

SEPTEMBER 2020

Far West Ski Association

## WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2020-2021

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** 65 years ago, we all watched “Norman Bates” go after Janet Leigh in that fateful shower scene in *Psycho!!* 45 years ago, we heard Richard Dreyfus say, “*We’re going to need a bigger boat*”, while watching *Jaws*. And, the *Brat Pack* turns 35 this year. Just some fun trivia.

**90 YEARS OF FAR WEST:** Far West Ski Association turns 90 years old on October 7, 2020. Our editor, and co-editor and been working diligently, preparing a “*Celebration Book*”, a compilation of the history of FWSA in its current form. It is going to print at the end of September and will be available for sale after the first of October. The book can be ordered from: John Watson, FWSA Historian: [geospace@pacbell.net](mailto:geospace@pacbell.net), or Leigh Gieringer, Publisher of the Far West Skiers Guide at: [fwsq2@cox.net](mailto:fwsq2@cox.net).

**SOME NOT-SO-GOOD NEWS FROM CANADA:** For the second time in thirteen months, the cable was cut on the *Sea To Sky Gondola* in Squamish, B.C. In August 2019, someone cut the main cable, causing the gondola cabins to fall to the ground, rendering them totally useless. They re-opened in February of 2020, with 30 new gondola cabins and a security system, only to close again in March, but finally open with Covid-19 restrictions in May 2020. On September 14<sup>th</sup>, it happened again. The cost to repair it the first time was \$10 million dollars. RCMP is investigating this current destruction to find the culprits who may have done this. Fortunately, it was done in pre-dawn hours, so there were no injuries.

**NEWS! FROM ALTERRA MOUNTAIN COMPANY:** The effort from all *Alterra Mountain* resorts will start this year with controlling resort visitation levels to avoid overcrowding. There will be priority access for season pass holders. The number of daily lift tickets will be available by *Advance Purchase Only* and will be tightly regulated. To this end, walk-up window sales will be eliminated, and the sale of most undated lift ticket products will be discontinued until further notice.

**NEWS! FROM MAMMOTH:** With Mother Nature’s blessing, *Mammoth Mountain* will open for skiing and riding on **November 14**. There are endless questions regarding what winter at Mammoth will look like, and while we don’t have all of the answers yet, we’re just as excited as you are at the prospect of getting back on snow. We do know that social distancing and mask usage are vital to staying safe and staying open. As has been the case all summer, masks will be required in lift lines, gondolas, lodges, shuttle buses and anywhere within six feet of others. Please visit [mammothmountain.com/covid](https://mammothmountain.com/covid) for more information.

## FAR WEST TRAVEL

**FWSA SUN VALLEY SKI WEEK 2021: *Still Happening!*** FWSA Councils are selling the 2021 Sun Valley Ski Week January 30—February 6th. Contact your Council Trip Leader to reserve your lodging. We are selling hotel rooms at Sun Valley Inn and Sun Valley Lodge, as well as 2 & 3-bedroom Lodge Apartments. Trip package includes lodging and FWSA and Council parties. Additional costs for lift tickets, group air/ground, and Council Challenge races. Free shuttle to town, ski hill, and activities for non-skiers/boarders! Space is limited so sign up now. NO FWSA fees to cancel prior to October 10<sup>th</sup>. Go to: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), for Trip Leader contact information or contact Nancy Ellis, [fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net).

**FWSA 2021 SOLDEN SKI WEEK:** *Information Coming Soon!* *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 2021 ZERMATT MINI SKI WEEK:** *Registration Open.* Sign-ups are now being taken for the *Zermatt Utah Resort* Mini Trip March 21–27, 2021. This resort is located in Midway, Utah. Participants have the option to ski/ride *Deer Valley, Park City, and Sundance Resorts*. There's a lot to do for non-skiers such as art classes at Sundance Resort, shopping, tubing, ice skating, snowmobiling, sleigh rides, or soaking in a 10,000-year-old Crater Hot Springs. Contact Gloria Raminha, Trip Leader: [garski2011@gmail.com](mailto:garski2011@gmail.com); 661-800-8229. For further Information, click onto: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

**FWSA 2021 INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE TO ALASKA:** *Still Happening!* There's plenty of time to sign up for the *Denali Tour and Alaska Cruise* June 19–30, 2021. Participants can sign up for the Denali Tour or Alaska Cruise or for the combined two trips. The Denali Trip starts with two days in Fairbanks, AK, followed by two days in Denali, and ends in Anchorage for those doing this portion only. The Inside passage Alaska Cruise starts in Whittier and travels southward with stops in Skagway, Juneau, and Ketchikan before docking in Vancouver, BC. Trip information and registration available on the FWSA.org website or contact Nancy Ellis, VP North American Travel, [fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net); (530) 414-8261.

**FAR WEST 2021 DIVE TRIP:** *Coming Up!* The 2021 Dive Trip has been contracted and will be October 9-16, 2021 to the wonderful *Anthony's Key Resort* in *Roatan, Honduras*. We have great pricing for their top of the line Key Deluxe lodging, meals, and 6 days of 3 tank boat dives. The registration forms and additional information are available on the website.

**"NEW" FWSA SKI WEEK 2022:** *Aspen/Snowmass Resort* will be the destination January 22–29, 2022 for the annual Far West Ski Week. We will be staying in Snowmass Resort and participants have a choice of ski in/ski out lodging or units a short walk to the ski hill. The Snowmass base area has many new restaurants, lodging, and activities such as a climbing wall and ice rink. The *Alpine "Breath-taker" Mountain Coaster* now traverses the mountain slopes. Put the dates of the trip on your calendar and watch for sign up information to be available in March 2021.

## **FAR WEST MEMBER BENEFITS**

**FWSA BENEFITS PAGE:** Our website has been live for several months now. We continue to add content and grow the site. We just added a couple *NEW* Benefits Partners: *Meier Skis*, out of Colorado. They will provide 20% to 30% off standard graphic and handmade custom skis; *Highline Vail – a Double Tree by Hilton*, in Vail Colorado. They will offer special deals off daily rack rates. Negotiations for this coming year's Benefits Partners are being made now. The complete Benefits Pages should be updated soon, under Member Corner on the website. Stay tuned.

## **FAR WEST COUNCILS**

**ORANGE COUNCIL:** *Snowbounders Ski Club* has been holding their Board of Directors meetings via *Zoom*, which has worked out well for "us older skiers", according to George Kish. Besides covering the usual business and future trip planning, they have waived membership dues for renewing members for the 2020/21 season.

**NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL:** *Northwest Ski Club Council* is planning a Council-wide *Zoom* meeting October 21<sup>st</sup>. The hope is to get more participation from the Seattle area and Eastern Washington clubs. A speaker from *Crystal Mountain* has been invited to join us. There will be another meeting, on November 18<sup>th</sup>, with Dave Tragethon, from *Mt. Hood Meadows*, to give us all the latest scoop of what will be happening at Meadows this coming year. Many of NWSCC's clubs have been having monthly virtual meetings to keep up with their membership, and TRY to plan for some fun things in the upcoming year.

**INTERMOUNTAIN SKI COUNCIL:** *Intermountain Ski Council* held a virtual meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup>, inviting several FWSA Board members to join in the discussion of the future of ISC. A great turn-out with 14

participants, led by Lynda Clark, President of Bogus Basin Ski Club took place. Joe Coles, who was instrumental in forming Intermountain Ski Council, has agreed to assist in getting a new website up and running. They will continue to hold virtual monthly meetings, until such time, Covid-19 will allow face-to-face meetings. For more information, check with Council President, Paul Markowitz: [pmarkowitz@cablone.net](mailto:pmarkowitz@cablone.net).

**SEE! Your clubs and councils can plan safe get-togethers. Just be SMART about it. Wear your face masks and stay socially distanced. We have all been having struggles with this Covid-19 Pandemic. We want to make sure that EVERYONE is doing EVERYTHING possible to stay well.**

*Stay safe! Stay healthy!*