

December, 2019

Far West Ski Association

WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2019-2020

Happy Anniversary: Ski Idaho's License Plate is celebrating 20 years in existence. The plate has been around since January 1, 1999. Bob Looper, Brundage Mountain Co. President and Idaho Ski Areas Association board chair, said it is an important revenue stream for the nonprofit, which represents 18 alpine resorts in Idaho.

Happy Anniversary Mike Wiegele Heli-Skiing: Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing is celebrating their 50th season this year. To mark the occasion, they're bringing back a legendary competition--*The Powder 8 World Championships*. Powder 8s were a way to showcase what great powder skiing looks like, as well as a way to perfecting and evolving the art of powder skiing. Launched in 1980, the annual MWHS Powder 8 World Championships was widely heralded as the pinnacle showcase event for synchronized powder skiing, where teams of two competed head-to-head in creating perfect '8s' in deep powder snow." The Powder 8 World Championships will take place March 21-April 3, 2020 in Blue River, BC.

Mountain Capital Partners to Acquire Brian Head Resort: Mountain Capital Partners (MCP) has entered into an agreement to acquire *Brian Head Resort* in southern Utah. *Brian Head* will be the eighth resort in MCP's portfolio of properties, which includes Nordic Valley Ski Resort, Utah; Sipapu Ski & Summer Resort and Pajarito Mountain, N.M.; Hesperus Ski Area and Purgatory Resort, Colo.; Arizona Snowbowl; and Spider Mountain Bike Park, Texas. "I firmly believe *Brian Head Resort's* best days are ahead of it, with exciting things to come!" said John Grissinger, president and majority owner of *Brian Head*.

Alterra to Acquire Sugar Bush: Alterra Mountain Company has entered into an agreement to purchase Sugarbush Resort in Vermont, bringing the company's portfolio up to 15 resorts throughout North America. Sugarbush will be joining Stratton in Vermont.

POWDR Purchases Silver Star: POWDR has acquired *SilverStar Mountain Resort* in British Columbia. *SilverStar* is the first Canadian property in POWDR's portfolio, which includes 10 other resorts across California, Colorado, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Vermont. "*SilverStar* is a world-class destination that fits well with who POWDR is, what our properties are—community favorites—and our commitment to protecting and enhancing the authentic year-round adventure experience for generations to come," said Justin Sibley, POWDR co-president. There will be **NO CHANGES to *SilverStar* 2019-20 season passes**, current operations or reciprocal agreements with other resorts.

Far West's Celebration of 90 Years: A focus team convened on December 7, at the Winter Far West Board Meeting in Portland, to work on plans for the birthday plan. The plan is to make the birthday self-supporting yet affordable to the attending member, while offering a memorable experience. One possible idea may be a two-night harbor cruise after a meetup earlier in the day. Plans envision a congratulatory "memory book" and pin. If you want to receive bulletins on the progress and plans for the party in San Francisco October 10, 2020, send an email to fwsa.watson@gmail.com with FWSA90 in the subject line. The first informational bulleting should be emailed early next month to those who have "signed up."

Mikaela Does it Again: CONGRATS to Mikaela Shiffrin who continues her strong campaign with a dominating Slalom win in Killington; a 2nd in the Lake Louise Downhill; and a podium 3rd in the St Moritz Super G! Many congrats to Tommy Ford from Bend, OR who won his first World Cup race with an amazing performance in the Birds of Prey Giant Slalom in Beaver Creek!

FAR WEST TRAVEL

2020 NORTH AMERICAN SKI WEEK: **HOPE YOU ARE SIGNED UP TO GO!** *Big Sky, Montana* is the site for the 2020 North American Ski Week, January 25 – February 1, 2020. *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. Ski runs up to six miles long, and glades and bowls covered in 400+ inches of annual snowfall. **There's still room for YOU.** 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, plus the largest totally ski-in, ski-out village. It has 18 on-mountain restaurants cafes delis, pubs, and night clubs. Dates for this trip are March 29-April 3, 2020. Contact Gloria Raminha, Trip Leader, at: garski2011@gmail.com for additional information.

FWSA DAVOS, SWITZERLAND SKI TRIP: **LIMITED AVAILABILITY! ACT NOW!!** on this trip to *Davos!* If you're interested in going, get in touch with Debbie Stewart **NOW**. The dates for the *Davos Basic Ski Week* are February 28-March 7, 2020. We will be working with *Holidaze Ski Tours*. The *Portugal Extension Trip*, which will be from March 7-13, 2020, is currently sold out. However, there is a **Wait List**, so don't hesitate if you still want to go. For any questions, contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel: FWSAIntTrvl@prodiqy.net, or 559-737-0882

FAR WEST 2020 ADVENTURE TRIP: **Waiting List!** Far West is 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 will be based out of **LAX**. Ground transportation will be by air-conditioned motor coach. Trip includes: Welcome reception, dinner and Farewell Dinner. Daily breakfast is included, along with 6 lunches, and 4 dinners. Explore *Plitvice National Park*, the most famous park in *Croatia*. Guided walking tours, visiting several UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including *Diocletian's Palace*, *Trogir*, the highest peak of *Croatia* – *Vidova Gora*, with beautiful views of the *Adriatic*, *Korcula*, the birthplace of *Marco Polo*, and much, much more!

2020 DIVE TRIP: *Cozumel* will be the location for the 2020 Far West Dive Trip. The dates will be October 3-10, 2020. Lodging will be at the *Iberostar Cozumel Resort*, and will include 2 cenotes dives on the mainland. Flyers and registration forms are currently being drafted, and will be available by December 1.

2021 INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE TO ALASKA: North American Travel has planned an *Alaska Inside Passage Cruise* with an optional *Denali Tour*, mid--to late June, 2021. Those on the *Denali Tour*, will fly into *Fairbanks*, take a Riverboat ferry cruise in the area, visit the home and kennels of the late four-time *Iditarod* winner *Susan Butcher*, and see her champion sled dogs in action. From there, we will take an *Alaska Railroad DOME* ride to *Denali National Park*. Spend a full day traveling to the heart of the park viewing wildlife, the historic town of *Kantishna*, and join in a short hike, dog sled, and gold panning demonstrations. The *Denali Tour* ends with a bus trip along the scenic *Alaska tundra* of *Denali* to the cruise ship in *Whittier*. Once on board, travelers will cruise southerly, seeing the *Hubbard Glacier* and *Glacier Bay National Park*, with stops at the ports of *Skagway*, *Juneau*, and *Ketchikan*. The cruise ends in *Vancouver, BC*. *Sandy Gaudette* with *Skigroup.net*, will be our Tour Operator for this fun trip! Watch for more information on the FWSA.org website.

FWSA 2021 SOLDEN SKI WEEK: *Holidaze Ski Tours* has been granted the contract on this trip. Dates are February 19 – February 27, 2021. The trip will have an extension to *Southern Spain*, from February 27 – March 7, 2021. Stay tuned for more information.

FWSA SUMMER 2021 CHILE SKI/ADVENTURE TRIP: *Valle Nevado, Chile* ski trip with extension to *Atacama Desert* is 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.

FAR WEST COUNCILS

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs: 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: Time is getting short to make your reservations for the ISC ski week at Sun Valley January 5th-12th, 2020. Do it today and mention Intermountain Ski Council for the ½ price deals. **ALSO...**a Big “Welcome” to *Northern Wasatch Ski and Social Club*, of Green Mountain, Utah. Northern Wasatch is the newest club to join ISC.

FAR WEST CONVENTION

FIVE Months & Counting: Far West Ski Association’s 88th Annual Convention is scheduled to take place **May 27-31, 2020**. Put those dates on your calendar **NOW!** *Northwest Ski Club Council* is planning a terrific five-day-event for you all next May. The theme will be “*Rollin’ on the River*”, with a Riverboat Gambler idea in mind. We will START OFF with a *Dinner Cruise on the Willamette River* on Wednesday evening, and follow with 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’). Along with our typical Silent Auction on Friday evening, we plan to have Casino tables set up for your playing enjoyment. Saturday night, the band: “*Thrillride*” will entertain us. They last played for us in Bend, at the 2014 Convention.

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: *A.J. Kitt, Phil & Steve Mahre*, and others. This event will be held at the beautiful *Red Lion on the River, Jantzen Beach* in Portland, Oregon. See you all there!

FAR WEST HISTORY

Far West Historic Ski Clubs: Far West currently has nearly 30 clubs with 50+ years of service to skiing. They’ve all been verified by FWSA with evidence of their continuous operation. Looking at all of our clubs and councils, we know that we can double our listings of historic ski clubs. Evidence of eligibility is established by applying, presenting proof of operation (minutes, newsletter, newspaper article, incorporation doc, etc), and submitting a high-resolution, reproducible of your logo to the *History Committee* **prior to the March 31 deadline**. Go to the Far West web site (clubexpressfwsa.com), click on Recognition/History/ Historic Ski Clubs for info and application. Being a Historic Ski Club entitles your club to use the historic medallion on your web

page and stationery. And start using the Historic Ski Club as subtext to your club name in rosters published in the Far West Skiers Guide, council roster and other related placements. If you're entitled to this recognition, make use of it! Start now to find your archival documents and be ready to submit them to the chair before the spring deadline. Certificates of Recognition will be printed and presented at the FWSA convention.

FAR WEST FOUNDATION

2019 Year End Foundation News: There is still time to make a further contribution in 2019 to take advantage of tax deductions. We suggest the use of PayPal with the contribution directed to farwestskifoundation.org. There's no fee for FWSF as a charity. You can get a receipt, and the contribution can be made using your credit card registered with PayPal. In addition to our missions of Scholarships, Adaptive, Education and International Competition in 2020, we will have to make some early grants for Northwest entities and underwrite part of the Association's 90th birthday Commemorative Booklet. Please dig deep. You can also send contributions to John Reinhardt, FWSF Treasurer, 6105 SW Sheridan St, Portland. OR 97225.

The Foundation pursues its goals for you in four basic mission areas, and we do this, using grants to programs in those mission areas. Here is what we accomplished in 2019. The efforts of FWSA and FWSF made possible scholarship grants totaling \$15,250 for 18 racing students in 8 schools. We made three grants to schools devoted to adaptive skiing. Use the following links to see what they do.

<https://disabledsportseasternsierra.org/>

<https://highfivesfoundation.org/>

<https://adaptiveskiing.net/clubs/alpine-skiing/item/big-white-ski-and-board-school>

The Foundation made two Education grants, one to the Squaw Valley Ski Museum Foundation, the other to the California Ski Library. The Museum has been named the S.N.O.W. Museum in publications. The Library is in the middle of archiving a number of significant gifts and acquiring some really rare 1930s ski graphics and calendars. Chuck Morse has donated one of the last chairs from the former Blue Ridge Ski Area. Check out these links.

<https://olympicskimuseum.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/California-Ski-Library-820421361499988/>

CHANGE SOMEONE'S LIFE WITH USARC

Volunteer Ski and Snowboard Instructors Needed: Holiday time in the Big Bear Valley means many different things to people. The main thing is sharing and giving. United States Adaptive Recreation Center (USARC) is looking for volunteers to teach skiing and snowboarding to people with disabilities.

For over 30 years, thousands of people with disabilities have passed through the doors and onto the chairlifts and down the slopes of Bear Mountain. One of the reasons for USARC's success is the tremendous support provided by dedicated and passionate volunteers every year. Thanks to these selfless and talented people, USARC is able to combine a one-to-one instructor: student ratio with specialized ski equipment or teaching approaches to maximize the student's abilities and minimize any limitations imposed by the disability.

No teaching experience is required, though volunteers need to be at least 16 years old, intermediate skiers, and be able to teach six mid-week days between January 13 and March 20, 2020. Prior to teaching, each new volunteer must attend a four-day training clinic offered in the field of adaptive recreation. Volunteers learn about guiding visually impaired athletes or teaching sit-down skiers with spinal cord injuries. Trainings are scheduled for December 12-15, 2019 and January 9-12, 2020 at Bear Mountain Resort. Thanks to Bear Mountain, not only is there no charge for the expert training volunteers receive, but for each day that a volunteer teaches, he or she earns a complimentary lift ticket for another day of skiing (good at Bear and

Summit). For more information please call Sara Rosell at (909) 584-0269 or visit our website @ www.usarc.org.