

Far West News *Flash*

APRIL 2021

Far West Ski Association

FAR WEST CONVENTION – DATES CHANGED TO OCTOBER 7-10, 2021: The San Diego Council of Ski Clubs is busy, busy with plans for the 88th *Annual Far West Convention*. Please change your calendars to these **new dates!** We want to see you all in San Diego October 7-10, 2021 for some outstanding Snowsports Leadership sessions, informative Public Affairs Sessions, a great Silent Auction and Trade Show, as well as some fun outside activities including: biking on Coronado, Sailing in San Diego Harbor, golfing, kayaking and paddle boarding and an Oktoberfest-themed Pub Crawl. Room reservations **ARE AVAILABLE NOW** at: [BOOK YOUR GROUP RATE FOR FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION.](#)

RESORTS CONTINUE TO ROLL OUT 2021-2022 SKI & SNOWBOARD PASSES: In an announcement that *Vail Resorts* had teased for weeks, the resort conglomerate announced that it was reducing — not increasing — its season pass prices for next season by 20 percent across the board. That means New Englanders who purchased an Epic Local Pass for \$729 this season can grab one for only \$583 for the 2021-22 season. “The ski industry, our company and skiers and riders everywhere just navigated the most challenging season we have ever encountered,” chairman and chief executive officer of Vail Resorts, Rob Katz said in a statement. “Because of the growth and loyalty of our pass holders, we were able to ensure this season was a success, with full operations across our 34 North American resorts, even amid a pandemic. When we launched the Epic Pass 13 years ago, we began a journey to offer incredible value, flexibility and access to pass holders in exchange for a commitment before the season starts. Since then, we have added 32 resorts to our portfolio to give our pass holders more choice”.

The 2021-22 *Mountain Collective Pass* goes on sale to the general public today for \$499 for adults 18 or older. Passes for children 12 and under are \$129, and a new teen pass will be \$399 for the 13 to 18 age bracket.

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD CEO RESIGNING: *Tiger Shaw*, President and CEO, will resign effective March 2022, following the Beijing Winter Olympics. Shaw began his career with U.S. Ski & Snowboard in October of 2013. During his tenure, he will have served through three Olympic Games and 12 world championships. He replaced Bill Marolt as president and CEO after the Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia, in 2014. Shaw will be named CEO emeritus upon his resignation and will join the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Foundation board as a trustee focusing on several key fundraising priorities including athlete funding. Shaw said he doesn't have any immediate plans for the next chapter after his departure. He is focused on running the organization and facilitating a smooth transition.

U.S. SKI & BOARD HALL OF FAME: The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame has partnered with the NSCF to provide our councils, clubs and members with an affiliate membership opportunity with perks ranging from discounts, free museum access plus voting to see who gets inducted into the Hall of Fame. Get the full details and registration info by clicking this link: [SkiHallofFameFlyer](#). Some of the perks include: up to 60% off on event tickets; hotel and lift ticket deals; access to Partner deals; Promo code access for industry sales and special events; entrance into quarterly give-aways; and IKON Pass give-away entry, to name a few.

THE 7 BEST SPRING SKI RESORTS IN NORTH AMERICA: Spring skiing is here. Check out some of these outstanding resorts, and here's the reasons why: *Mt Bachelor* for its "deep spring snowpack, and the Bend Beer (Bend is known as Beer City U.S.A.). *Whistler Blackcomb* – (Open May 24) for the Spring Powder storms; *Snowbird* – for deep Spring Snowpack and late season dumps. *Squaw Valley Alpine Meadows* – for the "cushing cross". Home of the original pond crossing event. *Killington* – latest closing. *Mammoth Mountain* – the best Spring Park. Lastly, *Arapahoe Basin* – "it's the Beach!"

U.S. SKI & BOARD HALL OF FAME AND NATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF SKIERS: U.S. Ski & Snowboard, has announced a new four-year partnership with the National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS). Founded in 1973, the NBS promotes winter sports among minorities and seeks to develop elite-level minority winter sport athletes. "We are honored to officially partner with the National Brotherhood of Skiers," said U.S. Ski & Snowboard President and CEO Tiger Shaw. "I regret we have not done so sooner, as our missions are aligned in making the U.S. Best in the World at Olympic skiing and snowboarding. We cannot truly be the best until we are more inclusive and accessible to all. We recognize the economic and geographical barriers to our sports and in partnering with NBS know we will be better equipped to engage with minority and underrepresented communities. We look forward to working with NBS over the next four years, and well into the future, in creating a more inclusive winter sports community."

This new partnership seeks to establish a comprehensive program involving outreach efforts, training, funding and other resources aimed at achieving athletic excellence and furthering the mission of the NBS and developing a pipeline of elite-level minority winter sport athletes. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will provide NBS coaches access to its Sport Education programs as well as provide training opportunities to NBS athletes commensurate with their level of athletic accomplishment and qualifications. Both organizations will facilitate access to resources for minority athletes who have experienced economic barriers to the entry into and continued participation in winter sports. To kick off the partnership U.S. Ski & Snowboard is proud to announce its title sponsorship of the NBS 2021 Virtual Black Ski Summit.

FAR WEST CONVENTION

FAR WEST RECOGNITION AWARDS FOR 2021: The deadline for submissions for Recognition Awards is **July 18, 2021**. Applications are available on the website. Names and email addresses are provided to send your nominee and info:

- Council's Man & Woman of the Year ([Sheri Parshall](#), mwofy@fwsa.org)
 - Sponsored by Big White Ski Resort, Canada
- Western Ski Heritage Prize ([Fran Long](#), vpcommunications@fwsa.org)
 - Sponsored by Steamboat Ski Resort, Colorado
- Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year ([Fran Long](#)) & ([Kat Severin](#)), safety@fwsa.org
 - Sponsored by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, California
- Environment ([Fran Long](#), environment@fwsa.org)
 - Sponsored by Aspen/Snowmass, The Gant, Crestwood Condominiums
- Charity & Community Service ([Sigrid Noack](#), charities@fwsa.org)
- Club/Council History Recognition ([John Watson](#), history@fwsa.org)
- Historic Ski Club ([John Watson](#), history@fwsa.org)

FAR WEST OFFICER ELECTIONS 2021: The Far West Ski Association Annual Meeting & Convention will be held October 7-10, 2021, in San Diego, CA. Voting for FWSA Officer and Trustees will occur on Sunday, October 10. ALL Board positions are up for election. **Listed below are names of those who have committed to run at this time. We will continue to add names as they come in.**

Officers – 1-year terms:

- President – Gloria Raminha (incumbent)
- Secretary

- Treasurer - Randy Lew (incumbent)

Carryovers from 2020 –

1-year term remaining:

- Trustee (2 positions) - Linda Westlund (incumbent)
- VP Communications - Joe Harvis (incumbent)
- VP International Travel – Debbie Stewart (incumbent)
- VP Marketing - Debbi Kor (incumbent)
- VP Membership –

Positions open for 2-year terms:

- Trustee (2 positions) – Tom Bundgard (incumbent)
- VP Council Services – Chris Gill (incumbent)
- VP North American Travel -
- VP Public Affairs –

If you have an interest in serving as an Officer or Trustee, please contact Steve Coxen at pastpresident@fwsa.org or phone (503) 679-9022. For a copy of FWSA Qualifications for the positions of President, Treasurer, Trustee, VP of International Travel, and VP of North American Travel, please contact Steve Coxen.

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 a member of the FWSA Nominating Committee:

- Steve Coxen, Nominations Committee Chair, pastpresident@fwsa.org
- Todd Hood, Succession Planning Committee Chair, successionplanning@fwsa.org

FAR WEST TRAVEL

FAR WEST 2021 DIVE TRIP: *Spots still available!* The 2021 Dive Trip 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 or contacting Randy Lew at divetrips@fwsa.org

FWSA SKI WEEK 2022: *Aspen/Snowmass Resort* will be the destination, *January 29 – February 5, 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 this trip on your calendar and watch for sign up information to be available in the near future.

FWSA INTERNATIONAL SKI WEEK: *Solden, Austria* will be the setting for the 2022 International Ski Week. Dates are set, leaving the US on February 25th, with Ski Week dates: *February 26 - March 5th*. There is an extension to the *Black Forest, March 5-11, 2022*. For more information, contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel: vpinternationaltravel@fwsa.org.

FWSA MINI SKI WEEK: The *Zermatt Utah Resort* Mini Trip has now been set for *March 20 - 25, 2022*. Participants will have the option to ski/ride *Deer Valley, Park City, and Sundance Resorts*. Contact Gloria Raminha, Trip Leader: president@fwsa.org; 661-800-8229. Stay tuned for further Information.

FWSA INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE 2022: There's still plenty of time to sign up for the *Denali Tour and Alaska Cruise*. Participants can sign up for the *Denali Tour*, **June 21 - 25** or *Alaska Inside Passage Cruise*, **June 25 - July 2, 2022**, 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, vpnorthamericantravel@fwsa.org; (530) 414-8261.

FWSA INTERNATIONAL "ADVENTURE TRIP": The Trip to Croatia, originally set for September 2022, has now been set for **September 2 – September 11, 2022**. Departure date from the U.S. will be September 1st. For further information, contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel: vpinternationaltravel@fwsa.org.

FAR WEST COUNCILS

NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL: This was an unusual race season. **PACRAT** was the only adult recreational ski race league to get a full season in. Due to the Covid pandemic, each team had to be split into two halves, one racing during the day and the other racing on nights. Both only midweek. Each group participated in 3 races, for a total of 6 races overall. There were 16 teams who participated. The top 10 Teams are listed as such: #1 – *Rattitudes*, Mountain High Snowsport Club; #2 – *Broadway Bombers*, NWXventures; #3 – *Ruttin' Rats*, Schnee Vogeli; #4 - *PDX Sliders*, NWXventures; #5 – *Avalanche Express II* – Mt. High Snowsport Club; *TIED* #5 – *Team Tilikum*, NWXventures; #7 – *Mixed Nuts*, Mt. High; #8 – *Avalanche Express*, Mt. High; #9 – *Will Ski for Beer*, Mt. High; and #10 – *The Beer Denners*, Cascade Ski Club. Congratulations to ALL the teams who participated this year! Thanks for coming out.

INTERMOUNTAIN SKI COUNCIL: The Intermountain Ski Council is currently planning a summer 2021 council gathering at Lava Hot Springs in Idaho. A few members of the *Bogus Basin Ski Club*, in Idaho took a trip to McCall, ID to ski Brundage Mountain on March 20th. *The Northern Wasatch Ski & Social Club*, in Utah, enjoyed the last few days of the season with 2 spring skiing events at Snowbasin Resort in Huntsville, UT. On March 28th, they had a ski day followed by a fun tailgate party in the parking lot and on April 7 the ladies of the club showed up in fun costumes for a ski day followed by lunch at the lodge. They gained 4 new members in the last month and have also added some fun events to the calendar for this summer. From *Cheyenne Ski Club*, in Wyoming, the news indicates that their "city got shellacked by three feet of snow a couple weeks ago, so we made like the intrepid Wyoming two-plankers we are and took to the streets! We enjoyed an urban ski tour of a winter wonderland free of cars. A lap around the Capitol, laying tracks through the park and down our main thoroughfare - a grand time was had by all! We also enjoyed learning some new skills with a local ski coach who provided our Club lessons in skate skiing. We are getting ready to unveil our new website and hand the reins to next year's board. Plans are underway for an outdoor, socially-distanced end of year party as our small but mighty crew finishes getting vaccinated in the coming weeks."

FAR WEST HISTORY

FWSA 90th ANNIVERSARY HISTORY BOOK: **Still available!** FWSA has published its history on the 90th anniversary of its birth in San Francisco as the California Ski Association, a division of the National Ski Association. The book is 80 pages in magazine format and includes invited articles from noted historians on California, Arizona, Washington, Utah, Idaho and Oregon ski history, notably *Ingrid Wicken* of the California Ski Library, *John Lundin*, Seattle, *Jane Jackson*, Flagstaff, *Mike Korologos*, Salt Lake City, *Eve Chandler*, Boise, and *Emilio Trampuz*, Salem. Association scholars include *Barbara Razo*, NSPS, Orange; *Jane Wyckoff*, Irvine; *George Eachus*, Costa Mesa; *Steve Reneker* NSPS, Riverside; and *Chuck Morse*, La Habra. The book benefited by help from Robin Morning, Mammoth Lakes and Randy Lew, Battle Ground, Washington. Limited quantities of this outstanding publication will be available for purchase on www.fwsa.org in the **FWSA Store**. **\$20 for members and \$25 for non-members.** You can also mail a check, payable to FWSA, to Randy Lew, FWSA Treasurer, 829 SE 11th Place, Battle Ground, WA 98604.

stay safe! stay healthy!