

Far West News *Flash*

MARCH, 2022

Far West Ski Association

FAR WEST 89TH ANNUAL CONVENTION – 3 MONTHS AWAY: The 2022 Convention is just 3 short months away! Northwest Ski Club Council's Convention Committee has been busy planning this year's event, which will be held at the *Holiday Inn – Portland, Columbia Riverfront*. YES, it is the same venue that was selected for 2020, but they now have a new name. We have some great activities planned for all our attendees, including the 25th Anniversary Pub Crawl, a Mount Hood Adventure, a Southwest Washington Wine Tour, and the "Not-Your Daddy's" Golf Tournament. There will be your usual Pool Party and Club Happy Hour on Friday, followed by the 36th Annual Trade Show & Silent Auction on Friday night. Saturday will be enriched with panel sessions, Public Affairs Panels, and the annual Bid Presentations for all club and council trip leaders. The Awards Banquet will be on Saturday Night, followed by the General Meeting and Elections on Sunday. Come early, stay late, and enjoy hiking, biking, and wine tasting in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. Check out www.fwsa.org/conventions for information. ALL Delegate info has been posted on the website.

FIS CANCELS ALL 2022 WORLD CUP EVENTS IN RUSSIA: The international sporting federation for Ski and Snowboard competitions announced on Feb. 25 the cancellations of all World Cup events in Russia through the rest of the 2022 season including the Audi FIS Ski Cross World Cup in Sunny Valley, Russia. This action comes amid a Russian military operation in Ukraine, and most notably affected the Ski Cross World Cup scheduled for February 26th and 27th and Aerial World Cups scheduled for February 26th in Yaroslavl and March 5th in Moscow.

ALTERRA PLANS MILLION\$ IN IMPROVEMENTS: *Alterra Mountain Company* plans to invest \$344 million in capital improvements for winter 2022-23, its biggest single year investment since the company was formed. The plan includes resort development, with money put into increased capacity and terrain expansion, skier services upgrades, and guest experience technology to improve the booking and on-site experience. "This historic investment is clear evidence of our commitment to deliver a premier guest experience at our North American destinations and our engagement towards the long-term future of our mountains," said Rusty Gregory, *Alterra* CEO. "More than ever, we continue to infuse meaningful capital into projects that will transform our base areas while significantly improving our physical and digital on-mountain offerings to ensure that our guests experience the best of the mountains."

SNOWBIRD TO GET NEW TRAMS: *Snowbird* will upgrade its Aerial Tram with new Doppelmayr cabins this spring. The cabins, which will feature a summer rooftop balcony and glass floor panels, will be the first of their kind in the United States. After two years of planning, the new tram cabins have been completed in Olten, Switzerland, and are on their way to the resort. The cabins are expected to be fully installed and operational for *Snowbird's* summer season this June. This is all being done as part of *Snowbird's* 50th Anniversary celebration, making a thrilling upgrade to their iconic Aerial Tram. President and general manager Dave Fields said, "The Tram and *Snowbird* have provided year-round excitement for five decades, but the new Tram cabins promise to take this excitement to a whole new level." The summertime rooftop decks will allow 15 guests per cabin to enjoy unobstructed 360-degree views of Peruvian Gulch and Mount Superior as an upgrade to summertime scenic tram rides.

INDY PASS HOLDS PRICES FOR 2022-2023: Pricing for 2022-23 Indy Pass products will not increase from 2021-22, but new this year is a \$20 discount incentive, the *Mega Switch Pass* for mega pass holders to switch to Indy Pass. All 82 current resort partners are expected to return next season. A final resort roster with blackout dates will be released May 1, 2022.

FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION SAYS GOODBYE TO A LONG-TIME FRIEND: The Far West Ski Association is saddened to learn of the passing of long time snowsports volunteer, program and sponsorship pioneer *John James* on February 18th, just 10 days shy of his 89th Birthday. Our heartfelt sympathy to his wife Karen, who he met on a Far West Ski Week, daughter Susan, and their entire family.

John was a licensed civil and structural engineer. He took early retirement from the City of Beverly Hills in 1984 and worked for the next 22 years as a consultant on many heavy construction projects. His very first project was the Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa Hotel in Palm Desert and was involved as a consultant on a wide variety of special construction projects over the years.

John's achievements in Racing, Recreational Ski Weeks and Nordic Skiing were monumental during the 1970's and 1980's. He was responsible for the development of multiple key sponsorships providing a financial resource for these programs. He leaves a legacy of programs still in existence today.

John was a member of the Beach Cities Ski Club and also Edelweiss Ski Club, Los Angeles Council. As his Ski Club Race Chairman in Beach Cities, he soon took over as ROKKA League Chairman in 1972, developing the Olympia Beer sponsorship. John originated the Beach Cities "Learn to Ski and Race Camp", which developed into the **ROKKA League "Learn to Ski and Race Camp"**, started working with Max Good of Mammoth Ski School in 1972, in an effort for Beach Cities to beat Westwood for the ROKKA title. The "Learn to Ski and Race Camp" is still conducted today.

John served as a Trustee on the Far West Board of Governors from 1982-1984, and as Chairman from 1983-1984. He was the recipient of the Far West Ski Association's Hans Georg Award in 1984 and the J. Stanley Mullin Award in 1988 for his outstanding dedication and contributions to the missions and goals of the Association. He was also presented with the Western Ski Heritage Award in 2012 for his history of ROKKA League and Far West Ski Weeks. John had a great sense of humor, always had a smile, and a very positive attitude.

FAR WEST ELECTIONS

FAR WEST ELECTIONS 2022: The Far West Ski Association Annual Meeting & Convention will be held June 9-12, 2022, in Portland, OR. Voting for FWSA Officer and Trustees will occur Sunday morning, June 12. Board positions up for election and announced candidates are listed below.

Officers – 1-year terms:

- President – Linda Westlund
- Secretary – Tan Nguyen (incumbent)
- Treasurer –

Board Positions open in 2022 – 2 year terms:

- Trustees (2 positions) –
- VP Communications – Joe Harvis (incumbent)
- VP International Travel – Debbie Stewart (incumbent)
- VP Marketing –
- VP Membership – Jean McCCasey (incumbent)
- VP Public Affairs – Lina Arnold (incumbent)

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 RECOGNITION AWARDS

Far West Ski Association has numerous recognition awards which members can apply for. The DEADLINE is coming up soon. If you still want to apply for one of the many Awards shown below, HURRY...the dates are as follows!!

FWSA Club & Council Recognition Awards Nominations Due March 25, 2022:

These awards are great ways to have your club or council recognized for your good work--and to honor hardworking volunteers. Applications and instructions for all the awards are on the FWSA website. The award nominations due *March 25, 2022* are: Charities & Community Service, Communications, and History Recognition Awards.

CHARITIES & COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION PROGRAM:

DEADLINE: *March 25, 2022*

FWSA encourages all clubs and councils to get involved with charities and community service. The top two Clubs and the winning Council will be invited to display a picture board at Convention. All groups that apply will be recognized at Convention. Please note: This year there will be no monetary awards. The winners will get electronic medallions to post on their club/council websites and put in their newsletters. Information and applications can be obtained on the Far West website: www.fwsa.org. **CONTACT:** For any Charity & Community Service questions, contact Sigrid Noack at skisig@gmail.com.

COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS:

DEADLINE: *March 25, 2022*

Club and Council Newsletter and Website and Outstanding Club. The newsletter and website nominations are simple this year. Just send a copy of your newsletter and a link to your newsletter and website to Bill King at: willie2K@comcast.net. Also, you don't have to name a judge. Please consider entering.

HISTORY RECOGNITION AWARDS:

DEADLINE: *March 25, 2022*

In 2008, FWSA launched this program to develop club, league and council histories with the objective to capture important information about skiing from the skier's perspective, especially the club skier. Far West also has a program to recognize our Historic Ski Clubs that have been in operation for more than 50 years. **CONTACT:** John Watson, FWSA History Chair at: fwsa.watson@gmail.com.

SAFETY PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD:

DEADLINE: *March 25, 2022*

RECOGNITION: Sponsored by *Mammoth Mountain Ski Area*, donating a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, and a full-day group lesson.

DESCRIPTION: FWSA is a proponent of safety in skiing and snowboarding. Every year we hear about tragic deaths and injuries that happen during our favorite winter activities that remind us of the great importance of safety. We have a number of ways in which we promote safety and one of our more viable ways is through the Safety Award. The award is for the individual, within the association, that has done the most to promote safety through a number of criteria. These include articles on slope safety, and other ways to raise safety consciousness. The link to detailed information and entry form is:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=334813

CONTACT: Monica Palmer, FWSA Safety Chair, safety@fwsa.org.

WESTERN SKI HERITAGE AWARD:

DEADLINE: *March 25, 2022*

RECOGNITION: Since 2000, *Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation* has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, on-mountain tour, half-day lessons and a lunch at Ragnar's Restaurant.

DESCRIPTION: The Far West Western Ski Heritage program annually recognizes the best effort in the prior year that communicates the contributions of snowsports to the community at large. The purpose of the Far West Western Ski Heritage program is to raise the awareness of snowsports participants and non-participants alike of the contributions made by individuals, groups and companies to all aspects of snowsports – competitive as well as that of outdoor winter recreation and fitness. A parallel purpose is to convey the positive role snowsports has had in its contributions to the communities in the West. It recognizes outstanding effort in the area of snowsports history to find, preserve, document and share the history of snowsports in the West. The Award is open to an individual or a group leader (it is not restricted to Far West membership) and can be self-nominated or nominated by a club or club member. Materials and history programs will be evaluated against the objectives of the program by individuals selected for their knowledge of the history of Western snowsports and that of the Association. The link to detailed information and entry form is:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=334814

CONTACT: John Watson, FWSA History Chair, fwsa.watson@gmail.com.

ENVIRONMENT AWARD:

DEADLINE: *March 25, 2022*

RECOGNITION: Sponsors, *Aspen Skiing Company and Snowmass Tourism, The Gant and Crestwood Condominiums* have donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, and a full-day group lesson.

DESCRIPTION: The Environment Award is designed to encourage good stewardship of our environment. We want to inspire and reward creative efforts to conserve and protect our environment. This award should recognize a special action that the applicant took, or something he or she put in place that made a difference. Some areas to consider are: Volunteering at the community level, particularly in a leadership role; conducting or arranging for an environmental event (s) for the club, council, or public; writing a series of columns regarding environmental conservation, education or protection in your ski club or ski club council newsletter; or being proactive in environmental protection. The link to detailed information and entry form is:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=379792

CONTACT: Lina Arnold, FWSA Environment Chair, linaarnold11@gmail.com.

FAR WEST MEDIA AWARDS

DEADLINE: *March 25, 2022*

The Far West Ski Association Media Awards are divided into the following categories:

Bill Berry Award for Featured Article – This award is for outstanding Print Coverage of Skiing. This award is given for outstanding service to skiing and is presented to writers for a featured article.

Bill Berry Award for Hard News – This award is for outstanding Print Coverage of Skiing. This award is given for outstanding service to skiing and is presented to writers for hard news.

Warren Miller Modern Media Award – This award is for outstanding Multi-Media Coverage of Skiing. This award is given for outstanding service to skiing by cinematographers, photographers, radio or television broadcasters.

For more information follow the link to:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=334807

CONTACT: Steve Coxen, FWSA Awards Chair, 503-679-9022, awards@fwsa.org

FAR WEST TRAVEL

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.

FWSA 2022 DIVE TRIP: The FWSA 2022 dive trip to *Cozumel* is now open for registration! We will be staying at Iberostar Cozumel Resort in their standard bungalow style rooms from **October 8 – 15, 2022**. All meals, alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages, 5 days of 2 tank dives including 2 Cenote dives, and a night dive. Iberostar Cozumel is located on the Southwest side of the island and is close to the best dive sites. Dressel Divers, a PADI 5-Star Instructor Development Center dive operation is located on the property. The information is now available on the FWSA website at [Dive 2022 Cozumel - Far West Ski Association \(fwsa.org\)](http://www.fwsa.org)

FAR WEST FOUNDATION

FAR WEST FOUNDATION “YUM” FUND RAISER: The Far West Ski Foundation needs your sweet support! We’re selling yummy *See’s Candies* for our Spring Fundraiser. The deadline for orders is **3/25/22!** Please share this fundraiser information with your friends, and consider making a purchase, even a small one, to assist the Foundation in its missions. The overarching objective of the Far West Ski Foundation is to sustain snowsport, to ensure that the inspirational experiences of snowsport will remain for future generations. Our four missions: *Building for the future* - with its Athletic Sponsorship program for Junior Racers; *Rehabilitation and Renewal* - with its support of adaptive snowsports programs; *Sustaining Snowsports* - with support of special programs, such as Women’s Ski Jumping; and *Preserving the legacy* - with research, preservation, education and publication of snowsports history. Please contact: Jane Wyckoff, FWSF Vice President, 949.933.9607, [janewyckoff1@cox.net](mailto:janeywyckoff1@cox.net). Visit our shop to pick and choose your favorites and buy your candy online. It’s that easy! Use the following link:
https://www.yumraising.com/secure/farwsf_far_west_ski_foundation25/candy?h=JAN_WYC_1870&c=em7368

FAR WEST COUNCILS

SIERRA COUNCIL & RACE LEAGUE: Sierra racers have finished our council races for 2022 and are looking forward to the FWRA championships in Mammoth in April. It was fun to be racing again after a curtailed 2020 season and no racing last season because of Covid. This season was also shortened because Sugar Bowl canceled our scheduled March races. We were able to get in five of the six originally scheduled races by holding two slalom races in one day at Palisades Alpine Meadows Feb. 26. We finished with a very fun GS course at *Northstar* Feb. 27. We have been sharing the racecourses with the Bay Area Council’s Open and Singles Leagues for several years to hold down costs.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day!

Stay safe! Stay Healthy!