

Spring 2016

THE COUNCILMAN

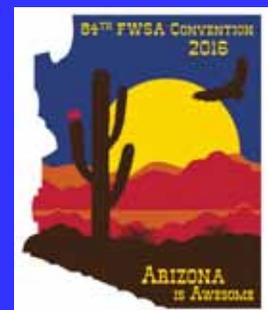


Junior Racer, A.J. Hurt, invited to a European race with the US Ski Team and placed #2 in GS

**Far West Ski Association
84th Annual Convention
Scottsdale, Arizona
June 9-12, 2016**

See inside for details

"Arizona is Awesome"



An Official Publication of the Far West Ski Association - The Voice of the Western Skier



Sonoran Desert in the Spring

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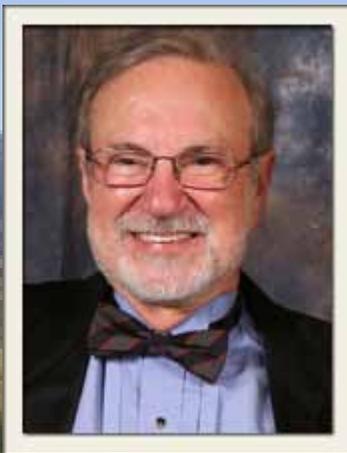
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Connie Burdette
Editor, The Councilman



STEVE COXEN PRESIDENT

Greetings!

I hope you are enjoying one of the best ski seasons out West in a long time. El Nino has been very good to us with early snow and plenty of it. Oregon, Washington and British Columbia ski areas have been setting snowfall records.

I would like to extend a big thank you to **Nancy Ellis** and her travel staff for a terrific FWSA Ski Week in Telluride, Colorado. We had close to 400 participants, which was our limit because of the size of the banquet facilities. I am sure there were many more who wish they could have been there with us. We were greeted at the beginning of the week with several days of fresh snow. We had lots of powder and sunny skies from mid-week on. Many thanks to **Patrick Rothe(Telluride)** and **Gloria Saiya-Woods(Ski.com)** for their extraordinary efforts in providing a great experience. Our 2016 Mini Ski Week was held at Crested Butte in late March.

The 2017 FWSA Ski Week will be held at Breckenridge, another fabulous Colorado ski resort. Dates are January 28-February 4. Book your spot with your council early.

Approximately 70 participants attended the 2016 FWSA international ski trip to Cortina, Italy with an extension to Florence and Rome. Debbie and George Stewart have worked with our tour operators to create an excellent international travel program with an adventure trip to England and Ireland in September 2016 and our annual scuba dive trip will be to Fiji in late September 2016. Looking ahead to 2017 our international ski week will be in St. Anton, Austria and we are considering a summer ski and adventure trip to Chile.

Our Athletic Scholarship Program continues to grow under the excellent leadership of **David Krupp**. With the generosity of our industry partners, **Whitefish Mountain Resort, Grouse Mountain Lodge** and **Karbon Ski-wear** we were able to award \$11,425 in scholarships to 13 deserving junior racers. Our 84th Convention "Arizona is Awesome" will be hosted by the Arizona Ski Council at the DoubleTree Resort by Hilton, Paradise Valley in Scottsdale, Arizona June 9-12, 2016. **Arleigh Meiners**, Arizona Council President, **Linda Westlund**, Host Council Convention Coordinator, and **Jane Wyckoff**, FWSA Convention Chair have some very exciting activities planned for us including the addition of several optional tours and our annual pub crawl on Thursday. Optional activities on Friday include the 10th Annual Michael German Golf Tournament, a World Music Experience tour, a spa day and a pool party. We will hold our annual Silent Auction Friday evening. Saturday events include the Travel Industry Expo, educational and public affairs panel sessions, two modules of our Snowsports Leadership Academy and very special guest speakers. Check our website www.fwsa.org for complete information on the Convention activities and to download registration materials.

To all of you I extend a heartfelt thank you for your contributions to the success of your clubs, councils and Far West Ski Association. If you are looking to get more involved in Far West please contact any member of the FWSA board and our committee chairs.

I look forward to seeing you at the 2016 Convention.

Steve Coxen

84th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention

June 9–12, 2016

DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Paradise Valley - Scottsdale
5401 North Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85250-7090
480-947-5400 • www.paradisevalley.doubletree.com

HOSTED BY ARIZONA SKI COUNCIL



Arizona is Awesome

DOUBLE TREE RESORT BY HILTON PARADISE VALLEY - SCOTTSDALE

Reservations call **800-498-7396**

Group Name **Far West Ski Association**

Online Reservations <http://bit.ly/FWSA-2016-Lodging>

Group Code **FWS**

Room Rates per night plus tax single or double occupancy — **\$99**

Room Registration Deadline May 18, 2016

HOTEL FEATURES

- 2 heated pools and whirlpools and poolside bar
- Lighted tennis court & sports court & a 9-hole putting green
- Loggia Lounge and The Palm Cafe
- enFuego Restaurant award winning dining
- NO resort fees, NO parking fee, FREE Wi-Fi in guest rooms
- Rates are available 3 days pre and post Convention based on availability

TRANSPORTATION

- Air transportation is via Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX), located 12 miles from the DoubleTree Resort by Hilton.
- Rental cars and shuttle services are available at the airport.

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

- Silent Auction
- Travel Expo
- Snowsports Leadership Academy
- Keynote Speaker **Jordan Romero**
- Celebrity Speakers
- Public Affairs Panels
- Saturday Awards Luncheon
- Saturday Awards Dinner
- Far West General Meeting & Elections

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Thursday
 - Western Journey– Museum of the West
 - Old Town Scottsdale Tour via Segway
 - Scottsdale Pub Crawl
- Friday
 - 10th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
 - Spa Lamar Day
 - World Music Experience
 - Pool Party

Jane Wyckoff

FWSA Convention Chairperson

janeWyckoff1@cox.net or 949-933-9607

Jeannine Davis

Silent Auction / Travel Expo Chairperson

SilentAuction@fwsa.org or 415-328-2333

Linda Westlund

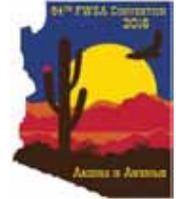
Arizona Host Council Convention Coordinator

HostConvention2016@fwsa.org or 480-216-2010

www.fwsa.org



84th ANNUAL FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION CONVENTION DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Hotel Paradise Valley – Scottsdale, AZ



June 9-12, 2016

WELCOME LETTER

Dear FWSA Club Presidents and Convention Delegates:

Enclosed you will find the registration materials for the **Far West Ski Association’s 84th Annual Convention**, Thursday through Sunday, **June 9-12, 2016** at the DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Hotel Paradise Valley - Scottsdale, hosted by the Arizona Ski Council. We are pleased to be conducting our annual Convention back at this fabulous property. Please read all the materials enclosed in this registration packet carefully.

Deadlines:

- May 9, 2016 is the deadline** for early registration of \$159, a savings of \$16. The price goes up to \$175 on May 9.
- May 9, 2016 is the deadline** for submission of ALL event fees. These include Thursday’s Discover Old Town Scottsdale via Segway, Western Journey-Museum of the West & Fiesta Lunch, Scottsdale’s Entertainment District Pub Crawl, and Friday’s 10th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, Spa Lamar Day, Experience Music of the World (MIM) & Kona Grill Lunch.
- May 23, 2016 is the deadline for fees at \$175.** Fees go up to \$190 beginning May 23.
- Please submit all forms and payments to:
FWSA Registrar, c/o Karen James, 1812 Vickers Drive, Glendale, CA 91208.

Economic Relief Program:

FWSA is again offering an *"economic relief" program*, to provide a ski club the opportunity to send more delegates to the Convention. For every six (6) delegates that have paid the full registration package by the registration deadline of May 9, the club will receive a rebate of one (1) paid registration after the Convention.

Make Your Hotel Reservations NOW!

Lodging at our group rate (double occupancy) is available at the DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Hotel Paradise Valley – Scottsdale. Per our contract, we have **NO RESORT FEES** and **FREE IN-ROOM WI-FI** and **COMPLIMENTARY PARKING**. Refer to the enclosed flyer for the FWSA contracted room rates for our group. The DoubleTree Resort by Hilton is located at 5401 North Scottsdale Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85250-7090, www.paradisevalley.doubletree.com. Make your reservations by calling 800-498-7396 and give them our Group Name: **Far West Ski Association**. You can also book your room reservations on-line at our special FWSA site at: <http://bit.ly/FWSA-2016-Lodging>. The Group Code is **FWS**. Make your room reservations before **May 18**, when the room block is released. **Once our room block is released, the DoubleTree Resort by Hilton WILL NOT be holding our group rate. We cannot guarantee you will be able to book a room after the room block is released, and you will not get the group rate.** For information regarding RV space, go to www.fwsa.org.

Transportation Information:

Flights should be booked in and out of Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX), located 12 miles from the Resort. Rental car and ground transportation options can be found on www.fwsa.org.

Theme – “Arizona is Awesome”:

This year’s Convention theme is *Arizona is Awesome* and features the Thursday evening Old Town Scottsdale Pub Crawl. The Saturday Awards Banquet is *“Denim and Diamonds”* attire. There will be great musical entertainment with some good old rock ‘n roll music.

Contact Information:

Jane Wyckoff	FWSA Convention Chairperson	janeywyckoff1@cox.net	949-933-9607
Linda Westlund	Host Council Convention Coordinator	hostconvention2016@fwsa.org	480-216-2010
Karen James	Convention Registrar	kjames48@sbcglobal.net	818-249-5982

If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate person above. Welcome to the 84th Annual FWSA Convention!

Sincerely,

Jane Wyckoff, Linda Westlund, Karen James



Arizona is Awesome! FWSA Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona, June 9-12, 2016 by Linda Westlund Host Council Convention Coordinator

The place to be in June of 2016 is Scottsdale, Arizona, for Far West Ski Association's Annual Convention at the beautiful DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Paradise Valley-Scottsdale. The resort is an AAA Four Diamond property located only minutes from downtown Scottsdale and 12 miles from the Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX). Arizona Ski Council and its members are excited to be hosting FWSA's 84th Annual Convention, June 9-12, 2016.

The DoubleTree Resort, a beautifully landscaped property, with lavish courtyards, cactus and tropical palm trees, offers a wide range of amenities. Each spacious guest room at this Paradise Valley resort offers impressive views from your private balcony or patio. Swim laps in one of the outdoor pools, work out in the health club or enjoy a game of tennis. The complimentary shuttle provides easy access to Old Town Scottsdale for great dining, nightlife and shopping. Onsite dining venues include the casual Palm Café, and the flagship enFuego Restaurant, combining excellent service with contemporary regional cuisine. We have secured a \$99 per night room rate. Consider arriving on Wednesday night, June 8th, to make your trip a mini vacation and participate in one of the events offered on Thursday!



Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport is serviced by all major airlines. Rental cars and shuttle services are available at the airport. For room reservations call 1-800-498-7396 and be sure to reference our group name - Far West Ski Association. You can also book on-line at the FWSA room reservation site <http://bit.ly/FWSA->

www.fwsa.org and select Conventions. The website for the DoubleTree Resort is <http://www.paradisevalley.doubletree.com>.

The Far West Ski Association Convention offers fun with ski club friends and our supportive ski industry partners, along with opportunities to investigate and plan trips for next season, hear from special guest speakers from the snowsports world, and participate in leadership sessions. For those who are ready for a full weekend full of fun, you are invited to join us as a convention delegate. The delegate registration fee includes the Friday Pool Party and Silent Auction, all the educational panels and sessions, meals and events on Saturday, and a Sunday program with our annual business meeting and election of officers with an enjoyable brunch.

Friday, June 10, the DoubleTree Resort Convention Center will be the location for the wonderful FWSA Silent Auction, which will be open to the public. Ski industry and resort representatives from North America as well as international destinations, and local Arizona attractions and sporting goods companies, will be present to share information about their snowsports and other outdoor activities, properties and products. The Silent Auction offers delegates and guests the opportunity to bid on ski, sport and adventure packages, and sports equipment. Great deals can be found! There is no admission fee, and a complimentary beverage is offered to all attendees.

An Old Town Scottsdale tour via Segway is being planned on Thursday morning for early arrivers. We are also offering a Western Journey on Thursday – visit the Museum of the West, with a private guided tour of the Lewis and Clark exhibit, followed by a Mexican Buffet luncheon at Los Olivos. The always popular Pub Crawl is planned for Thursday evening. We will travel in air conditioned motor coaches to stay cool as we visit venues in Scottsdale's entertainment visit.



Continued on next page

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The 10th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, June 10, at McCormick Ranch Golf Club. Known for hosting the Arizona Amateur Stroke Play Championship, the Golf for Women National Club Championship, the Arizona Open Professional Golf Tournament, and the National Junior College Golf Championship, its courses were designed by renowned golf course architect Desmond Muirhead. We will beat the heat with a 7a.m. shot gun start on the Palm Course. As its name suggests, the Palm Course showcases many large palm trees, and the ninth hole was chosen by *Golf Illustrated* as “One of the USA’s top 18 water holes”. The very popular Palm has recently been renovated with outstanding new greens, sand traps and bridges. Each hole will be sponsored by ski clubs and supporting businesses, and the FWSA “fun patrol” will be on hand to entertain golfers. On four Par 3 holes, you will have a chance to win a hole-in-one prize.

Other activities will be offered on Friday for those who do not plan to hit the links. We will be visiting the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM), with a private guided tour offering an overview of the world’s music, focusing on cultures in each geographical region. You will also have time to visit the galleries more extensively at your own pace after the tour. Guideposts (wireless headsets) and high-resolution video screens allow guests to see, hear, and observe the instruments, with every country in the world represented. The MIM participants will also enjoy lunch at Kona Grill. We are offering a Spa Day for pampering and relaxation at the luxurious Spa Lamar, located next to the Doubletree Resort.

A Friday afternoon pool party will be held at the resort’s South Pool, surrounded by lavish courtyards, cactus and tropical palm trees. Hosted by Central Council of California, this get together is always a great opportunity to relax and compare notes about the day’s events, while visiting with ski club delegates and industry representatives. This will be followed by a Ski Club Happy Hour preceding the Silent Auction.

After a Friday evening of fun, and potentially acquiring a great value ski package at the Silent Auction, Saturday morning starts with a Continental Breakfast and a brief opening session. Next on the agenda is the Travel Expo, where approximately 100 resort representatives and tour operators will be available for personal meetings to discuss planning your group’s next ski or adventure trip. Public Affairs panels will be offered in the morning and afternoon, and Snowsports Leadership Academy sessions will feature leadership and club educational topics. Following the luncheon, we will hear from **Jordan Romero**, Keynote Speaker. Jordan is an American mountain climber who, on May 22, 2010, became the youngest person to summit Mount Everest. He was just 13 at the time, and since then, Jordan became the youngest person to complete the Seven Summits at the age of 15 in 2011. He is the co-author of: *No Summit Out of Sight: The True Story of the Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits*.



Saturday evening will be an amazing evening, enjoying dinner and dancing with FWSA friends and industry partners. The banquet theme is *Denim and Diamonds*, so come dressed in your finest attire or in your favorite western wear. A service awards and recognition program will honor volunteers and industry partners. Sunday’s agenda is FWSA’s annual business meeting with election of officers, by-laws and resolutions. The Outstanding Club & Council Awards, Club and Council Communication Awards, Charities Awards and Club History Award will be presented during the brunch.

Detailed information and registration instructions are available at www.fwsa.org. All skiers, snowboarders and snowsports enthusiasts are invited to join us in Scottsdale, Arizona to celebrate our passion.

For additional information, contact Linda Westlund, Host Council Convention Coordinator, at hostconvention2016@fwsa.org. For information regarding room reservations or registration, contact Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Convention Chair at conventionchair@fwsa.org. For opportunities to promote their properties, services and products to our club members in 12 western states, ski industry representatives, tour operators, all season resorts, and Arizona businesses are encouraged to contact Debbi Kor, FWSA VP of Marketing and Sponsorships at fwsadebbi@comcast.net, or Jeannine Davis, Silent Auction Chair at silentauction@fwsa.org.



84th ANNUAL FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION CONVENTION
DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Hotel Paradise Valley - Scottsdale • Scottsdale, AZ
June 9-12, 2016



Thursday, June 9, 2016

8:00 am - 11:30 pm	Discover Old Town Scottsdale via Segway (Optional Event) - <i>Sponsored by Brian Head Resort</i>	Meet in Hotel Lobby
8:45 am - 2:30 pm	Western Journey – Museum of the West & Fiesta Lunch (Optional Event)	Meet in Hotel Lobby
3:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Delegate Registration - Delegate Bags and Neck Wallets <i>Sponsored by Nancy Greene's Cahilly Lodge</i> , Delegate Book - <i>Sponsored by Holiday Ski Tours</i>	Grand Ballroom Foyer
3:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Industry Exhibitor Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
5:30 pm - 10:30 pm	Scottsdale's Entertainment District Pub Crawl (Optional Event) <i>Sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp.</i>	Meet in Grand Ballroom Foyer

Friday, June 10, 2016

5:45 am - 2:00 pm	10th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament at McCormick Ranch Golf Club – Palm Course, Scottsdale (Optional Event), Shotgun Start at 7:00 am	Meet in Hotel Lobby
7:00 am - 6:00 pm	Silent Auction Set Up	Forum
8:00 am - 3:00 pm	Spa Lamar Day (Optional Event) - <i>Sponsored by Aspen Skiing Company / Snowmass Tourism</i>	Lamar Spa
8:45 am - 2:30 pm	Experience Music of the World (MIM) & Kona Grill Lunch (Optional Event)	Meet in Hotel Lobby
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Pool Party - <i>Sponsored by Jackson Hole Mountain Resort & Hosted by Central Council</i>	South Pool
2:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Delegate Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Industry Registration and Set-Up	Forum
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Far West Ski Foundation Meeting (Invitation Only)	Four Peaks
4:30 pm - 4:45 pm	Industry Exhibitor Meeting	Forum
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Meeting (Invitation Only)	FWSA Suite #4115
5:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Convention 101 Meeting for New Convention Delegates	Chaparral
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Ski Club Happy Hour (No Host)	Grand Ballroom Foyer
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Silent Auction Welcome Party - <i>Sponsored by Telluride Ski Resort</i> , Beer Service <i>Sponsored by Ski.Com</i> , Wine Service <i>Sponsored by Taos Ski Valley</i>	Forum
6:30 pm - 10:00 pm	31st Annual Silent Auction & Snowsports Trade Show - Musical Entertainment by "TBD"	Forum
10:00 pm - 10:30 pm	Exhibitor Booth Breakdown	Forum

Saturday, June 11, 2016

7:00 am - 12:00 pm	Delegate Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
7:00 am - 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast - <i>Sponsored by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area</i>	Forum
8:00 am - 8:30 am	FWSA General Meeting - Opening Session	Forum
8:45 am - 10:25 am	Travel Expo - <i>Grand Prize - Far West Ski Week - Sponsored by FWSA</i>	Grand Ballroom
8:45 am - 12:15 pm	Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Judging (Invitation Only) - Awards <i>Sponsored by Big White Ski Resort</i>	Prescott
10:30 am - 12:15 pm	Bid Presentations - 2018 FWSA Ski Week (Invitation Only)	Chaparral
10:30 am - 12:15 pm	FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy - "Who Are You, and Who Cares: Building and Supporting Your Brand"	Rattlers
10:30 am - 12:15 pm	Public Affairs Panel & Guest Speakers	Bouchon
10:30 am - 12:15 pm	Far West Racing Association (Invitation Only)	Flagstaff
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	Luncheon & Awards Presentation - Luncheon <i>Sponsored by Vail Resorts</i> , Wine <i>Hosted by Pillsbury Wine Company</i> , Wine Service <i>Sponsored by Big Sky Resort</i> , Beer Service <i>Sponsored by Sports America Tours</i> , Western Ski Heritage Award <i>Sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation</i> , Environment Award <i>Sponsored by Aspen/Snowmass</i>	Forum
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Keynote Speaker - <i>Jordan Romero, Youngest Climber to Reach the World's 7 Highest Peaks</i>	Forum
2:40 pm - 4:00 pm	FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy – "Safe Travels on the Slope"	Rattlers
2:40 pm - 4:00 pm	Bid Presentations - 2018 FWSA Ski Week (Invitation Only)	Chaparral
2:40 pm - 4:00 pm	Public Affairs Panel & Guest Speakers	Bouchon
4:15 pm - 5:30 pm	Council Caucus - LAC / Orange / Arizona BAC / Central / Sierra Intermountain / Northwest / San Diego / Direct Members	Bouchon
6:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Reception (No Host)	Rattlers
7:00 pm - 12:00 am	Awards Banquet & Dance "Denim and Diamonds" - Wine Service <i>Sponsored by Boise Convention & Visitors Bureau and Boise Centre</i> , Musical Entertainment TBD	Chaparral
		Forum
		Forum

Sunday, June 12, 2016

7:00 am - 8:15 am	Eye Opener - <i>Sponsored by FWSA & Hosted by Arizona Ski Council</i>	FWSA Suite #4115
8:30 am - 10:30 am	FWSA General Meeting - Elections	Forum
10:30 am - 11:30 am	Delegate Brunch <i>Sponsored by Brundage Mountain Resort</i> - Outstanding Club & Council Awards, Club & Council Communication Awards, Charities Award, Club History Award, Door Prize Giveaway	Forum
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	FWSA General Meeting Continued	Forum
1:15 pm - 2:15 pm	FWSA Board of Trustees and Board of Directors Meetings	Sonora/San Carlos

Delegates are welcome to attend all events unless otherwise indicated. Participation in Travel Expo is especially encouraged and the Grand Prize will be awarded only among those who participate. Delegates with mandatory assignments to other meetings during Travel Expo will receive instructions from their Meeting Chairperson.



84th Annual FWSA Convention 2016

June 9–12, 2016, DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Hotel Paradise Valley-Scottsdale, AZ



REGISTRATION form

Name _____

Street/Apt. # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Mobile Phone _____

Ski Club _____ Council _____

Delegate Status Voting Non Voting Alternate
 Guest FWSA Direct Member

Dietary Requirements Vegan Vegetarian Gluten Free

Except for your email address, which is not released, the information above will be provided to industry sponsors and donors to the Silent Auction. You may exclude your information from this list by checking this box.

Convention Packages (Fri: June 10 — Sun: June 12)

- Full Package** if paid by May 9, 2016 \$159 _____
 – \$175 after 5/9, \$190 after 5/23
- Meetings Only** (No meals or parties) \$50 _____
- Saturday Expo, Meetings & Lunch** \$50 _____
- Awards Luncheon Only** (Must be purchased in advance) \$35 _____
- Awards Dinner & Dance Only** (Black-Tie Optional) \$65 _____
 – Must be purchased in advance. Priority given to delegates.

Extras

- Full Delegate Book** (All Reports) \$10 _____
 – Electronic copy available on fwsa.org
- Denim Short Sleeve Shirt** with Embroidered Convention Logo \$30 _____
 XS S M L XL XXL
 Male Female

Optional Activities Priority given to Registered Delegates/Industry.

- Western Journey Museum of the West** (Thurs: June 9) \$50 _____
- Segway Tour Old Town Scottsdale** (Thurs: June 9) \$75 _____
- Scottsdale Entertainment District Pub Crawl** (Thurs: June 9) \$65 _____
- Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament** (Fri: June 10) \$80 _____
 – Specify Handicap _____ OR Novice
 OR Last 3 Scores _____
 – Club Rental Left or Right Handed \$40 _____
- World Music Experience** (Fri: June 10) \$58 _____
- Spa Lamar Day** (Fri: June 10) \$75 _____
 – 55 Minute Spa Treatment \$150 _____
 – 25 Minute Spa Treatment \$110 _____
 – Yoga Option \$15 _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

You can pay & register online at fwsa.org.



You can also submit this form with your payment by May 9, 2016 to:

FWSA Convention Registrar,
 Karen James,
 1812 Vickers Drive,
 Glendale, CA 91208.

For additional information visit fwsa.org. **No refunds after May 9, 2016 deadline.**

Full Package Includes—

All FWSA business meetings, elections and panel sessions, convention pin, convention delegate book, hosted parties, 4 meals, complimentary beverages and activities.

- **Friday** - Pool Party, Silent Auction & Snowsports Show
- **Saturday** - Continental Breakfast, Travel Expo, Snowsports Leadership Academy, Luncheon, Keynote Speaker, Cocktail Party, Awards Dinner & Dance
- **Sunday** - Eye Opener, Buffet Brunch, FWSA Business Meeting & Elections





Jim Nachbar VP of Communications



Since last year, FWSA Connect, Far West's interactive online portal, has undergone some significant growth. For one thing, it has moved to a new home, at <https://connect.fwsa.org>. For another, we have added a new trip-sharing calendar that allows our Councils and Clubs to advertise their trips across FWSA and beyond.

As soon as you go to <https://connect.fwsa.org>, you will see the list of upcoming trips. You can search for trips by event type, date, duration, or key words in the name, description, destination, Council, Club, and Trip Leader.

The trips that are posted include FWSA trips, as well as trips sponsored by any of the Councils and Clubs in FWSA. For example, if you search for "London", you will find FWSA's upcoming trip to London and Ireland this fall. When you find a trip you are interested in, just click on the trip name to see all the details of the trip, including contact information, and whether you will have to join the Council or Club to attend.

Searching for trips is only half the fun! All of the Councils and Clubs hosting trips they want to advertise are encouraged to post them. To post trips, leaders will need to create an account on FWSA Connect and then let me know to add them to the list of members authorized to post trips – probably the most reliable way to contact me is to call 480-289-5300. Once authorized, you can post, update, and remove your trips. You can upload fliers and brochures, as well as links to websites with more information. We look forward to seeing your trips on FWSA Connect!

In the meantime, Convention registration is live at <https://connect.fwsa.org>. You can go to FWSA Connect and follow the instructions to create an account if you don't already have one, and then register and pay for Convention online. Remember, just like Expedia, if you do not pay, you will not be registered. Also, we continue to use FWSA Connect to sign up and/or pay for FWSA Travel, and you can upload your photos and videos to FWSA Connect – see the instructions online.

In addition to FWSA Connect, the rest of the FWSA Communications Program is flourishing, thanks to the help of our many volunteers.

Connie Burdette publishes *The Councilman* twice per year, and we have changed to an electronic format. Leigh Gieringer published another beautiful *Far West Skier's Guide* this year, and Debbi Kor puts together and sends out the *Far West News Flash* every month. If you want to be kept up on what FWSA is doing, sign up at <http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Publications/NewsFlash/NewsFlash.html> and enter your email address. You can also see current and past issues on that page.

George Stewart continues to produce more multimedia programs, which are posted at <https://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc>.

We are also looking for volunteers to help us post on Facebook and Twitter. If you are willing to help us connect with our members, let us know!

We are excited about everything happening in the FWSA Communications Program, we hope to see your trips posted on our shared trip calendar, and we look forward to seeing you at the Convention!



*Jo Simpson
VP of Council Services*



Arizona Desert Cactus

Council Presidents Seek Increased Awards Submissions

The council presidents are encouraging our clubs to submit applications for the various club awards available from FWSA. They are a wonderful way to reward volunteers and achieve recognition for clubs.

The time to complete the online applications has been identified as a principle reason club leaders do not submit them. Crissy Marie King, chair of the club and council communications and outstanding club awards has worked to simplify the online application for the club and council communications and outstanding club awards. Catherine Ohl, FWSA webmaster and awards chair, has worked on many of the other online awards applications in cooperation with the committee chairs. We are hopeful that their efforts will result in more submissions.

We will have applications numbers available at our April 22 meeting in Scottsdale, since the March 20 deadline will be well past. We will review the numbers and discuss any changes that need to be made for 2017.

We also will be conducting our annual review and evaluation of all our programs and initiatives for 2015-2016 to see what is working and what needs improving or changing for 2016-2017. We will use this information to prepare our budget in July.

Our awards programs would not be possible without our hardworking committee chairs.

Gene Fulkerson revamped the Councils Man and Woman of the Year interview process at the convention last year and the changes were well received.

Sigrid Noack works tirelessly to encourage clubs and councils to support charities and community service.

As mentioned previously, Crissy Marie King has put many, many hours into designing a web-based submission process for the club and council communication awards and the outstanding club award.

Fran Long, Family and Youth Involvement Committee Chair, is looking for a new direction to take this program.

I am grateful to my fellow council presidents for their support and applaud their dedication to representing their clubs' interests on the FWSA Board of Directors. We represent the grassroots of the organization on the Board of Directors.



Debbie Stewart
VP of **INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL**



In the Dolomites at Cortina

2016 International Ski Week to Cortina d'Ampezzo and extension trip to Florence & Rome, Italy

Well, dancing to the Snow Gods worked! Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy was blessed with fresh snow as we arrived and we were informed that this was their biggest storm in 20 years. Seventy-six FWSA participants enjoyed fantastic skiing. Cortina has three primary ski areas: Socrepes with wide open trails, Faloria with more challenging terrain, and Tofana with more narrow, tree-lined runs. Trams to the top of Faloria and Tofana provided good skiing, amazing views and excellent restaurants. Some of the participants also skied the Cinque Torri (Five Towers) Super 8 ski tour, a self-guided tour also with outstanding scenery.



Monday, we enjoyed our Après Ski Party at Janbo. This provided all members a chance to connect, share pictures, stories and of course...tell lies!

Wednesday, 43 members of the group took a day trip to Venice. Returning with smiles on their faces, they told of an excellent tour that included the Doges Palace, St. Mark's Cathedral, St. Mark's Square and gondola rides around the old city. Venice is perhaps the most favorite canal cities in the world. Not only is it extremely picturesque, it is a world heritage site, uniquely designed and constructed on over 100 small islands on their marshy lagoon. There are over 170 canals and over 400 bridges and in the 13th century it was once the trading capital of Europe. This tour was just a teaser since you can spend many days in Venice and not experience it all. We all agreed that we need to return!



Far West Banner Rides the Gondola

Thursday, the sun came out in full force while 50 FWSA members participated in the guided Sella Ronda ski tour, skiing 40km through 4 mountain villages including Val Gardena. The scenery was impressive, not surprising as the Dolomites are considered to be the most scenic mountains in Europe. They also have a strong history from WWI as they were the border between Italy and Austria. Today they are a UNESCO World Heritage site.



Dinner Presentation

The many culinary delights included the local special of beet-filled ravioli with butter, risotto with seafood and mushrooms, polenta, veal with a delicious wine sauce, lamb chops, and various grilled fish dishes. Each day we enjoyed freshly baked pastries and decadent desserts including tiramisu and apple strudel.

To cap off the end of a fabulous ski week, we all took the Faloria tram to the lodge restaurant at the top of the mountain for our private farewell party which included delicious food and beverages, our own DJ for dancing and

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incredible views of the night lights of the city of Cortina. What a way to end a fabulous ski week in Cortina d'Ampezzo!

Now off to our next adventure...Florence. Sixty-two people, including ten who flew from the US to join the group, participated in the extension trip. During our guided walking tour, we enjoyed the beautiful architecture of Florence and tour of the Uffizi Gallery built in 1516, it is one of the most revered art museums in the world. In the 13th century, the Medici family first gained their wealth and political power in Florence through its success in commerce and banking. They commissioned many artists including Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo creating statues, tapestries and ceiling frescos which were inspired by the Romans to be included in their collection. The family's support of the arts and humanities made Florence an instrumental part of the Renaissance. They produced four popes and their genes have been mixed into many of Europe's royal families, yet the last Medici ruler died without a male heir in 1737, ending the family dynasty after almost three centuries. After our tour ended, several of us went to the Academia museum to see the majestic yet impressive statue of David by Michelangelo. What a treat to see it in person and be amazed by its beauty and grace. We experienced just a small part of what Florence has to offer while realizing art is the closest thing to time capsule. Of course, we stopped to savor the hand-made pasta dishes and many flavors of gelato at every chance.

On another day we went to the medieval town of Siena with its large plaza, the grand cathedral built in the 1200s and a web of narrow, hilly streets. Siena was a tiny gothic village during the time that Florence was very powerful and prosperous. Then it became strong in the 9th and 10th century while connecting Rome with the northern Italian cities. Their main business was the banking industry and we learned how the city transformed over the many centuries.

Then we went to the smaller, yet very charming walled medieval town of San Gimignano overlooking the green hills of Tuscany. This medieval city is known for both art and cooking. Saffron was the gold of the city. The bishop from Modena came here to Christianize the area and it too is a UNESCO site.



We left Florence and traveled to Rome, which is the 4th most populous city in the European Union, yet a remarkably attractive city with over 900 churches. We started our city tour with the Colosseum, imagining what it must have been like with a full crowd of Romans enjoying an event in the largest amphitheater ever built. With its 75,000 seats it took 8 years to build and is still considered one of the greatest works of architecture. Then we admired the nearby Roman Forum and surrounding ancient Roman buildings.

The Vatican Museum is one of the largest art museums in the world in the smallest country in the world. The Vatican has with its own postage stamps and governmental structure. An immense collection of art built up by popes

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Debbi Kor
VP of Marketing

Another Super Ski Season

If you look, we still have snow on the mountains, and hopefully that will continue a while longer, so that we can see a late season this year. What a difference from 2015. As we look back to the many places we have skied this year, our clubs and councils have visited such places as: **Mammoth, Big White, Silver Star, Mt. Bachelor, Breckenridge, Sun Peaks** and **Powder Mountain** to name a few places. We have skied and boarded and enjoyed various other winter activities. Thank you to all of our industry partners who provided us with great fun, great lodging, and incredible snow!

Ski Week 2016, which took place in Telluride, Colorado, was a huge success! Patrick Rothe and his crew, along with Gloria Saiya-Wood from **Ski.Com** did an outstanding job seeing to all of our needs and making sure that we had a week to remember. Our talented and competent Far West travel staff was quick to insure that everyone stayed busy all week long. Thank you, as well, to the many **Telluride** businesses who provided door prizes for the Welcome Party including: **The Spa at The Peaks, Aroma Spa, Himmel Pool & Spa, Boot Doctors, Brown Dog Pizza, Esperanza's, Floradora Saloon, La Piazza del Villaggio, New Sheridan Chop House, O'Banon's Irish Pub, Last Dollar Saloon**, as well as **Telluride Resort** itself.

David Krupp, along with a little help from a few individual council members, sold raffle tickets for the Far West Athletic Scholarship Program, throughout the week. The prize of a **Karbon** ski outfit was at stake. A total of \$2,400 was raised for the Scholarship Program, which ended on Thursday of Ski Week at the Welcome Party. Barbara Launsbach, of San Diego Council of Ski Clubs was the lucky winner.

While this fun Ski Week was going on, I was in Denver, taking in the sights and sounds of the annual SIA Show. This show is the nation's largest display of ski wear and hard goods under one roof. Manufacturers and merchants converge on the Denver Convention Center for four days each January to display their gear for the following season. Retailers come in to check out what is new and to place their orders for their shops and stores. It is great to be able to preview what we will be seeing on the slopes next year. I was able to meet with a number of exhibitors, expounding on all the good that Far West does. Hopefully, that will come back to us in the way of door prizes for our upcoming convention this June. In addition to meeting with all these wonderful industry partners, I had the pleasure of meeting Olympic Medalist, Mikaela Shiffrin. Mikaela was in attendance on behalf of her sponsor, **Atomic Skis**.

With ski season 2016 coming to a close in a couple more months, we are all beginning to turn our thoughts to those warmer temperatures of spring and summer. With that comes our annual Far West Ski Association Convention, which will be held this June 9-12, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

We will be looking forward to a thrill-packed Thursday night Pub Crawl, following a fun Segway Tour through Old Town Scottsdale earlier in the day. On Friday, we will hold the 10th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, as well as the World Music Experience, a visit to the musical instrument museum, and a relaxing Spa Day. The Pool Party will follow, and all will be topped off by our 34th Annual Silent Auction and Trade Show on Friday evening.

Many of our long-time industry partners are coming forward to sponsor many of our events and activities, and insuring that our major fund raiser on Friday night, continues to be the huge success that it always has been. Come join us in beautiful Scottsdale, Arizona. You will meet new friends, see some old ones, and have a wonderful time!



Jane Gutierrez
VP of Membership

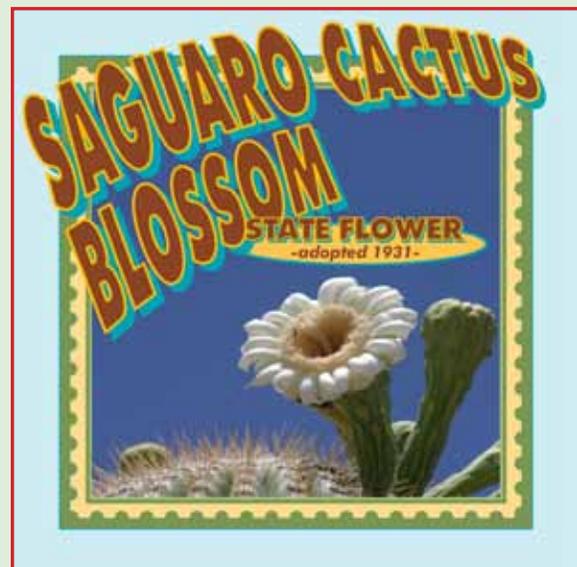
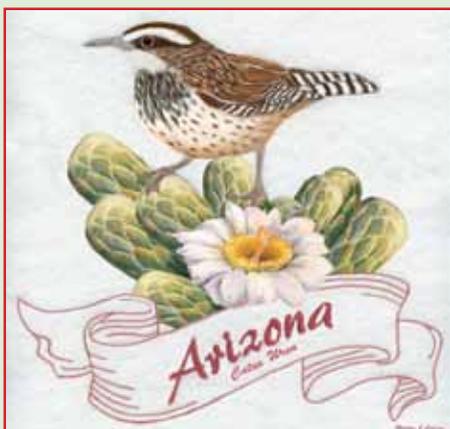
As the date of June 9th, 2016 nears, I am becoming more excited with anticipation! I hope that you are as well, because the Far West Ski Association has a weekend planned full of fun and excitement, but also information that you can take back and use in your organizations. Some of you will not arrive until Friday, but I encourage you to come on Thursday because that is where your learning begins! There is much socializing, but networking is strong, and questions are always welcomed. Come and meet the organizational board and have great conversations before they get whisked away to plan the rest of the weekend on your behalf. Meet other Presidents and leaders from across the country and share ideas.

If this is your first event or you would like more details about the weekend, be sure not to miss Convention 101 Orientation on Friday, June 10th at 5:00 p.m., hosted by yours truly! I will be brief but full of information and available for questions after the session.

On Saturday, June 11th, I am happy to present one of the highlights of the weekend, the Snowsports Leadership Academy where topics of interest are presented in a timed session with the availability to ask questions afterward. The first session is at 10:30 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. and the topic is “Who Are You, And Who Cares: Building and Supporting Your Brand”, which will be presented by Todd Hood, current Treasurer of the National Brotherhood of Skiers Western Region. Todd is a dynamic speaker who believes in crowd interaction, so be prepared!

After lunch and our keynote speaker, do not forget to return to the Academy from 2:40 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. to listen to our second topic, “Safe Travels on the Slopes” given by Pete Smith, current President of Wailers Ski Club/ LA Council and a high level ski patroller at Snow Valley Ski Resort in Los Angeles. Many of us forget about the dangers of snowriding and Pete is here to remind us all of safety tips to keep us all as healthy as possible while we are enjoying the great outdoors!

Looking forward to meeting all of you soon!





Nancy Ellis
VP of North American Travel



2016 TELLURIDE SKI WEEK

Four hundred people from eight FWSA councils enjoyed a fun ski week in Telluride January 30—February 6, 2016. “ Wild, Wild West” was the theme for the week as cowboys, miners, dance hall girls, bartenders, sheriff’s and many others abounded at the Banquet and Council Challenge races. We enjoyed a Welcome Party, mountain picnic, council dinners, banquet with dancing, après parties, racing, and lots of skiing and riding. 24 inches of fresh snow in the first 24 hours after our arrival set the stage for great skiing for the week!



The Joe Ross racing award went to Cabernet Ski and Race Club (290 pts.) for the most total racer points earned for the Giant Slalom and Slalom races. North Island Ski Club was 2nd with 204 pts., and Aerospace Ski Club was 3rd with 193 points. The Lake Louise All Councils award went to Bay Area Snowsports Council with 645 racer points for the two races. 2nd place went to Central Council with 610 points and 3rd place went to Sierra Council with 424 points. The Council Challenge dual race award went to Orange Council (1st place) and the Costume award went to the BAC team “Cruise the Blues” who were dressed like Elvis.

Thank you to Patrick Rothe and Kyle Lusk, *Telluride Resort*, and our tour operator, Gloria Saiya-Woods, *Ski.com* who coordinated our events for us and provided us with top-notch service. We appreciate the wonderful job that *Telluride Resort* did assisting us with our lodging, transportation, racing, and parties. Thank you to Debbi Kor, FWSA VP Marketing for getting donations from local Telluride merchants for our Welcome Party door prizes. Check the FWSA website for the video of our ski week. It showcases our club and council members having a fun time!

2016 MINI SKI TRIP—CRESTED BUTTE RESORT, COLORADO

Twenty people will head to Crested Butte for a week of skiing and fun times March 21-26, 2016. Crested Butte is one of a few places that can be called a true Colorado ski town. The small town charm where there are no traffic lights or chain stores, and where one will find them self an unspoiled setting surrounded by majestic peaks and wide valleys. The mountain has abundant wide open green and blue groomed trails and more advanced long cruisers, as well as the famous extreme limits of the North Face and Headwall. Crested Butte is a great location for our mini ski trip with 1,547 acres of skiable terrain and uncrowded slopes. We look forward to a fun trip with many memories!

2017 BRECKENRIDGE SKI WEEK

FWSA council representatives and ski week staff travelled to Breckenridge January 7—10 to review lodging and event venues for our 2017 ski week. This will be a great location for our ski week with the many things to do on the mountain and in town which is a short distance from the mountain. Councils have selected Beaver Run Resort, The Double Tree Hotel, The Village at Breckenridge, and Thunder Mountain Lodge for our lodging. All our lodging is close to the mountain and a short walk to town where there are many outstanding restaurants and

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great night life. We will have a Welcome Party, Picnic, Banquet and Dance, and Après Party. We are also planning to have a day trip to Vail Ski Resort. There will be several lift ticket options for 5 or 6 days and participants can renew and purchase the Vail Resorts Epic Pass for 2016-2017 and get a \$50 discount on their lodging package. Watch for information from your council trip leaders and sign up early to guarantee your spot. This trip is a great one for non-skiers as there are many local tours and activities to keep one busy, as well as a fun scavenger hunt during the Pub Crawl.

2017 CAHILTY LODGE AT SUNPEAKS RESORT MINI TRIP

Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge at Sun Peaks Resort will be the location of our 2017 mini ski trip. It is the second largest ski resort in Canada and we will be staying in a ski-in/ski out village. The resort boasts champagne powder, 133 runs spread over 3 mountains, and virtually no lift lines! We will start taking signups for this trip in June so watch for trip information on the FWSA website in early summer.

2018 SKI WEEK BID PRESENTATIONS AT SCOTTSDALE FWSA CONVENTION

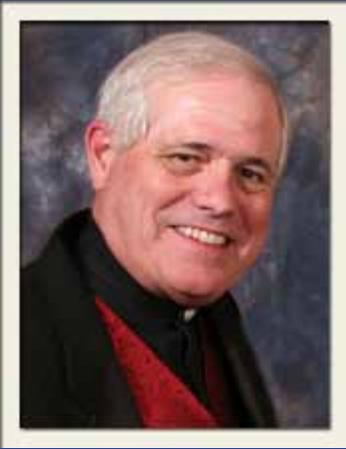
Our annual June convention is the venue for ski week bid presentations for the 2018 ski year. Council trip leaders or other designated trip representatives, along with FWSA ski week staff and board members, are invited to the presentations. Typically, six ski area representatives have 20 minutes to present their resort and why they would be a great location for our ski week. Ski resorts that are/may submit bids this year include the following: Banff/Lake Louise; Big Sky; Sun Valley; Aspen/Snowmass; Steamboat; Jackson Hole; and Winter Park. The trip destination will be announced at the July FWSA board meeting.

2018 ALYESKA RESORT/IDITAROD TRIP

Requests for proposals have gone out for the 2018 March ski trip to Alyeska Resort and Iditarod trip. Our plans are to spend 3-4 days skiing at Alyeska Ski Resort and then attend the opening ceremonies and local activities relating to the Iditarod. Trip details and dates will be available beginning in early Fall 2016.

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





Mike Sanford
VP Public Affairs



10th Mountain Division - <http://www.10thmtndivassoc.org/>

A group of California citizens have formed a committee to build a monument honoring the sacrifice and service of the Soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division; the Fort Drum Civilian Workforce; the anniversaries of the reactivation of the division in 1985; and, the Allies victory in Second World War in which the 10th Mountain Division played a significant part through its campaign in Italy in 1945. The City of Watertown, New York has graciously donated the city's premier location to erect this monument: Tower Square in Thompson Park, an Olmstead designed park (designer of Central Park in New York City). It is their intent to restore Tower Square to its former glory and make it the crown jewel and centerpiece of the park. This monument will be a fitting tribute to the men and women of the 10th Mountain Division who have sacrificed so much for our freedoms. The committee plans to unveil the monument in July 2016. Please visit their website at this link and see how you can support this project. The Association exists to preserve and enhance the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division for future generations.

World's largest ski and snow board lesson organizers estimate total population and hope for a Guinness Book of World Records recognition

January 12, 2016 (Washington, DC) – On Friday January 8, the entire U.S. ski industry came together in an attempt to set a new record for a coordinated participation in a Learn to Ski or Snowboard lesson. Organizers for the “World's Largest Lesson” have determined that an estimated 6,000 lessons were taught across the country from the East coast to Alaska.

“One of our goals was to motivate first timers to learn how to ski or snowboard by taking a lesson and engaging with fellow participants,” said Mary Jo Tarallo, spokesperson for the National Learn to Ski and Snowboard Month. “January is National Learn to Ski and Snowboard Month and we thought a fun event like this would serve as an ideal kick off and a way for us to get everyone talking about ways to stay active during the winter months.”

While weather decreased participation at some ski areas throughout the Midwestern and Eastern parts of the country, nearly 150 of the original 164 locations were able to offer 10 a.m. lessons in their local time zones. Resorts were able to participate in this event with some getting very creative in their promotion and participation. Ski Utah partnered with the U.S. Forest Service to bring nearly 500 school children out to local resorts for a free first-time lesson, while Sunlight Mountain Ski Resort (Glenwood Springs, Colorado) organized another youth-oriented program that also involved the Forest Service. Burton Snowboards brought the mountain to the people by giving nearly 100 elementary school children their first snowboard lessons at Kings Beach Elementary School in North Lake Tahoe.

“So far we have seen individual resort participation numbers ranging from just a few people to over 250 people,” said Hugh Reynolds of SNOW Operating and one of the organizers of the event. “We are thrilled with the overall response and positive feedback we have received from the resorts, as well as the abundance of media coverage from around the nation. This is the first year of the initiative, and to walk away with a new world record makes this all the more successful.”

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2016 Hall of Fame Nominations Currently Being Accepted

The Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame is now accepting nominations for their Class of 2016. Each year, the Hall of Fame elects up to four new members, along with selecting a Pioneer Hall of Fame member. Hall of Fame candidates must be nominated under the criteria of the Athlete, Sport Builder, Inspiration or Pioneer category. The Nomination Committee will evaluate the merit of each nomination in order to ensure the candidate meets the standards established by the Hall of Fame. Complete nomination application forms must be received by mid-February. The Hall of Fame Class of 2016 will be announced in April, with the Hall of Fame Induction Gala scheduled for October. We will let you know the results.

Justin Koski is the new Executive Director of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Here is the web site to “BECOME A PATRON” and to join online if you like; http://www.skihall.com/index.php?_a=document&doc_id=7&PHPSESSID=dca6608ff35763941c2d2fce2b358a5a

By joining you get the International Skiing History Associations’ bi-monthly journal, *Skiing History* magazine and as a patron of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. Also, you will have access to heavy discounts on hundreds of brands and quarterly give aways. Join and become a patron by April 1st and you will be entered into the drawing for the first-ever PATRON GIVEAWAY; A POC Helmet and Goggle Combo valued at \$600.

Annual subscription to International Skiing History Associations’ *Skiing History* Magazine is \$49.

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Colorado Ski & Snowboard Museum Sustainability Commitment

The Colorado Ski & Snowboard Museum (CSSM) is committed to sustainability of the Vail Valley and surrounding mountain environment. CSSM values the historical, ecological, economic, and cultural health of all mountain communities. CSSM strives to engage visitors, members and employees in environmental stewardship and sustainability. CSSM also encourages visitors, members, volunteers and staff to participate in local cultural and educational opportunities that enrich our community’s sense of well being. The Colorado Ski & Snowboard Museum has established a Green Team to oversee sustainability efforts and maintains a Sustainability Action Plan to set goals and guide progress. Our Green Team is responsible for creating an annual sustainability report to document and share yearly sustainability accomplishments.

CSSM Sustainability Goals:

Engage in sustainable workplace practices.

Employee Engagement: Introduce and educate staff on sustainability efforts

Supply Chain Management: Look for eco-friendly alternatives

Minimize Negative Community and Ecosystem Impacts

Educate all Museum users on Sustainable Practices



Bob Ellis
VP Racing



This year we had so much snow, many races were cancelled in Mammoth. In the Tahoe region, we even had to move races around at FWSA Ski Week due to too much snow when we arrived.

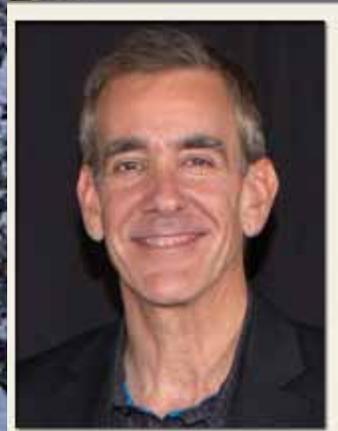
The races at FWSA Ski Week at Telluride were delayed a few days. When we did run them, we had great snow conditions for racing. In the Council Challenge Dual GS race, the Orange Council of Ski Clubs Team took first place, and Bay Area Snow Sports Council won the Costume award with creative Elvis outfits. The slalom went off without a hitch and all participants had a great time. Friday we ran the Giant Slalom, which was fun and quick.

The races at the Far West Championships were held at Alpine Meadows on March 18-20, right after another winter storm with 2 feet of snow. We were able to complete the Pacesetter Races on Friday with no delays and good racing conditions. Later that afternoon we had an Apres Party at the River Ranch, and all that showed up had a good time, and a few purchased a few Silent Auction items that were auctioned off.

On Saturday, we held the Slalom races on Yellow, and after two challenging slalom courses, most everybody went home with an award or a smile on their face. Later on we held the remaining Silent Auction items during the awards, and many people went home with some nice donations.

On Sunday with impending weather coming in, we shortened the event to one run per course for the Giant Slalom, and completed both courses before 1:00 p.m. The snow was grippy and coarse, as it did not freeze the previous night. Dan Breck and the Alpine Meadows Race Department did a great job of running the races and maintaining the courses all weekend long.

Next year, the Far West Championships will be at Mammoth Mountain in early April, and the Far West Ski Week will be at Breckenridge. Next year in Breckenridge, there will be no slalom races, only Giant Slalom races, and we will have the races on the run where the 1995 World Cup was located.



David Krupp
Athletic Scholarship Chair



A.J. Hurt, recipient of the Frank App Scholarship through Sierra League and Far West, skis for the Squaw Valley Team and lives in Carnelian Bay, California.

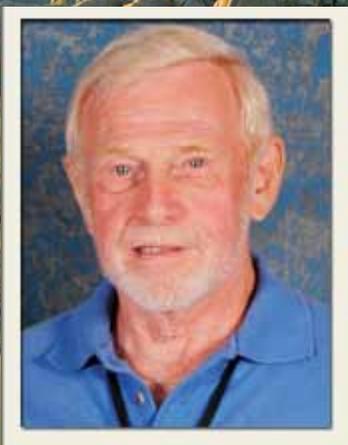
The FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program has been a very successful program since its inception and continues to evolve as a resource of funding for junior USSA racers throughout the western United States.

This season, Far West sponsored 13 racers throughout the west who were awarded scholarships that totaled \$11,425. We are looking to exceed that next year. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need, competitive ranking, academics, and community service.

The 2016-2017 fundraising campaign began in January this year at Far West Ski Week in Telluride, CO, with \$2,400 raised from the Karbon raffle where the winner is awarded a new ski jacket and pants from the Karbon catalogue. Barbara Launspach from San Diego Council was the lucky winner. We will be looking forward to seeing Barbara on the slopes in her new apparel next season.

Notification for next season's applications will be sent out to ski clubs affiliated with the United States Ski and Snowboard Association's (USSA) Far West, Pacific Northwest, and Intermountain Divisions this month. These three divisions make up all the USSA junior racers in states with affiliated councils in Far West. Additional announcements will be sent to Taos, Santa Fe, and Flagstaff race teams with affiliated councils in Arizona and New Mexico.

Junior racers need to raise approximately \$20,000 per season; a formidable financial challenge. That need will no doubt increase. With the help of individuals, ski clubs, and our industry sponsors, we look forward to another successful year for the scholarship program. For more information on the scholarship program, please visit our website at www.fwsa.org.



*Arleigh Meiners
President, Arizona Ski Council*



Arizona Ski Council (ASC) represents two ski clubs, a hiking club, a corporate club and a social club that totals around 600 members, primarily in the Phoenix – Scottsdale metro-area, with membership open to non-profit ski clubs in the state of Arizona. Our clubs serve skiers, snowboarders, hikers, bikers and social members. The Arizona Ski Council is hosting the 2016 FWSA convention at the Scottsdale Doubletree Hilton Resort June 9th -12th 2016. Linda Westlund is the Arizona Ski Council Chairman for this event. The room rate at the Doubletree Hilton Resort is only \$99 per night. There are many wonderful optional events that have been planned for this convention such as: Pub Crawl, Segway Tour, Western Museum Tour, Musical Instrument Museum Tour, Spa Day, and the 10th annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament. Please go to the FWSA website www.fwsa.org, then click on Convention, to register for this Convention. The Arizona Ski Council website is www.arizonaskicouncil.org

The Phoenix Ski Club, (PSC), is busy with their ski season now. PSC did their annual ski trip to Wolf Creek, Colorado in December 2015. Then PSC did their annual “Arizona Days” ski trip to Telluride, Colorado in January 2016. This is a joint trip of Scottsdale Ski Club members and Phoenix Ski Club members. PSC went to Purgatory, at Durango, Colorado for a 2016 New Year’s trip. This was a family ski trip. The end of January, 2016, PSC went to Zermatt, Switzerland for a wonderful ski trip. The first of March, 2016, PSC will be in Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado. Then PSC will end their ski season with their annual “Surf The Rockies” ski trip to Telluride, Colorado in April 2016. This is another joint ski trip with the Scottsdale Ski Club members and Phoenix Ski Club members. In September 2015 the PSC did a wine tour in the Eldorado County of central California. Please go to www.phxski.org for more information about the Phoenix Ski Club.

Arizona Outdoor Travel Club, (AzOTC) which is mostly a hiking club, continues to have hikes all year long. They have an exercise hike every Tuesday. In the summer time AzOTC will have at least one hike that will be a week in the cool mountains of Arizona. AzOTC sends out a weekly e-mail to their members telling them about the hikes and other activities happening during the week. Go to www.azotc.com for more information on these and other exciting trips.

The Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club, (SS&SC), is an adult ski and social club. The SS&SC did a London-Paris trip in September 2015 and also a sailing trip to Catalina Island in September 2015. The SS&SC had a 30 year anniversary celebration on Nov. 7th 2015. This was held at Casino Arizona and several past presidents mentioned stories from the past. It was a very enjoyable evening. The SS&SC had a very successful ski trip to Park City, Utah in January 2016. The SS&SC is going on a bike and barge trip on the Danube River in Europe during the month of

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Golfing in Scottsdale

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September 2016. The month of June 2016 SS&SC will be going to Cozumel for a Diving Trip. SS&SC has a Happy Hour every Friday evening. Some of the other activities planned are, campouts, a hike to Havasupai Falls, pub crawls, a wine and cheese party, and many more events. The SS&SC also joins the PSC on two Telluride, Colorado Ski Trips. For more information go to www.scottsdale-skiclub.com

Boeing Employee Adventure Club is a Corporate Company of the Arizona Ski Council and continues their social schedule and family events around town. Employees may contact www.boeing.com for more information about recreation activities that are planned!

Partytime Sports, (PTS), is an adult ski, boating, and social club that plans boating trips to get them through the summer heat. During the winter they do a ski trip to Telluride, Colorado during Arizona Days. For more information, contact them at gg4@qwest.net.

Feel free to check out any of the clubs activities through Facebook or links for the council website www.arizonaskicouncil.org

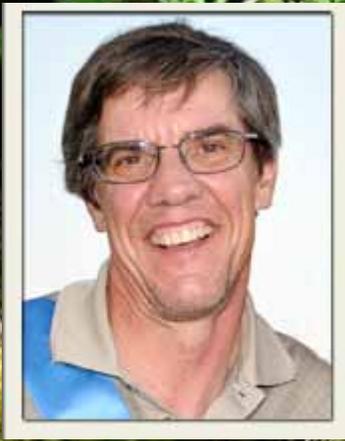
Submitted by,
Arleigh Meiners
Vice President ASC



Old Town Scottsdale



*Riding the Segway in
Old Town Scottsdale*



*Paul Vlasveld
President, Bay Area Snow Sports Council*

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

As the new president of BAC, and the first time I have ever had the privilege of being the president of an organization, it has been an education. By attending the various FWSA board meetings and events, I have learned how BAC can be a force for change in FWSA. In addition, I am learning how to work with my fellow board members to provide the direction for our member clubs. In January 2016 I was re-elected to another term as president.

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

Snowchasers Ski Club

Ski season is always exciting for Snowchasers! Many are skiing, many are traveling, and many are racing. There are 11 members on the race team this year. The first race saw Snowchasers in first place at the end of the day, but then other clubs got into the act and first place was lost... There are more race days ahead.

Snowchasers prepares a mid-week skiing list each year, and many members list their names and contact numbers, which is shared with those who want to be on the list. It is up to those on the list to contact each other about heading to the mountains for a day or two and skiing together.

Some Snowchasers are interested in the FWSA and BAC travel opportunities and can enhance and lengthen the skiing time in the season by traveling to other areas and resorts.

Monterey Ski and Social Club

The year-round award winning Monterey Ski and Social Club has been active recently. The club has been volunteering, partying and donating. The club donated \$3,300 into our non-profit community. There was also Christmas partying at Quail Lodge Golf Resort; volunteering at the ATT Pebble Beach ProAm; the Holiday Dinner for the needy; creating/selling green reusable tote bags; enjoying trivia at our Canadian-themed New Year party, and, readying for the huge Pebble Beach Food and Wine extravaganza next month.

BAC has had another busy and successful year to date. This is in no small part due to the dedicated cadre of volunteers that have the passion and drive to make BAC the fantastic Council that it is and will continue to be.

The next BAC Board of Directors will be elected at our April BAC General Council Meeting. We have many incumbents who are nominated with hopes of continuing their positions. There are a couple of new people who have also stepped forward. At this time no formal announcements will be made about who our 2016/2017 BAC BOD will be. There might be further nominations the night of our elections!

The BAC is moving forward with having events during the non-ski season to continue a focus on what our council represents and validate why clubs should be part of us. In turn, we are also sharing why people should join our Member Clubs.

We do this by having our 11th Annual BAC Tailgate BBQ/Oakland A's Baseball Game & Fireworks Show benefiting Disabled Sports USA Far West Division. This event has grown over the years and we now have reserved 225 seats in what we consider to be great seats. Included with who we invite to the event are representatives from

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Achieve Tahoe (Formerly DSUSA). This year's event is Saturday August 13, 2016 at the Oakland Coliseum. Let us know if you are going to be in town and would like to join us. ***Sign Up Early Because We Will Sell Out of our 225 Tickets!***

Plans are already being made for the Bay Area Snow Sports Councils 8th Annual Winter Fest Celebration Meeting. When we started this event we had only 3 resorts participate. Now . . . it's grown to great heights! This event will tentatively place Monday November 7, 2016 between the SnowBomb Show in San Francisco and San Jose. During this year's FWSA Convention, invitations will be handed out about this event to our Industry Partners. This way, those attending the SnowBomb Shows can plan on sharing an evening with the BAC!

If things work out with scheduling, the BAC will have our 3rd Annual Hockey Night with the San Jose Sharks during the same week between the SnowBomb Shows! Last year we had approx. 27 people attend the event. We will be inviting some of our industry partners to the event. In addition, we will be scheduling addition Hockey nights.

We will also have a Golf Day at Pebble Beach.

The FWSA Ski Week in Telluride was another big hit! The snow conditions, to put it mildly, were fantastic. **Veronica and Don Shaver (BAC Travel Director)** put together a Fun Filled BAC Council Night during the trip. Thank you also to **Ms. Nancy Ellis (FWSA VP of North American Travel), Bob Ellis (FWSA VP of Racing) and the Entire FWSA Travel Staff** for all of their contributions and efforts in making this a successful and fun trip!

The BAC had 2 highly successful mini-trips to Park City and Sunpeaks Canada. We hope to repeat with another trip to Park City or maybe a couple of other sites.

Next year is going to be a Fun & Busy Travel Year for the BAC.

The FWSA Ski Week to Breckenridge is already being promoted and deposits will be accepted starting in April/May. Then the BAC is working on plans for a few of our own Council Trips for 2017 including Park City and Big White Canada.

During our current monthly BAC Council Meetings we have been focusing on the upcoming 84th Annual FWSA Convention in Scottsdale. There have been presentations and handouts provided about the various club and individual recognition awards available at the event. We are encouraging our Clubs to participate both in the awards program and to attend as delegates.

This year we are very proud to be represented by our BAC Man and Woman of the Year. Our BAC Woman of the Year is Mary Azevedo from our Snowchasers Ski Club. Mr. Mike Ferketich from Rusty Bindings Ski Club is our BAC Man of the Year. Congratulations to both of them!

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

Respectfully,
Paul Vlasveld Bay Area Snow Sports Council President

The Councilman, Spring 2016

FWSA 2016 England & Ireland Adventure Trip

*Main Tour: September 11-22, 2016,
Optional Bicycle Tour Extension: Sept. 22-26, 2016*



MAIN TOUR Estimated Group Air from SFO or LAX = \$1434.00pp (min 10 per airport)

(All air transportation will be booked individually for those going on the Main Tour and Bicycle Extension)

Approx. Land Package:

\$2999.00pp – Double Occupancy; \$3849.00pp - Single Supplement (min 24)

Main England & Ireland trip and Bicycling Tour - Approximate Land Pkg.

Dbl. Occ. = \$3889.00pp or Single Supp. = \$4919.00pp



Visit historic locations

*Discover the picturesque
scenery of England, Ireland,
and Wales*



*Gain unforgettable
memories*



*Tour London and
Dublin, then explore on
your own!*



England and Ireland Trip Includes:

- Accommodations in all locations
- 16 meals, 10 Breakfasts and 6 Dinners
- Tour of London including famous sights such as Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey and more!
- Visit to William Shakespeare's birthplace at Stratford-upon-Avon
- Discovery of the mysteries of the pre-historic structure of Stonehenge, time to explore Bath - famous for its Roman Spas and Georgian style and a scenic drive through Wales featuring its beautiful countryside
- Ferry to Rosslare, Ireland from the Welsh town of Fishguard
- Tour of the House of Waterford Crystal factory
- Opportunity to climb Blarney Castle and kiss the famous Blarney Stone
- Journey to see the Ring of Kerry and opportunity to browse traditional handcrafted Irish goods
- Irish jaunting car ride
- Visit to Molanna Dairy Farm and Cabra Castle
- Tour of Guinness Storehouse, including a pint for you to enjoy
- Tour of Dublin, featuring the Bank of Ireland, O'Connell Street, Phoenix Park and more!
- Free time to explore in both Dublin and London

Make checks out to: **Far West Ski Association (FWSA)**. Please reference "FWSA 2016 ENG/IRELAND Trip" on each check.

Send to: **Debbie Stewart**
FWSA VP of Int'l Travel
430 S. Church St.
Visalia, CA 93277

fwsaintltrav@prodigy.net or cell: 559/737-0882

CST # 2036983-40



Fran Long
President, Central Council of California



Central Council invites ski, sport and social enthusiasts throughout the central California area to consider joining one of our clubs. Currently, clubs are located in Fresno, Exeter, Bakersfield, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Salinas. Check out our Meetup site and consider joining one of our clubs. Our site can be found by searching www.meetup.com in the Paso Robles area. Contact information for our clubs can be found under ‘about us’.

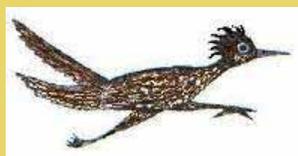
Central Council’s 48 Telluride attendees absolutely loved it! We are already making plans and looking forward to next year’s FWSA North American ski week in Breckenridge, CO. FWSA’s many ski and adventure trips are great for drawing our members and clubs together for adventure, fun, but most of all, friendship.

Wanting to do our part to support the organization that offers us so much fun, Central Council will again be hosting the pool party at the annual FWSA convention. This time, we are looking forward to taking our activities to the convention in Arizona. Why not consider joining this fun and educational convention, and supporting Central Council at the pool party.

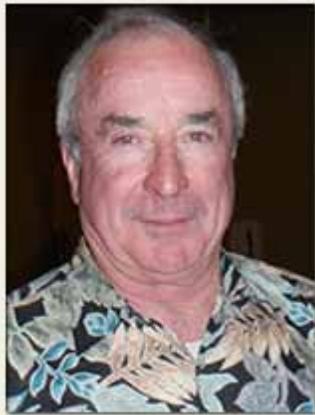
This year, Central Council ventured into the realm of Warren Miller, sponsoring our first show, Chasing Shadows, this past January. We are looking forward to working with our partner group, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society of Bakersfield College, in planning our next show for November, 2016.

As a council, we are all about supporting our seven member clubs, building friendships, and supporting our larger organizations, Far West Ski Association and the National Ski Council Federation. Visit our Meetup site for council information, and links to our member clubs’ information:

<http://www.meetup.com/Central-Council-Ski-Clubs/members/184988046/>



Arizona Roadrunners



*Paul Markowitz
President, Intermountain Ski Council*



The Intermountain Ski Council (ISC) is in the planning stages of the 85th Annual FWSA Convention, to be hosted by ISC and Bogus Basin Ski Club. It will be at the Boise Center on the Grove, June 7-11, 2017. This will be the first convention to be held in Idaho and we are all excited to show off our wonderful city and the State of Idaho. The Grove Hotel will be the host hotel, however, there are three new downtown hotels under construction currently and will be completed before Spring of 2017. We will have plenty of rooms available for delegates and guests.

I do not want to give away too many of the plans in this article. I want all of you to attend the 84th annual convention in Scottsdale, Arizona this June and learn all about the terrific activities that are being planned. The 2017 convention will be one you will not want to miss. It is inexpensive to fly into Boise and if you by your gas now, it will be cheap to drive.

The council sponsored our annual ski trip, February 10-13, 2016. We had two bus loads to Ogden, Utah. Our base was the historic Ben Lomond Hotel in Downtown Ogden. After breakfast at the hotel each morning, we boarded the buses for a 40 minute ride to either Powder Mountain or Snow basin. We got blown out the first day at Powder with winds blowing at 70 MPH. You should have seen the helmet of a snow boarder going across the parking lot and over the hill. We came back to the hotel and most members went shopping or took the train into Salt Lake City.

The next day was much better with 8-10 inches of new untracked powder on the slopes of Powder Mountain. Everyone had a blast. That evening, the hotel did a wine and cheese welcome party for us that everyone attended. We had the drawing for the raffle prizes and swag. We carried on at the Irish Pub, McCools, until it was time to load the bus in the morning (just kidding.) Snow Basin was terrific other than it was Saturday and sunny, too many bodies on the hill. Most everyone escaped without injury and we made the late trip back to Boise.

Without a doubt, Natailie Angell of the Bogus Basin Ski Club (BBSC) put on a great trip. We certainly did not run out of Alcohol and food. The three clubs in the Boise area participated, BBSC, Vertigals, and the Bogus Prime Times. We would love to get the clubs from the eastern part of the State to come along next year. It was a great time. We need new people to have fun with.

Respectively Submitted,
Michael Bouton, ISC Treasurer



The Utah Group





*Kathleen Byrnes
President, Los Angeles Council*



The busy part of the Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs (LAC) year is past and it is a little quieter now—everyone is off skiing! While El Nino has been stymied in Southern California by persistent high pressure, the more northern area has received record rain and snow so skiing in the Sierras is the best in years.

Prior to skiing, there were several events that brought together members of the 28 LAC clubs:

Man/Woman of the Year Competition

On October 18, 2015, nine contestants entered the competition for LAC’s Man and Woman of the Year for 2015.

Woman of the Year Candidates: Leslie Eastham (Century City Ski Club); Dee Armstrong (The Unrecables), Kathleen Byrnes (Wailers Ski Club), Kathy Geathers (Snow Busters Ski Club), and Danielle Battut (Single Ski Club) and the Man of the Year Candidates: Kris Flaig (Long Beach Ski Club); Steve Markman (Single Ski Club), John Gray (Unrecables); and Charlie Ellingson (Wailers Ski Club), gathered at Kathleen Byrnes’ home for a bit of conversation and light refreshment and to be interviewed by the judges from the Council’s clubs: Aaron Algazy (CCSC), Cynthia Carter (Long Beach Ski Club), Ginger Caples-Urode (Single Ski Club), Glenda Phillips (Unrecables), and Sandra Gail (Wailers Ski Club) held court asking the candidates some questions about themselves and what they do to promote and support their club.



After the interviews, the judges conferred and the votes were tallied. At the Snow Gala, on October 24, the winners of the 2015 man and woman of the year competition were announced with much fanfare: **Kathleen Byrnes (Wailers) And John Gray (Unrecables)**. These two great candidates will now go on to represent LA Council at the 2016 Far West Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona, and with their backgrounds of work within their clubs and council, LAC has great hopes to once again have winners at the Convention, as we have many times in past years.

Snow Gala



This year’s Snow Gala, *Snow Ball 2015*, took Carnival as its theme. Held October 24 at Pickwick Gardens, the party was filled with exotic masks and costumes. Following a wonderful dinner, attendees bid on wonderful items during The Unrecables Silent Auction and on the California Gold Ski Pass. The evening culminated with great dancing and many photo ops. It was a great party!



Continued on next page



Springtime in Arizona

Continued from previous page



Ski Dazzle

In an effort to provide value to LAC's Member Clubs, we held a survey of Member Clubs to discern activities LAC should start, stop, or continue. As a result of the survey, we conducted a best practices workshop on club leadership at our annual President's Luncheon in August 2015. Because the current administration questioned the value of attending Ski Dazzle LA, the nature of the LA Council's participation was re-structured. As a result of Ski Dazzle participation, nine member clubs sent 25 representatives to volunteer and man the booth. Those volunteers met enough people to distributed four boxes of *Far West Skier's Guides* with tri-folds. We received rousing approval from the volunteers for the booth activities, in spite of the location of the booth. During the weekend, LAC collected 90 names and email addresses of attendees that we can refer to member club trips and activities. As an indication of success, one Ski Dazzle attendee paid to take his daughter on the SnowBusters Ski Club Learn to Ski Trip in January.



Warren Miller Screening

To further its mission of supporting the success of member clubs, LAC partnered with Warren Miller Entertainment by exhibiting at the Redondo Beach screening of *Chasing Shadows* on Thursday, December 10, at the Performing Arts Center. Current, former and prospective members and their families came together for a great night of music, and film!

The exhibition at the screening was the second of a two-part collaboration beginning at Ski Dazzle LA from December 4-6 to increase awareness of the LAC and its member sports clubs, promote Warren Miller Entertainment projects, and bring fun for attendees.

Club Skiing and Racing

Most of the LAC clubs went skiing this winter, some to Mammoth (bus and drive-up) as well as other locations within and outside California. Some also raced. Following are examples of these outings:

Last month 90 members of Century City, Long Beach, Spacepark and Edelwiess ski clubs joined together for an epic week of skiing at Aspen and Snowmass. We were greeted by a snowstorm as we flew into Aspen, which required one of our two planes to be diverted to Grand Junction and half our group to the requisite 2.5 hour bus ride to get to the resort. However, the storm deposited over 2 feet of fresh, dry, light powder, delighting those of us who rarely get the opportunity to experience such light untracked deep powder in California. The temperature stayed in the teens and low twenties most of the week, which kept the powder in pristine condition. We stayed at the luxury Gant property, with private shuttles and other upscale amenities. In addition to skiing with friends, we shared racing, breakfast, lunches, apre-ski get-togethers and an amazing closing night dinner. These week long trips are not only incredible bargains, offering prices substantially below those available to individuals, but they form the backbone of deep, lasting friendships which are made and nourished and that contribute to keeping our clubs together, alive and growing. Everyone is looking forward to next years' trip!

The LAC clubs had a beautiful day for the second club race of the year at Mammoth. San Diego had a large contingent of racers and beat the LAC clubs, but all had a good time and are looking forward to the final races of the season in March.



***Sylvia Kearns
President Northwest Ski Club Council***

Skiers in the Northwest (NW) have a lot to be happy about this year. Many storms have blown through this winter. After last year's bleakest ski season in NW history we were on the edge of our lift chair all season. There was fear that each storm would be the last and the rains would come and melt it away. That did not happen--the snow kept and keeps accumulating. Currently there is 142 inches at Timberline Lodge with a year to date total of 501 inches. Mt. Hood Meadows boasts nearly the same while skiers at Mt. Bachelor are tearing the slopes up nearly every day.

It has been a terrific winter. Our race league, Pacific NW Area Recreational Alpine Teams (PACRAT), had all five of its races. In addition, a Fun Race was thrown in on the makeup race date. One of the National Standard Race (NASTAR) Open race dates brought in a number of racers and people who just love doing gates. The second one was canceled during the one week that a Pineapple Express came through. The annual Rat Attack where all of the awards are given will be April 12 at McMenemy's Edgefield in Troutdale, Oregon.

It is a busy season to race and raise money. The annual Ski to Defeat ALS will be held April 9th at Mt. Hood Meadows. The Oregon Cancer Ski Out a 2-day event was held March 13th and 14th. This five member team is a huge competition/fund raiser for cancer research in Oregon. This year's event was held in near blizzard conditions, but it did not stop people from dressing up and participating. The NWSCC Man of the Year, Bob Lawrence, had a second place team-winning ski racks for the team members.

The council has been very active with slope and off slope events. The regular December meeting was very well attended. The annual "PIE" auction had a lot of interesting donations. From cookies to hand carved Christmas ornaments to homemade Lemoncello. Over \$400 was donated to the FWSA Foundation from the proceeds. Donated items were largely a NWSSC BOD effort. The President of FWSA, Steve Coxen, was there to talk about the Foundation and the upcoming FWSA Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona. A new social event was held at Columbia Flagship Store downtown Portland, Oregon in February. The council provided food and libation while Columbia donated fabulous Columbia Wear door prizes and gave a huge discount to shoppers both there and at the adjoining Mountain Hardware store. Despite the torrential downpour 60 people showed up to hear about the history of Columbia and have an opportunity to win an autographed book written by Gert Boyle, founder of Columbia.

There have been many Ski Club hosted trip this year. Canada was a favorite partially due to the positive exchange rate for those living in the Pacific Northwest. Mountain High Snowsports held three sold out trips while Skiyente Ski Club hosted its annual family trip to Big White Resort with 30 participants. Cascade Primetimer's trip to Sun Valley was so successful that they planned a second one. Many other clubs hosted trips as well.



Crab was the delicacy of choice for fund raisers for Cascade Ski Club and Schnee Vogeli Ski Club. Both of these annual events are open to prospective members and friends of current club members. Skiyente Ski Club members participated in both of these events as well as hosting King Winter. A combined effort of Schnee Vogeli and Skiyente Ski Club ensures that the Masters Race circuit gets its annual “Reynolds Run” fix at Ski Bowl and raises money for the Erin Nicole Scholarship fund. Gumbo and Prime Rib are the dinner choices for that event.

With all of that being said it was and is a great year to be a NWSCC member and FWSA member. We have a number of events left on our calendar with the season wrapping up at the 2016 FWSA Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona- hosted by Arizona council. See everyone there.

Sylvia Kearns
President, NWCC



Northwest Ski Club Council



*Sheila Van Guilder
President, Orange Council of Ski Clubs*



FWSA Ski Week in **Telluride Ski Resort** was a very successful event for Orange Council of Ski Clubs (Orange Council). We took in 72 members. Representing Balboa Ski and Sports Club (BSSC), Snowfliers Ski Club and Snowbounders Ski Club, V.P.

of Travel, Jess Gorman, ably led the group with the help of Connie Peacock, leader of the BSSC members, and Carol Kane, leading the Snowbounders. As always, they all had a great experience skiing and partying.

Orange County Ski Club went to **Park City Ski Resort**, Utah on their own trip with 26 members and Fountain Valley Ski Club loved skiing **Big Sky Ski Resort** on their big trip. Balboa Ski and Sports Club made three very successful bus trips to **Mammoth Ski Resort** this season, and the usual drive up trip in December. BSSC made their bus trips available to all Orange Council members without the non-member charge this season.

February 15th was the date of Orange Council's Presidents dinner held annually. Attendance to this dinner is open to the presidents, council representatives and trip organizers of each club belonging to the Council. Guest speakers were Sara Richter of the United States Adaptive Recreation Center in Big Bear, California. It was inspiring to hear of all the support provided to the disabled to make the skiing experience available to all. Orange Council supports this group regularly. Our other speaker was Jane Wyckoff who brought all the convention news to us. Many of us are excited to attend the FWSA Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona in June.



*Sigrid Noack
Charities/Our Community Chair*



The 10th annual FWSA "Charity & Community Service Recognition" award is well under way. A great big thank you to the four clubs that took time out of their busy schedules to share their wonderful charitable activities with the rest of our FWSA family. It continues to amaze me how caring the members in our FWSA clubs are.

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*Jo Simpson
President, Sierra League & Council*



Sierra Council Clubs Enjoy the Snow at Home and on the Road

After four drought years, our members are enjoying skiing on natural snow and having all trails open at the resorts. After having to cancel our first race because of a huge snowstorm, we are on track to complete the rest of the season.

Sierra Council members enjoyed the Telluride Ski Week. A huge thank you goes to our Travel VP Debbie Stewart for managing the trip and taking good care of us.

Our clubs are also traveling. The Reno Ski and Recreation Club went to Vail in March. The Las Vegas Ski, Snowboard and Sports Club went on their annual President's Weekend trip to Ogden to ski Powder Mountain and Snowbasin. They also went to Brian Head.

We are thrilled that our former Frank App Memorial Scholarship Winner, Lila Lapanja, has done well on the World Cup circuit. Our new scholarship recipient, A.J. Hurt, trains at Squaw Valley. She had the opportunity to train in Austria this season. A.J. is 16 and has a bright future. We are thrilled to play a small part in it.

Sigrid Noack - Continued From Previous page

We now have two separate recognition classes for Clubs to apply for our Charity Recognition. Those clubs that have previously won first place in this Charity Recognition award apply in the (Masters) Double Diamond Class, and other clubs apply in the (Novice) Diamond Class. The two separate levels will, hopefully, give all groups an added incentive to apply, and then apply again in future years. The first prize in each club category is \$200 and for second place \$50 to be donated to the club's favorite charity. The top two clubs in each category are invited to display a picture board at the convention.

Our Councils are all in a separate group and have their own recognition class. The first place council receives \$100 to be donated to a favorite charity and are invited to display a picture board at the convention.

Thank you and congratulations to the groups whose applications I received this year. Double Diamond Ski Clubs are: Skiyente Ski Club (NWSCC) and Pac Rim Alliance (LAC & SDSC); Diamond Ski Clubs are: Torrey Pines Ski Club (SDSC); Castro Valley Ski Club (BAC). No ski councils applied this year. Our delegates, industry friends and other convention guests are always very impressed by the amazing dedication to charitable giving within our FWSA family.

beginning in the 16th century, the museum has 54 galleries including the Sistine Chapel's ceiling painted by Michelangelo. Pope Francis was there but unfortunately we did not get to see him. Not surprisingly, that requires a comprehensive security clearance.

Trevi Fountain provided us with the opportunity to see the historic fountain and to toss a coin for good luck. Lots of good luck abounded on this trip. After a visit to the Pantheon, we had time for dinner and shopping in the quaint Trastevere area. After all this sightseeing, we had two days on our own. Some ventured as far as Pompeii; others visited nearby sites including the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, reputed to be a favorite of Pope Francis, and the Spanish Steps, currently under restoration. More gelato and wonderful food punctuated our time in Rome and left us yearning to return.

2016 International Adventure trip to London, English countryside and Ireland

Our next international adventure trip is planned for September 12-22, 2016 with an optional bicycling tour September 22-26, 2016. Changing of the Guard, Westminster Abby, Big Ben, St. Paul's Cathedral, Trafalgar Square and Tower of London are just some of the major attractions that we will be experiencing while in London. Not only will we be enjoying the big city, we will be traveling to the beautiful English countryside while visiting Bath, Stonehenge, the Cotswolds and staying overnight in Stratford upon Avon.

After England, we will push the boundaries even further as we travel to Ireland. We will celebrate the art of living Irish style. We be visiting several unique and different destinations including Waterford Crystal, Guinness Storehouse and Cliffs of Moher, in addition to spectacular scenery and incredible vistas. While in Dublin we will have a guided day tour with free time to explore and yes, this is exactly what you have been dreaming of - the relaxed Irish way of life, the finest seasonal cuisine and the essence of an unforgettable holiday. An optional bicycling tour will offer a unique way of experiencing Ireland while on two wheels.

FWSA's 7th Annual Scuba Dive trip to Fiji

Our scuba dive trips are becoming more popular for both the scuba diver and the non-divers who want to have an outstanding vacation experience. Week 1 will be September 24 – October 1, 2016 at the Beqa Lagoon Resort. Week 2 will be October 1-8, 2016 as an extension or a "Stand Alone" trip. Can't make **Week 1**... We will fly you from the United States on Sept. 29th to join the group for the **Week 2 Dive Trip!** Enjoy 2 beautiful resorts, experience Fijian culture and entertainment, create new memories with new and old friends and much more.

2017 International Ski Week to St. Anton am Arlberg Region with extension to Graz & Vienna

We will be in St. Anton am Arlberg Region March 11-19, 2017 for our international ski trip where our members can enjoy the beautiful country of Austria, offering amazing array of sights, sounds and tastes that are sure to please a wide variety of skiers and non-skiers alike. St. Anton am Arlberg is considered one of the world's top ski resorts and après-ski destinations.

We will all be staying at the 4th Schwarzer Adler Hotel which offers a full service luxury property complete with jacuzzis, pool and spa services. It is located in the charming pedestrian zone and offers convenient ski storage at the base of the gondola. You may use your ski pass at multiple resorts including: St. Anton, St. Christoph and Stuben. It boasts interesting slopes for all levels of skiers and is considered one of the top quality ski resorts of the "Best of the Alps".

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Trip includes:

- All airport ground transfers. Multi-lingual guide meeting the FWSA Group Air people upon arrival
- 7 nights' accommodations with breakfast daily at your hotel and Wi-Fi
- 5 Dinners at your hotel – 2 nights **unscheduled** to experience the local Austrian restaurants of your choice and find the best apple strudel in town!
- Welcome/Orientation and Farewell Party
- Gratuities to bus drivers, transfer guides and restaurant staff
- Après ski party – details to be provided

After St. Anton we will explore our extension trip in Graz and Vienna. Graz is the 2nd largest city in Austria and offers interesting history and culture, while Vienna is considered “the Paris of Eastern Europe” with extensive art, music and culture. We are offering Graz & Vienna trip as a Stand Alone trip, so we will fly you from the United States to join the group for the extension trip. This will be a treat for everyone!

As FWSA VP of International Travel, I feel extraordinarily grateful for having been able to organize travel to so many places and I believe that traveling has so often put me in that mood of receptivity to the new and that attitude has soaked deeply into me and permeated my behaviors. I find myself still observing the world as if I am a visitor, just passing through such a short journey with a revitalized traveler’s point of view throughout life.

What’s Ahead.....A lot! Mark your calendars now!

2017 Summer Ski and Adventure trip - Valle Nevado, Chile

2018 International Ski Week - Les Trois Vallees/Brides les Bain, France

2018 India Adventure trip

“Enrich your life and indulge yourself with adventures to be discovered with FWSA’s International Travel Program.”

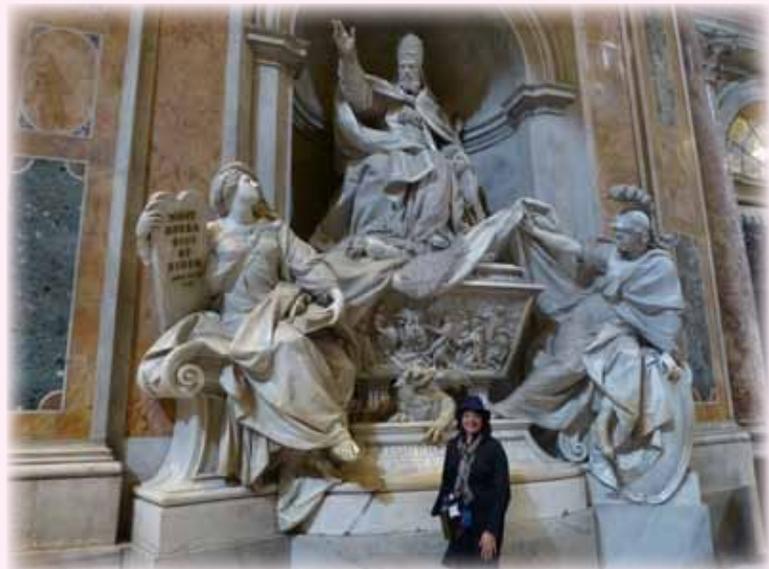
For updates or information on
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Debbie in Front of Pope Gregory VIII



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Week 1: September 24 – October 1, 2016

(FWSA LAX group air departs Sept. 22th)

Week 2: October 1 - 8, 2016 as an Extension or a "Stand Alone Trip"*

*Can't make **Week 1**...We'll fly you from the US on Sept. 29th to join the group for the **Week 2** Dive Trip!

Week 1 - Beqa Lagoon Resort:

Diver Land Package = \$1916.00; Non-Diver Land Package = \$1383.00; Single Supp. Add = \$308.00

Price Includes:

- 7 nights at Beqa Lagoon Resort – Dbl. Occupancy with all meals daily
- Fiji government taxes (tips not included)
- 3 days of 2-tank boat dives and 2 days of 3-tank boat dives
- Airport transfers from Nadi Airport to Pacific Harbour Boat Launch, then to Beqa Lagoon Resort

Week 2 – Paradise Taveuni Resort:

Diver Land Package = \$2171.00; Non-Diver Land Package = \$1220.00; Single Supp. Add = \$747.00

Price Includes:

- 7 nights at Paradise Taveuni Resort – Dbl. Occupancy with all meals daily and FJ \$100 resort credit
- Fiji government taxes (tips not included)
- Airport transfers from Taveuni Airport
- 5 days of 3-tank boat dives + 1 night boat dive



Experience Fijian Culture & Entertainment

Create New Memories with Friends, Old and New!



Enjoy 2 Beautiful Resorts



Kayak, snorkel, paddle board and more...



Group Air on Fiji Airlines Round Trip: LAX to Nadi = est. \$1578.00pp & LAX to Taveuni = est. \$1837.00

- Subject to changes in taxes and fuel charges
- Pricing is based on contract minimum and is subject to change until ticket is issued
- We will gladly assist you in air transportation from other airports – please specify on registration form

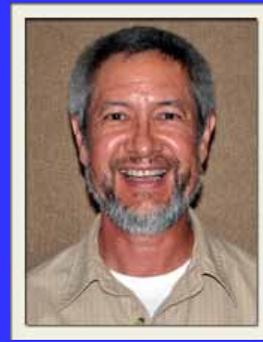
Contact: Randy Lew
 FWSA Dive Trip Leader
 P.O. Box 9237
 Truckee, CA 96162
 Cell: 530/304-0802
 E-mail: FWSA13Randy@telis.org

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

CST # 2036983-40



Leigh Gieringer
Editor
Far West Skier's Guide



Jim Stewart
Information Services Director

FWSA keeps a database on members, clubs, and councils. It is important that information in this database be current so that communications are received in a timely manner. Let me know if there are changes in club or council officers, changes in membership addresses and phone numbers, changes in members' club affiliations, or if your club or council has changed its meeting location. Requests for information from the database must be sent to the FWSA President (Steve Coxen) for approval before it will be dispersed. The Far West Ski Association website (www.fwsa.org) has a Ski Club Officer Update Form that can be downloaded, completed and mailed to me at:

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FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ON FWSA, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.fwsa.org

The Voice of the Western Skier

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