

Far West News *Flash*

March 2018

Far West Ski Association

WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2018

Vail Adds \$99 Military Epic Pass For 2018-2019: In celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Epic Pass, Vail Resorts is honoring the service of the Company's founders from the 10th Mountain Division, and men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces, Canadian Armed Forces and Australian Defence Force with the introduction of a \$99 Military Epic Pass for active and retired military members, and their dependents, available beginning on Tuesday, March 6th. Additionally, for every 2018-19 Vail Resorts Season Pass sold, the company will donate \$1 to the *Wounded Warrior Project (WWP)*,

Spring Festivals – Last Gasp ‘On Mountain’ Parties: The coming of spring is a bittersweet time for skiers and riders. But it's also time to party down at some of your favorite resorts. Here are a few fun things going on over the next few weeks: at *Mount Sunapee (NH)* on March 23, *Bode Miller* takes to the NASTAR course to set a time to beat, and a lucky few get to ski with the World Cup champ in the afternoon. Bode will then host a meet-and-greet in the evening.

Jackson Hole's Rendezvous Festival goes from March 15-18, with a ton of music both at the mountain and in town – and it's all free. On Saturday, Olympic champ *Red Gerard* will be around for some slopestyle, autographs and partying.

On March 30, *Squaw Valley* continues a tradition with the *Pain McShlonkey Classic*, a tribute to the late BASE jumper **Shane McConkey**. Highlights are a mass downhill race, small mountain snowblade competition, costume party and The World's Greatest After Party.

Mammoth Mountain, puts a cap on the season on April 7-8 with the Mammoth Invitational. A weekend's worth of racing includes Olympians *Stacey Cook* and *Kelly Clark*. Past the finish line, it's party, party to raise money for the *Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation*.

FAR WEST CONVENTION

TWO Months & Counting - Far West's 86th Annual Convention: The Far West Ski Association invites all snowsports enthusiasts to attend its' 86th Annual Convention, to be held at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, June 7-10, 2018, in beautiful Reno, Nevada.

Your four-day weekend will be busy with all that is planned, including: discussions on programs in public affairs, skier safety, ski heritage, athletic scholarships, racing, communications, travel, council development, ski industry and community outreach. The event will be hosted by the *Bay Area Snow Sports Council and Sierra League and Council*.

The Silent Auction & Trade Show gives attendees the opportunity to bid on ski and travel packages. This event is open to the public and there is no cost to attend, so we are hoping for a large turnout.

The rest of the weekend will be filled with Education Sessions and Public Affairs sessions on Saturday morning and afternoon, followed by our Awards Banquet on Saturday evening, recognizing outstanding club members and industry partners. Sunday winds up with our Annual Meeting and Elections.

Delegate Registration Packets were sent out the end of February, so all Far West ski clubs should have theirs' in hand. (If you do not, please contact your ski club council President immediately Additional information about all the programs to be conducted at the 86th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention and registration information is available at www.fwsa.org.

FAR WEST ELECTIONS

Election of FWSA Officers: Election of officers will occur at the FWSA Annual Meeting and Convention June 7-10, 2018. Delegates will elect their President, Secretary, and Treasurer to one-year terms and two (2) Trustee positions for two-year terms. In addition, the following functional Vice Presidents will be elected for two-year terms:

President – Gloria Raminha
Secretary – Sheri Parshall (incumbent)
Treasurer – Randy Lew (incumbent)
VP of Communications – no declared candidate
VP of International Travel – Debbie Stewart (incumbent)
VP of Marketing – Debbi Kor (incumbent)
VP of Membership – Michael Bouton
Trustee Position – Fran Long (incumbent), Linda Westlund, Norbert Knapp

If you are interested in being a candidate for any of the above positions, please contact Steve Coxen, Nominating Committee Chair by email at sacoxen2000@gmail.com. Steve will not be a candidate for any FWSA officer or board position in 2018. **For a copy of FWSA Qualifications for the positions of President, Treasurer, Trustee and VP of International Travel, please contact Steve Coxen, Nominating Committee Chair by email at sacoxen2000@gmail.com.**

All candidates must be members in good standing of clubs affiliated with FWSA or a direct member of FWSA. Qualified nominees for any of the open positions will be accepted up to the date and time of the elections.

FWSA By-Laws, Job Descriptions and the Operations Manual are available on the FWSA website at www.fwsa.org. Click on the "About" tab, then click on the "Governance" tab.

For information or advice on running for any FWSA office contact any member of the FWSA Nominating Committee:

- Steve Coxen, Nominations Committee Chair – sacoxen2000@gmail.com
- Arleigh Meiners, Arizona Ski Council President – arleigh.meiners@cox.net
- Todd Hood, Succession Planning Committee Chair – todd@itsmailed.com

FAR WEST TRAVEL

Far West Windjammer Sailboat Adventure Trip: **3 Deluxe cabins STILL AVAILABLE** on the 2019 Island Windjammer Sailboat Adventure Trip aboard the *NEW* sailing vessel *Vela*. The ship departs Tortola and will sail May 19-26, 2019. Extended stay on the island of Tortola will be available. Contact Sheri Parshall at cougskier@aol.com or visit <http://www.fwsa.org/Travel/Cruise/2T019-FWSA-Windjammer> for more information.

Far West International Adventure Trip, 2018: Far West will be going on an adventure trip to *India*. The dates are set for October 5-21, 2018. We will be visiting all the must-see places while in Delhi, Jaipur, and Agra. Of course, we'll be visiting the UNESCO world heritage site of the Taj Mahal. We'll also be traveling by air, motor coach and by train to get the true experience of India. Included will be Ranthambore National Park where we'll be on 2 animal safaris. Contact Debbie Stewart: fwsainttrvl@prodigy.net. *

***This trip is limited to 35 participants, so mark your calendars now as the marketing materials are currently being prepared.**

Far West Dive Trip 2018: The 2018 FWSA Dive Trip will be to the beautiful *Cobalt Coast Resort* on the wonderful island of **Grand Cayman** from September 15 – 22, 2018! Additional information along with the registration form is uploaded on our website www.fwsa.org in the very near future. Email Randy Lew: fwsa13randy@telis.org for more information.

FAR WEST COUNCILS

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs: San Diego Council is planning a fun trip this Spring to the *Mexico Wine Country* and surrounding areas (Guadalupe and Santo Tomas Valley). This trip is planned for April 11-13. Contact Shirl Troxel for further information: troxel44@gmail.com.

In 2019, SDCSC will be doing a trip through Australia and New Zealand, October 13 – November 1, with a pre-trip to *Melbourne, Alice Springs* October 9-13, and post-trip to *Fiji*, November 1-5, 2019. Grand Circle Tours will be the tour operator on this amazing trip to *Cairns and Sydney, Australia; Queenstown, New Zealand, Rotorua, and Auckland*, before returning back home. Contact Eileen Sanford (esanford660@gmail.com) for more information.

Aspen - December 6-12, 2018: The Annual *Aspen* ski trip will be taking place again this year. If you buy the *IKON* pass from deanna@ski.com, you will receive \$30 off your SDCSC Aspen trip. The pass, on sale now, includes *Mammoth, Bear Mountain, Aspen and Steamboat*. The Aspen early sign up party will be June 23, 2018 at the Sanfords' house. At that time, deposits will be taken, and online registration will be open. Contact powerskristinam@gmail.com for more information.

Amsterdam to Bruges- April 27- May 4, 2019: The *Amsterdam Bike & Boat* will be an amazing bike trip. The trip spends three days cycling in Belgium which will introduce you to famous brands of Belgium beer each served in their special style glass and of course Belgium waffles!. Three professional guides will be with the group on daily long or short ride. We will be on the brand new, luxurious boat, the *Manifique III*, with some large suites featuring outside decks, satellite TV and a jacuzzi on the top deck. Come join us for this wonderful adventure! Contact Eileen Sanford- esanford660@gmail.com for more information.

Sierra League And Council: Sierra Council 's Reno Ski and Recreation has dropped the price on their 2019 *Big Sky, Montana*, January 12-19, 2019, trip to \$1,775. They are waiving the club membership fee for any FWSA club members who would like to participate. The trip includes lodging and breakfast at the ski in/ski out Huntley Lodge, a sleigh ride with dinner, and a top of the mountain farewell dinner. Contact Mary Kelly: mkellyintahoe@sbcglobal.net to sign up.