of those trips are: January 7-12; January 28-February 2; March 3-8; and April 7-12. For further information, contact Jean McCasey: [jlmccasey@yahoo.com](mailto:jlmccasey@yahoo.com).

## FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION

**FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION "YUM" FUNDRAISER:** Far West Ski Foundation needs your sweet support! We're selling yummy See's *Candies* for our latest fundraiser. The deadline to make a purchase is: **December 1, 2023.**

The overarching objective of the Far West Ski Foundation is to sustain snowsports to ensure that the inspirational experiences of snowsports will remain for future generations. FWSF missions are:

***Building for the Future*** - with its Athletic Scholarship Program for junior racers.

***Rehabilitation and Renewal*** - with its support of adaptive and rehabilitative snowsports programs.

***Sustaining Snowsports*** - supporting snowsports industry initiatives, such as, climate control, youth and family development, and diversity.

***Preserving the Legacy*** - with research, preservation, education and publication of snowsports history.

**FWSF** is an autonomous public benefit corporation, in compliance with law and regulations under Section 501c3 of the IRS Code. For additional information please contact: Jane Wyckoff, FWSF Vice President, 949.933.9607, [janewyckoff99@gmail.com](mailto:janewyckoff99@gmail.com).

[Visit our shop](#) to pick and choose your favorites and buy your candy online. It's that easy!

*Happy Thanksgiving!*