

Far West News *Flash*

JANUARY, 2022

Far West Ski Association

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD HALL OF FAME: The Hall of Fame has announced its schedules and events for the 2022 Induction of this year's inductees. Honorees: *Sherman Poppen, Brian Fairbank, Holly Flanders, Seth Wescott and Howard Peterson* will be inducted at **Bretton Woods** Omni Mount Washington on Saturday March 5, 2022, with activities and events throughout the days and evenings of March 3rd - March 5th, 2022. Honorees at **Sun Valley** are: *Scott Brooksbank, Bobbie Burns, Art Clay & Ben Finley, Kit Deslaurier, Jim Niehues, Alison Owen, Kristean Porter, Jimmy Spillane, Greg Stump and Hank Tauber*. Activities and events will be held March 23rd- March 27th, with the induction planned for Saturday night, March 26th. The *Spider Sabich Celebration* is planned for Friday, April 8, 2022, in **Snowmass Village**. A free showing of the film "Spider Lives" will be held in **all** locations.

MOMENTS THAT REDEFINED U.S. SKIING IN 2021: 1) Alterra modifies Ikon Pass Tiers at Crystal Mountain; 2) Vail drops Epic Pass prices by 20% and sells 2.1 million passes; 3) Rob Katz steps down as CEO of Vail; 4) Consolidation re-ignites with ski area sales across the country; 5) New era of capital investment and expansion arrives; 6) Caldor Fire demolishes Sierra-at-Tahoe; 7) Squaw Valley changes its name to Palisades Tahoe; 8) Powdr Corp rolls out "Fast Tracks" at Snowbird, Mt. Bachelor, Copper Mountain and Killington; 9) Walk-Up window prices creep up toward \$300 a day; 10) Covid ignites an Outdoor Boom; 11). The 2020-2021 season end *without* a single Covid-related shutdown.

U.S. PASSPORTS TO SOON BE RENEWABLE ONLINE: The process to renew your passport is a headache, to be sure. That may soon become an easier process. As part of President Biden's executive order on transforming federal customer experience and service delivery to rebuild trust in government, the Secretary of State will be tasked with creating a new online renewal system "that does not require any physical documents to be mailed." While this does bring about worries of submitting personal details—especially for an official form of identity—over the internet, experts agree that shouldn't be a huge concern. So many of us shop online, bank online, and manage personal information online already. As long as people are cautious that they don't use fraudulent sites to apply—they should carefully check the URL or application link to ensure they are dealing with the State Department, and not an imposter. No specific timeline was given for the launch of this program. White House press secretary Jen Psaki said in a briefing, that it's going to take six to 12 months for the system to get rolling, but explained that "it's a priority for agencies," with the only hurdle being the time it takes to get it implemented.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

FWSA INTERNATIONAL SKI WEEK: *Space Still Available!* *Solden, Austria* is the destination for the 2022 International Ski Week. Dates are **February 26 - March 5th**, 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.

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 - 25th** 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; 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, fwatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net; (530) 414-8261.

FWSA INTERNATIONAL “ADVENTURE TRIP”: Far Wests’ Trip to *Croatia* will be **September 2 to September 11, 2022**. Departure date from the U.S. will be September 1st. Right now, we have a **waiting list**, but for further information, contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel: fwaintltravel@prodigy.net.

FAR WEST COUNCILS

NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL: Northwest Ski Club Council’s Convention Committee held their first meeting of 2022 to discuss hosting Convention this coming June 9-12, in Portland, Oregon. This is the event that was postponed in 2020, and re-set for this summer. We will be at the *Holiday Inn – Portland, Columbia Riverfront*. (same location, just a different name of the hotel). The Planning Committee will be meeting monthly to plan and organize a wonderful event for our members, and guests. Check out www.fwsa.org/conventions for up-to-date information.

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. Go into Member Corner, and click on Benefits.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Stay safe! Stay Healthy!