

# Far West News *Flash*

DECEMBER, 2021

## Far West Ski Association

**WINTER PARK EXPRESS RETURNS FOR 2022 SEASON:** Amtrak and Winter Park Resort announces the return of the *Winter Park Express Train*, which runs between Denver's Union Station and the base of the mountain at Winter Park. The Train resumes its' schedule of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday routes, beginning January 14, through April 3, 2022. The train picks up passengers in Denver at 7 a.m. and departs Winter Park at 4:30 p.m. on weekends. Tickets begin at \$29 each way.

**BRUNDAGE TO ADD OVERNIGHT ACCOMODATIONS, NEW BASE LODGE, & MORE:** Brundage Mountain's new ownership group, which acquired the resort in November, 2020, has big plans over the next 10 years for new ski-in/ski-out accommodations, a revitalized base village, expanded lifts and terrain, and a plethora of new recreation and mountain amenities. Brundage will break ground next year on a new base area facility to be finished for winter 2023-24. The new 20,000-square-foot "mountain modern" lodge will be located next to the existing day lodge. It will include a new Mountain Adventure Center and three new food and beverage outlets, including an open-concept food court, a casual sit-down restaurant with full bar, and a coffee shop breakfast/lunch stop. The resort's master development plan includes proposals for lift and terrain expansion, expanded snowmaking capabilities, and new on-mountain lodge amenities.

**WHAT TO EXPECT AT YOUR FAVORITE RESORT IN 2022:** Resorts are beginning to open across the U.S. and Canada. After a year+ of Covid-19 rules and regulations, here are some things to consider for the coming season. Most U.S. ski destinations — including the big resorts in Colorado, Utah, Oregon, and California — are doing away with, or easing last year's capacity limits on the slopes, mask requirements in lift lines and spacing between skiers on lifts. But there are also some new *COVID-19 vaccination requirements*, that people need to remain aware of. You don't want to be surprised by a ski experience that's too strict or too lax on COVID-19 safety measures for your liking: You may need to show proof of vaccination for some activities. Mask rules are likely to apply indoors only. You're less likely to need as many on-mountain reservations, however, for lodging...**BOOK EARLY!** Booking early will pay off, especially when it comes to the cost of lodging. Lastly, if you can be flexible, avoid the weekends. Not only do they bring the most crowds, but lift tickets tend to be at their priciest.

**TRIBAL-RUN SKI AREAS ARE THRIVING:** Arizona's *Sunrise Park*, is a 4-hour drive from Phoenix. Owned by the White Mountain Apache Tribe, the resort was named for the Sunrise dance ceremony, the four-day coming of age ceremony for Apache girls. Substantially larger than Snowbowl, *Sunrise* has 65 trails, which spread across neighboring Apache Peak and Cyclone Circle. They advertise 800 skiable acres, but it's more like 1,200. Another tribal-run ski area, run by the Mescalero Apache Tribe, is located in central New Mexico... *Ski Apache*. The ski hill, originally called Sierra Blanca Ski Resort, was founded in 1961. It is not just a way to promote recreation and provide jobs—it's also a way to share culture, from traditional food to land use ethics. *Ski Apache* is the southernmost major ski resort in the United States

## FAR WEST TRAVEL

**FWSA SKI WEEK 2022:** *Aspen/Snowmass Resort* is the destination for the 2022 annual Far West Ski Week. Dates are **January 29 – February 5, 2022**. 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. There is still room on this trip. Contact your Council Trip Leader now for more information.

**FWSA INTERNATIONAL SKI WEEK:** *Space Still Available!* *Solden, Austria* is the destination for the 2022 International Ski Week. Dates are **February 26 - March 5<sup>th</sup>** and will include 7 nights lodging at the 4-Star *Tyrolerhof Hotel*, including daily breakfast & dinner at the hotel. We'll be offering an optional day tour during the week if one chooses to explore the local culture. There will be an extension to the *Black Forest*, Germany, **March 5-11, 2022**. If one chooses to not go to *Solden*, but wants to do the *Black Forest extension*, we will fly you from the US to join us for the extension trip – we call this the "Stand Alone" trip. For more information, contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel: [fwsaintltravel@prodigy.net](mailto:fwsaintltravel@prodigy.net).

**FWSA MINI SKI WEEK:** We still have spots on the *Zermatt Utah Trip*. This will be a great trip and you don't want to miss out! Trip dates **March 20--25<sup>th</sup>** with prices starting at \$595 for 5 nights lodging, FWSA Happy Hours, and Farewell dinner. This is a flexible trip. Arrival and departure dates can be adjusted to fit your schedule. The *IKON* pass is good at Deer Valley and the *EPIC* pass is good at Park City. Free daily shuttle to both resorts. We will plan one day for a trip to Sun Dance Ski Resort. Contact Gloria Raminha, Trip Leader: [garski2011@gmail.com](mailto:garski2011@gmail.com); 661-800-8229.

**FWSA INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE 2022:** There's still time to sign up for the *Denali Tour and Alaska Cruise*. Participants can sign up for the *Denali Tour*, **June 21 – 25, 2022** 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, [fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net); (530) 414-8261.

**FWSA INTERNATIONAL "ADVENTURE TRIP":** Far West's Trip to *Croatia* will be **September 2 to September 11, 2022**. Departure date from the U.S. will be September 1<sup>st</sup>. Right now, we have a **waiting list**, but for further information, contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel: [fwsaintltravel@prodigy.net](mailto:fwsaintltravel@prodigy.net).

## FAR WEST COUNCILS

**INTERMOUNTAIN SKI COUNCIL:** *The Intermountain Ski Council* just held their annual general meeting on Dec 14<sup>th</sup>. The council will be running their annual ski trip to Sun Valley from January 9-16<sup>th</sup> and are expecting over 20 people so far. With the fresh snow finally arriving in the intermountain west on top of the already 35" base, conditions at Sun Valley should be ideal and they are looking forward to another successful trip! *The Bogus Basin Ski Club* (Idaho) held their Christmas Party on the Dec 4<sup>th</sup>. They teamed up with 2 other local ski groups- The Vertigals and the PrimeTimers- and it was attended by over 100 people! Back in November, they had a very successful Warren Miller Film Festival with 1600 people attending the film over the course of the 3 days. The Idaho ski resorts are starting to open up and they are also looking forward to a fun season. *The Cheyenne Ski Club* (Wyoming) held their Christmas Party on the 16<sup>th</sup> and they have started to meet every month on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. *The Northern Wasatch Ski & Social Club* (Utah) held their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Christmas & White Elephant Gift Exchange Party. It was loads of fun with 7 new members joining that night. The club will be starting up their weekly meetup at Snowbasin on Wednesday mornings and are looking forward to a great season filled with fun activities for the skiers and non-skiers alike. *The Park City Mountain Sports Club* (Utah) also had their holiday party on the 11<sup>th</sup> and in January will start up the daily meetups on the mountain. They are a busy club with TGIF events on Fridays, snowshoeing and lots of other fun things throughout the month.

## FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION

**FAR WEST FOUNDATION ELECTS & WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS:** The FWSF typically meets during Convention. However, there were not enough members for a quorum, so a ZOOM meeting was held December 7. Several actions taken indicate new directions for the Foundation. *Alan Christian* was elected

President, *Norbert Knapp* and *John Reinhardt* were re-elected as Secretary and Treasurer respectively, *Sandra Blackwell* and *Jane Wyckoff* were welcomed as new Trustees, and an office of Vice Pres was created with Jane as a first-ever VP for the Foundation. Jane Gutierrez was present representing NBS. The funding plan for scholarships provided by Randy Lew was validated and grants were approved for Ski Library and Women's Ski Jumping USA. Grants for ski schools for the disabled were postponed pending an evaluation of options. A review of finances by John Reinhardt and initiatives put in motion, by then President, John Watson, will be conducted in a ZOOM meeting Dec 21. The meeting closed with comments by Alan Christian and laudatory remarks directed at John Watson for his 12 years of service, unanimously agreed.

## **FAR WEST MEMBER BENEFITS**

**FAR WEST MEMBER BENEFITS HAVE BEEN UPDATED:** YOUR Member Benefits have been renewed for the coming 2021-2022 season and can be found on the Far West website. We have added a new hotel in Mid Valley, Utah – *Crystal Inn & Suites*. We have a new “Adventure” Partner – *aha! Air, powered by Express Jet*. This is a commuter airline, flying non-stop into Reno, Nevada from a number of Oregon, Washington, and California Cities. Members received 15% on flights out of the listed airports. AND, our long-time shuttle service, *The Transportation Network*, out of Park City, has now expanded their service into the Reno/Tahoe area. Check them out, along with ski rentals, ski/board gear, lodging, equipment, and services on [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). Go into Member Corner and click on Benefits.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!