

August 2019

Far West Ski Association

WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2019

Happy Birthday to the McCoys: Both *Dave and Roma McCoy* are celebrating birthdays this month. Dave turns 104 on August 24th, and his lovely wife, Roma, celebrated her 99th birthday on August 12th. The town of Mammoth Lakes is honoring them in grand style. Best wishes to you both!

Squaw Valley Alpine Meadows Base-to-Base Gondola Approved: After years of environmental reviews, permit hearings, and opposition from conservation groups, the base-to-base gondola that will connect Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows was approved by Placer County officials. The gondola will begin at Squaw Valley, traverse over privately owned property, and end at the Alpine Meadows base area.

Arapahoe Basin Joins Ikon Pass: Starting this winter, Ikon Pass holders will have seven days of access to A-Basin with no blackout dates, and Ikon Base passholders will have five days with select blackout dates. Arapahoe Basin said it would not renew its long-time season pass partnership with Vail Resorts for the 2019-20 season but planned to pursue discussions with other resorts and resort groups. Now the legendary resort is partnered with Alterra Mountain Company.

Vail Resorts Put Investment Focus on Longer Season: Vail Resorts say their spending priority in Colorado ahead of next winter is on ensuring a longer ski season for purchasers of their Epic Pass season ticket. With all the snowmaking going on, you may find yourself skiing a couple more months each year.

Delta Airlines Eliminates Fee for Sporting Equipment Including Bikes: Delta customers traveling with surfboards, bicycles, golf clubs, scuba gear and other large-sized sporting equipment will now be allowed to check them as part of their standard baggage allowance.

Italy wins vote to host 2026 Winter Games. Italy will host the 2026 Olympics in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, taking the Winter Games to the Alpine country for the second time in 20 years. International Olympic Committee members voted for the long-favored Milan-Cortina bid over a bid from Stockholm-Are, Sweden, that also included a bobsled track in Latvia.

Rock the Pistes Returns: 2020 dates have been announced for the 10th edition of *Rock the Pistes* in the huge Portes du Soleil region on the French/Swiss border. Rock the Pistes is one of the largest music festivals in the Alps, with more than 28,000 music fans expected set to descend on the region from 15-21 March 2020. The festival will comprise five live concerts on the ski slopes and more than 30 après-ski concerts across multiple resorts on both the French and Swiss side of the Portes du Soleil

FAR WEST TRAVEL

2020 NORTH AMERICAN SKI WEEK: We'll be going to *Big Sky, Montana*, for 2020 North American Ski Week. Big Sky is BIG with four mountains giving access to more skiing than anywhere else in the United States. The Big Sky lift ticket, or IKON pass, gives skiers/boarders access to 5,800 skiable acres. Runs up to six miles long and glades and bowls covered in 400+ inches of annual snowfall give every age and level of skier and boarder something different. Check with your council trip leader or the FWSA.org website for more

details.

2020 MINI SKI WEEK: *Big White* is the destination for the 2020 Mini Ski Trip. Big White is home to the best snow in British Columbia and the longest season in the Okanagan Valley. Big White is Canada's largest totally ski-in, ski-out village. It has 18 on-mountain restaurants cafes delis, pubs, and night clubs. Stay tuned for further information.

FWSA DAVOS, SWITZERLAND SKI TRIP: This trip will include an extension to *Portugal*. Working with Holiday Ski Tours, the dates for the Davos Basic Ski Week is February 28-March 7, 2020. The Portugal Extension Trip will be from March 7-13, 2020. For any questions, contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel: FWSAIntTrvl@prodigy.net, or 559-737-0882

Far West 2020 ADVENTURE TRIP: Far West will be offering an Adventure trip to *Croatia*, September 3-13, 2020. We will be working with *Alpine Adventures* on this particular trip. This will be a land and boat/yacht trip, limited to a minimum of 30, and maximum of 40 participants. Group air is not available until October, 2019. Once that happens, marketing materials will be put out to FWSA clubs and councils.

FWSA 2021 SOLDEN SKI WEEK: This trip will have an extension to *Southern Spain*. Three bids have been submitted and bid comparison analysis is currently being worked on.

FWSA SUMMER 2021 CHILE SKI/ADVENTURE TRIP: *Valle Nevado, Chile* ski trip with extension to *Atacama Desert* currently being researched for details of Atacama Desert conditions. Possible dates would be late July or August 2021.

OTHER FWSA INTERNATIONAL TRIPS UNDER CONSIDERATION: FWSA International Ski Week, 2022 to *Madonna Di Campiglio, Italy* was voted on at April 2019 Board meeting. An *Africa Adventure Trip* has been approved for 2022, going to central and east Africa. And, a *Galapagos Adventure Trip* has been approved by the FWSA Board for 2024.

HISTORIC SKI CLUBS AND COUNCIL, 2019: Five clubs and San Diego Council were authorized the designation "Historic" at the FWSA convention June 16, 2019. This brings the Historic total to 28 clubs and two councils; the roster remains open for additions in 2020. The Historic *Bay Area Council* presented *Modesto* (1936), *Marin* (1938) and *Nisei* (1958); *Orange* presented *Orange County SC* (1964) and *San Diego* presented *Torrey Pines* (1961) and the *San Diego Council* itself (1963). There are a lot of eligible clubs in BAC and LA Council. All you need to furnish to the History Chairman is: 1) an application, 2) proof of founding date 50 or more years ago and in continuous operation and 3) a high definition digital logo.

FAR WEST COUNCILS

Northwest Ski Club Council: *Northwest Ski Club Council*, originally founded as the "*Portland Area Ski Club Council*", is about to celebrate their 40th Anniversary. Wednesday, December 11, 2019 has been set as the date for all current, former and future NWSCC members to gather together at *Lagunitas Community Taproom* for a chance to see old friends and reminisce about the "good ol' days" in the Northwest ski clubs. We will be celebrating NWSCC's 40th Anniversary and PACRAT Race League's 35th. We are looking for histories of member clubs, which in turn, gives us more information on our own Council history.

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs: The Annual *Aspen* Trip is set for December 5-11, 2019. Price is \$1479/Adults, or \$1369 for Seniors, including air, lift tickets, lodging and parties.

(SDSCC) - Iceland – Land of Fire & Ice: A Mayflower Tour Cruise, Aug 5-11, 2020. Your 7-day trip includes: adventures of volcanoes, waterfalls, Blue Lagoon entrance, whale watching, a full-day Golden Circle tour, Reykjanes Peninsula. Price is \$2,349 without air.

(SDSCC) - Romantic Villages of Alpine Europe-Grand Circle Tour: This trip is OCTOBER 3-18,2020. Visit Italy, Switzerland, Austria-Germany, 15 days. \$3495 without air. 24 meals, 9 guided tours, 8 Discovery events, with local Grand Circle Program Director. Pre-trip *Lake Como*; Post-Trip: *Salzburg* - priced separately.

Intermountain Ski Club Council: *Bogus Basin Ski Club*, member-club of the Intermountain Ski Council, is seeking information for a survey that they are conducting and have asked if our Yahoo members would be willing to take a quick 3-question survey here. The link is below.

Our club is researching *best practices* and criteria in establishing a new membership offering for our club members, a 'Lifetime' membership category. Please take a moment and provide us your information that pertains to 'Lifetime' membership in your organization. Your input is GREATLY appreciated.

1. Does your club/organization offer a 'Lifetime' membership category?
2. If YES, please provide the criteria of the 'Lifetime' membership.
3. If YES, what is the cost of the 'Lifetime' membership?

Submit your answer to: Survey@bogusbasinskiclub.org Thank You!

Sierra Council: The Sierra Council's Reno Ski & Recreation Club is going to *Ireland* May 24-30, 2020 and invites all FWSA club members to join them. The trip involves overnights in Dublin, Kilkenny, Killarney, Galway and Drogheda. Enjoy a visit to the Guinness Storehouse, a Viking pub crawl, the Blarney Castle, a whiskey distillery and many other daily attractions as your motor coach takes you from town to town. There is an optional 2-day pre-stay in Dublin with a musical pub crawl. Pricing is \$1,885 (excluding air) and the pre-stay is \$530. All payments are fully refundable until Oct. 31, 2019. Members of other FWSA clubs do not need to join the Reno club. For complete information and to sign up contact Sandy Stocks, S3RENO23@hotmail.com, 775-853-1773. Link to the complete itinerary:

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/23d7d6_cf631de01f8c4234bc6809d2250a8959.pdf

FAR WEST CONVENTION

Far West's 88th Annual Convention: MAY 28-31, 2020. Put those dates on your calendar **NOW!** *Northwest Ski Club Council* is planning a terrific four-day-event for you all next May. The theme will be "*Rollin' on the River*", with a Riverboat Gambler idea in mind. We will have a *Mt. Hood Adventure Day* on Thursday, as well as the Annual Far West *Pub Crawl* on Thursday evening. Friday will bring the "Not Your Daddy's" Golf Tournament on Friday morning at *McMennamins, Edgefield*. We are also planning a *Wine Tour* and a *Bike Ride* on Friday (no, not together! That would be 'Not Your Daddy's Bike Ride'). Aside from our typical Awards Banquet on Saturday evening, we plan to have both musical entertainment, and gambling on Saturday night.

Portland, the "Rose City", due to its' many gorgeous rose gardens, is a beautiful place to visit! You really must plan to come early and stay late. You'll not get tired of the many things to do and see in our fabulous city! We will also be celebrating Far West Ski Association's **90th Anniversary** during this event. Lots of history, lots of stories, and hopefully a few Very "Special" Guests from the Pacific Northwest. This event will be held at the beautiful *Red Lion on the River, Jantzen Beach* in Portland, Oregon. Hope to see you all there.