

Far West News Flash

September 2011

Far West Ski Association

SHOWCASING A FWSA SPONSOR

Karbon, our sponsor behind the scenes. Schure Sports, a Toronto based company with over 20 years' experience in the sports business, designs and manufactures Karbon apparel catering to the active sports market. With ongoing commitments to seventeen national teams and various other athletes, Schure Sports provides the winter sports and athletic industry with quality products and service. Since the launch of Karbon in 1997, Schure Sports has focused on creating a brand that meets the demands of world class athletes and weekend warriors alike.

For the past six years, Far West Ski Association has had the distinct pleasure of partnering with this exciting clothing company. Schure Sports has generously donated a Karbon ski suit each year at the Far West Ski Week, with all proceeds benefiting the Far West Athletic Scholarship. We are proud to be partners with this incredible team and thank them for their continued support of Far West and our outstanding Athletic Scholarship Program.

SUMMER SKIING

Big Fourth of July weekend boosts Utah resorts

As **Snowbird's** big skiing crowd attested, the Fourth of July was good for Utah's mountain resorts, and good for the hospitality industry. Not to be outdone, **Mammoth, Arapahoe Basin, Alpine Meadows, Sugar Bowl, Mount Bachelor, and Timberline Lodge** were also open for the Fourth. What a great 2011 ski season!



RACING NEWS

Far West Racing Association is ready to go for another year. August elections resulted in Bob Ellis returning as League Chairperson, Nancy Ellis as Treasurer, and Jo Simpson as Secretary. George Eachus was named chairperson for the 2012 FWRA Championships to be held April 6-8, 2012 at Mammoth.

Looking for a race camp to get in shape for the coming season? Here's an opportunity for you from one of our *Far West Skier's Guide* advertisers:

A unique and special early season ski week / race camp is scheduled for Oct. 29 through Nov. 5th at Copper Mountain, Colorado w/ GTI Sports. Early season technical and directed free-skiing and GS and slalom drills and gate training are the focus. Daily video and analysis is included, along w/ quality courses and personalized coaching. Lodging is conveniently located at the base of the lift. Early season snow-making creates an exceptional opportunity for top

quality technical skiing and course training. Copper Mountain is only open to race camps at this time of the year, not to general public skiing. The camp is limited to 20 participants so is an exceptional and limited opportunity for skiers looking to get a great head start on the upcoming season and plenty of individualized instruction. For additional information, go to www.gtisports.com or call 1-877 SKI GATE.

Race equipment changes coming: There is an article on Ski Racing's web site skiracing.com detailing prospective major changes in the rules that govern FIS compliant race skis. Be aware of possible changes to equipment for the **2012-13 season**. Possibly, the GS and speed skis that most Master's athletes would prefer, may not be available after this season. It is a situation to watch if anyone is considering the purchase of new race skis.

Skis on the 2012-13 World Cup Tour will be longer than has been seen in a decade after FIS officials determined from studies many injuries are occurring because of shorter lengths and the tendency of the ski to "hook-up" and propel skiers off course. Among the results are a set of ski length guidelines that could radically impact race technique and individual style. The biggest change, of 10 centimeters or 3.9 inches, will lengthen the minimum for men's giant slalom skis to 1.95 meters. The minimum for women's GS skis will increase eight centimeters to 1.88 meters. Men will be racing downhill events on 218's and women on 215's, contrasted to 215 for men and 210 for women last season and this season. Super G skis for both men and women will lengthen 5cm each. Slalom ski lengths will remain unchanged.

WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2012

From Far West's 2011 Warren Miller Multi-Media Award Winners *The Ski Channel*: their new movie "*Winter*", is a film which travels to the furthest reaches of the planet with a focus on mountain sports. Starring a virtual Who's Who of mountain sports athletes including: Ted Ligety, Simon Dumont, Sarah Burke, Rory Bushfield, Sean Pettit, Melissa Arnot, Johnny DeCesare, Jen Hudak, Julian Carr, Senator Bob Dole, Phil Mahre, Steve Mahre, Andy Mahre, Mike Wilson, Karina Hollekim, Kris Holm, Ted Davenport, Chip Hildebrand, Kirk Bauer and Matt Reardon, these athletes push the boundaries of their craft to sometimes unthinkable limits and dire consequences. See it, rent it, buy it, watch it. You won't be disappointed. Just watching the trailer will leave you wanting more.

<http://www.theskichannel.com/news/skinews/20110825/Winter-trailer-for-Ski-Channel-Film-Tour-2011-2012>

From NASTAR, the largest recreational ski and snowboard race program in the world, ***Ted Ligety***, 2011 world champion, has signed on to be its official ambassador. NASTAR, which recently re-signed Nature Valley as its title sponsor, has long been a starting point for today's U.S. World Cup racers. "Ted's trajectory from his early days of racing NASTAR to being the top racer in the world is what the *Next Generation of Ski Racing* is all about" said Johnny Alamo, NASTAR executive director of Partnerships & Strategic Alliances. "NASTAR introduced me to ski racing at a young age, fostering my continued love for the sport," said Ligety, who picked up the nickname "*Ted Shred*" from a Park City Ski Team coach at the age of 10 because his zeal for slicing through powder was legendary. His first major accomplishment was slalom silver at the 2004 Junior World Championships.

From Vail Resorts, a long-time sponsor and major player with Far West: a new face on ***Vail's*** scene this year will be two-time Olympic gold medal snowboarder, ***Shaun White***. Arguably the biggest name in winter sports, Shaun is set to make his home at a Truckee-area mountain. Shaun signed an agreement with Vail Resorts, Inc. to represent the six-resort

corporation and make Truckee's **Northstar-at-Tahoe** his home resort. He will design his own 22-foot halfpipe at the resort. "Shaun is the ultimate personification of the new energy and vibrancy we see across the mountain resort industry. His creativity and innovation has led the way for the self-expression we see in the halfpipes and terrain parks at all six of our resorts. Shaun embodies the same leadership we aspire to at **Vail Resorts**, as we constantly look for ways to improve and re-invent the guest experience", said Rob Katz, chairman and CEO of Vail Resorts. Shaun says "this feels like a homecoming because I have spent so much time riding at **Vail Resorts'** mountains. With **Northstar** as my home mountain, I now have the ideal place to train and continue to grow as an athlete. I look forward to all the possibilities this partnership brings".

On another note, Far West would like to say congratulations to **Brian Flickinger** on his recent promotion to Travel Industry Sales Manager for **Vail Resorts**. **Todd Strickland** is **Vail's** new National Sales Manager. Welcome Todd! We look forward to working with you.

From National Ski Club News: Snowboarding is to become 'legal' on forest land. Pending legislation, which regulates the permitting process for ski areas, a proposal has been made to the U.S. Senate to retroactively recognize snowboarding as a sport now permitted at ski areas. They'll also add language to allow "other seasonal to year-round natural resource based recreations" in order to make the recreational permitting process with the U.S. Forest Service easier. Under the new law, National Forest Service districts will have far more leeway to determine what activities can be issued permits, including zip lines, ropes courses, Frisbee golf and bike parks and trails. **Squaw Valley** will invest approximately \$15 million transforming the Olympic House base lodge into a new day lodge and recreation center. A new communications system will include iPhone apps. Enhancements will be made to the KT-Sundeck to include outdoor fire pits and on-mountain cabanas with views of KT-22. Lehman Brothers has purchased **Moonlight Basin** and **Powderhorn** has been sold to an ex-Vail executive and Gart Brothers. **Big Sky** is adding five new gladed runs on 20 acres of new terrain that will open on Andesite Mountain. And, last but not least, **Breckenridge** turns 50.

Far West trips, events and activities: Many, many trips and activities are being planned for the coming year by our clubs and councils. I will be listing more in the coming issues of the *News Flash* as I get them.

TRIPS:

FWSA Ski Week Jan 28—Feb 4, 2012 to Jackson Hole, WY. From \$950—Price includes 7 nights lodging (per persons based on double occupancy) and the FWSA amenity package: Welcome Party, races, pub crawl, mountain picnic, ski week banquet, awards apre's party, 5 of 7 day lift tickets. Transportation is additional and can be arranged through FWSA. For more questions contact, contact a Council Trip Leader listed on the Jackson Hole flyer. The flyer can be found in the website at www.fwsa.org under the "Travel" tab.

Big White Ski Trip Mar 27-Apr 1, 2012 we are having a "Spring Fling" in Big White, British Columbia. This is not to be confused with the traditional FWSA ski week. Sign-ups will be made through Gloria Raminha (fwsa.natrael@sbcglobal.net) or Fran Long (fancat2007@sbcglobal.net). Space is limited to the first 100 members. The cost is from \$530 to \$595 per person, based on double occupancy. Transportation is not included or provided by FWSA (FWSA will assist with recommendations for transportation). Included is 5 nights lodging, 3 or 4 day lift tickets and a welcome and farewell party. The flyer and detailed information can be found on the FWSA website at www.fwsa.org.

Fall 2012 Panama Canal Cruise FWSA will "Cruise the Canal" on the Norwegian Pearl cruise ship between September 28 to October 12, 2012. The cruise schedule is as follows: Los Angeles, At Sea, Cabo San Lucas, Puerto Vallarta, At Sea, Huatulco, Puerto Chiapas, At Sea, Puntarenas, At Sea, Transit Panama Canal, Cartagena, At Sea, At Sea, Miami. (Note that this cruise starts in Los Angeles and ends in Miami). The flyer which includes pricing and detailed information about the cruise is available on the www.fwsa.org website. Air and ground transportation are not provided by FWSA. Reservations may only be made through Gloria Raminha at fwsa.natrael@sbcglobal.net.

Mammoth Summer Adventure: I'd like to thank Fran Long for organizing the first FWSA summer adventure trip at Mammoth Mountain this July. FWSA members camped, stayed in FWSA lodging or privately owned condos. Activities included fishing, kayaking, biking, hiking, campfires, barbeque with s'mores and much more. FWSA is planning another summer adventure trip early August, 2012 at Mammoth Mountain Resort. Once details are available, they will be posted in the FWSA website.

For both North American and International travel, check out the FWSA website for flyers and detailed information.

EVENTS:

September 12, 2011. Special Semi Annual BAC Monthly Meeting for all of our clubs where we ask their Presidents along with the Representatives to attend. During our August Meeting, each club was asked to submit a list of their Top Three Topics that they'd like to see addressed at our September meeting. The overall Top Three Topics will be featured in September utilizing various formats which might include Key Note Speaker, Panel Discussion and/or Breakout Sessions. This is going to be a fun, interactive and engaging meeting.

November 7, 2011. 3rd annual BAC Winter Fest Meeting! In just three years, this annual event has become a hit with the Industry and our clubs! We "piggy back" with the SnowBomb Show at Ft. Mason in San Francisco and ask Industry Reps to stay in town for another night or two to attend our event. Already signed up to return this year are **Mammoth, SkiBig3, Telluride** and **Grand Sierra Resort & Casino**. More will be added to our list as we get going into the fall!

DID YOU KNOW the precursor organization to Bay Area Council was the Bay Area Ski Federation? BASF was founded in December, 1940. The transition to a council did not occur until the 1960's. (Thank you, John Watson aka "Dr. Know" for that tidbit)

And now, for Far West's major event coming in June, 2012. Be sure to mark your calendar for this one:



Save the date! From **June 7-10, 2012** we will all meet in Ogden, Utah for the 80th Annual FWSA Convention, hosted by the Intermountain Ski Council. You will enjoy great outdoor activities, partake in two new modules of our Snowsports Leadership Academy, meet ski celebrities, participate in a wonderful Silent Auction for ski trips and travel opportunities, and see how far your golf ball can fly at a higher altitude at the 6th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament. Meetings will be held at the Ogden Eccles Conference Center, a modern state-of-the-art facility with breathtaking mountain views. Lodging will be at the Marriott Ogden or Hampton Inn & Suites Ogden, just steps away from the Conference Center. We look forward to seeing you there. More details to be announced soon! www.fwsa.org/convention.

Announcement: EDITOR WANTED. *The Councilman* needs a new editor. How about you? Mary loved the job so much she was editor for over 7 years before she decided to move on to other challenges, so here is your chance to take over the reins of this 3-times-a-year publication, and put your own spin on it. If you would like to learn more about this rewarding opportunity, contact Linda Scott at louandlt@hotmail.com.