

Far West News *Flash*  
November, 2015  
*Far West Ski Association*

## WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2015-2016

**Happy Birthday Far West Ski Clubs:** Time goes so quickly. *Don Diego Ski Club*, a member of the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs, is celebrating their 80<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. In the Northwest Ski Club Council, *S'no Joke Ski Club* turns 30, and *Skiyente Ski Club* turned 60. *Balboa Ski & Sports Club*, a member of Orange Council of Ski Clubs celebrates their 60<sup>th</sup> birthday as well. Happy birthday to you all!

**Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jackson Hole:** *Jackson Hole Mountain Resort* is turning 50 this year. Come see what they have that's new...lifts, terrain, and eats, plus a whole lot more! Happy birthday Jackson Hole .

**U.S. Ski And Snowboard Hall of Fame:** Seven people have been selected for the Hall of Fame - Class of 2015. A reception to announce the newest group of Honored Members was held at the Limelight Hotel in *Aspen* on October 23rd. Those who will be inducted in the coming year are: freestyle skiing world champions *Genia Fuller* and *Bob Salerno*; longtime ski industry leader *David Ingemie*, veteran magazine publisher *Henry Kaiser*; Olympic snowboarding medalist *Chris Klug*; adaptive skiing innovator *Jim Martinson*, and the late *Edgar Stern* who developed Deer Valley Resort. Their induction will take place in *Aspen, Colorado* , April 9, 2016. A special enshrinement ceremony weekend for them will be in *Ishpeming* the following September.

**Sunlight Mountain Resort Names New Marketing Director:** *Troy Hawks*, former communications manager at the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA), has been named as *Sunlight Mountain Resort's* new marketing and sales director. The Sunlight team is delighted to have Troy on board and is "confident that his solid work experience and network of friends in the industry will be a big benefit to our team effort of taking Sunlight to the next level," said Tom Hays, Sunlight's assistant general manager.

**Silver Star Partners With Whistler Blackcomb:** *SilverStar* My1Pass season pass-holders are receiving an unexpected and welcome perk with a recently announced partnership between *SilverStar Mountain Resort* and *Whistler Blackcomb*. The new benefit gets SilverStar 2015-16 alpine season pass-holders a 25 percent discount on single-day and multi-day tickets at Whistler Blackcomb with no blackout dates. SilverStar's season pass-holders also receive access to 39 free ski days at [Powder Alliance](#) member resorts, a collection of 14 ski resorts across North America . SilverStar was the first Canadian resort to achieve membership in the Powder Alliance. New for this season, *Whitewater*, in Nelson, B.C. joined the Alliance .

**Battle of the Drones Heats Up On The Slopes:** As the use of recreational drones, to film video, is rapidly increasing in popularity, ski resorts — and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) — are scrambling to determine how to deal with this rapidly emerging new technology on the slopes. The FAA was supposed to release its final draft of new regulations regarding personal drone use by October 1, but missed that deadline, pushing the date back to late spring 2016 — after the upcoming ski season ends at most resorts. Fearing impacts with other skiers, lifts or other infrastructure, the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) has drafted its own set of rules banning the flying of personal and commercial aerial drones at ski areas.

Ski resort operators fear that without taking preemptive action, aerial video drones could one day become as ubiquitous on the slopes as GoPro POV cameras are today. Violation of the NSAA rules could result in drone confiscation and/or loss of skiing privileges, and in some areas potentially regulatory fines as well. At the same time, the NSAA is urging the FAA to allow resorts to fly their own commercial drones to assist in lift inspections, search and rescue operations and avalanche mitigation. Some resorts have struck out on their own and already issued their own drone bans. Among them is **Crested Butte Mountain Resort**, which has already published its written drone policy: "Out of safety concerns for guests, employees, and resort property, Crested Butte Mountain Resort prohibits the operation of unmanned aerial systems, or aerial drones, by the general public, including recreational users and hobbyists, without prior written authorization from the Resort. Commercial videographers who wish to film on U.S. Forest Service land will need to obtain a special permit and pay a fee to the Forest Service prior to filming, whether they use unmanned aerial vehicles or not.

What's New In Idaho This Season: **Idaho** is home to 18 ski areas offering everything from world-class resorts with beautifully groomed runs and glades of feather-light powder for all skiing and boarding abilities, to small community ski areas for riding on a budget. Collectively, with more than 28,000 leg-burning vertical feet, 20,000 skiable acres and a wide array of Nordic trails, terrain parks, cat ski operations, heli-ski opportunities and tubing hills, Idaho has become a hub for skiers and boarders seeking blue skies, fresh powder and few crowds. Come check out this little corner of the world. You won't be sorry.

## **FAR WEST CONVENTION**

**Far West Annual Convention Just Seven Months Away:** *Arizona Ski Council* and its members are excited to be hosting FWSA's 84th Annual Convention, June 9-12, 2016, in Scottsdale, Arizona, at the beautiful *DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Paradise Valley-Scottsdale*. The resort is located minutes from downtown Scottsdale and 12 miles from the Phoenix International Airport. Phoenix Airport is serviced by all major airlines. Rental cars and shuttle services are also available at the airport. For room reservations, call 1-800-498-7396. Reference our group name - Far West Ski Association. You can also book on-line at the FWSA room reservation site <http://bit.ly/FWSA-2016-Lodging>. The Group Code is **FWS**. For rates and complete details on room accommodations, visit [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and select Conventions.

**Charities and Community Service Recognition Program:** FWSA encourages all clubs and councils to get involved with charities and community service. Changes were implemented last year for our Charity Recognition Program, creating two different levels of application for Clubs: We now have the Diamond (novice) and the Double Diamond (masters) award. Any Club that has won first place in this wonderful Recognition Program in a past year will apply in the Double Diamond category. All other Clubs will be in the Diamond category. The 2 separate levels will hopefully give all groups an added incentive to apply, and then to apply again. The first prize in each Club category will be \$200 and for second place \$50. The Council award remains the same, with one category and with a \$100 recognition for first place. All prizes will be donated to the charity of the Clubs and Council's choice. The top 2 Clubs in each category and the winning Council will be invited to display a picture board at Convention. All groups that apply will be recognized at Convention. Information and applications can be obtained on the Far West website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) regarding this wonderful program, and how easy it is to apply for this recognition. For any Charity & Community Service questions, contact Sigrid Noack at [sig4ski@earthlink](mailto:sig4ski@earthlink).

## FAR WEST TRAVEL

**Far West Annual Ski Week 2016:** January 30th-February 6, 2016 are the dates set for next year's Ski Week to **Telluride Ski Resort**. Ski Week staff and the folks at Telluride have some exciting events planned for everyone, including a Mountain Picnic, 5-6 day lift tickets, lots of racing, and something new..."*Cruise the Blues*". Join us to get in on all the fun. Check with your council's Trip Leader to make your reservations for this fantastic week.

**Far West Mini Ski Week 2016:** Signups are being taken for the 2016 mini ski week trip to *Crested Butte* trip March 21—26, 2016. You can enjoy this true Colorado ski town, with wide open green and blue groomed trails to more advanced long cruisers and the famous extreme limits of the North Face and Headwall. There will also be FWSA activities and optional local activities available. We have on-line registration and credit card payment available. Go to [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and click on the travel tab for more information, or contact Gloria Raminha, Trip Leader, at [Garski2011@gmail.com](mailto:Garski2011@gmail.com) or (661)800-8229 (cell). Don't miss the fun! And, check out the video here: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/5meqctuteaxmqtg/Crested%20Butte%20Mini%20Ski%20Week.mp4?dl=0>

**Far West International Trip 2016:** There's still room on the 2016 Int'l Ski Week trip to **Cortina d'Ampezzo** and extension trip to *Florence and Rome, Italy*. The optional extension trip will be to the *Tuscany* region – 3 nights in Florence with day tours to Sienna & San Gimignano and 4 nights in Rome. If one chooses to not go to Cortina, we will fly you from the US to join us for the extension trip – we call this the "Stand Alone" trip. Contact Debbie Stewart for more information:

[FWSAintltrl@prodigy.net](mailto:FWSAintltrl@prodigy.net).

**Far West Annual Ski Week 2017:** Ski Week 2017 has been set, and will be in beautiful *Breckenridge, Colorado*, January 28-February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The town of Breckenridge has a colorful history full of gold mining, saloons, booms, and busts. There is much to do to keep skiers and non-skiers busy for the week. There are historical tours, shopping, spas, pubs, and plenty of restaurants to keep you active. We have lots of slope-side lodging with many close to town. Council trip leaders will begin promoting this trip in Spring, 2016.

**Far West Mini Ski Week 2017:** *Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge at Sun Peaks Resort*, boasting to being the second largest ski resort in Canada, is our destination for the 2017 Mini Ski Week, March 21-26, 2017. We will have an incredible trip with 133 runs to choose from, spread out over 3 mountains, a ski-in, ski-out village, and virtually no lift lines. We will have more information about this trip in the near future, so stay tuned.

## FAR WEST COUNCILS

**Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs:** Volunteers from *The LA Council* will be working their booth at the upcoming *Ski Dazzle Ski & Snowboard Show*, December 4-6, at the LA Convention Center. They have some exciting activities planned to draw attention to their booth. All member clubs have an opportunity to be an integral part of this fantastic show. They have planned a "Club Hour" to promote each of the 28 LA Council sports clubs that comprise the LA Council of Ski Clubs. Each will be featured for one hour at the *LA Council Ski Dazzle Booth*, throughout the weekend. Please consider having your club and trip leaders volunteer to man the Council booth for one of the 4-hour time slots available. Remember, attracting people to fun trips is how a ski club can build additional members and supporters!\_

## FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION

**What's Happening With The Far West Ski Foundation:** The Far West Ski Foundation has had a busy year. In July, we granted two scholarships (\$1000) to the *Fly Girls Program of Women's Ski Jumping for Development Camp*; which involves young women from the USA as young as 12, and is the development program for the national team, now taken over by the U.S. Ski Team. This was the first year for the Fly Girls devo program and our first grant to it. We have authorized Grants, in the amount of \$500 each to *Oregon Adaptive Sports* and the *Adaptive Sports Center at Crested Butte Mountain Resort* (the site of our 2016 Mini Ski Week). Also planned, is our annual contribution to the *Vail Veterans Program*, to support their adaptive ski weeks. VVP and its partners annually draw rehabilitation patients (and clinicians if needed) from the major Armed Forces hospitals - Walter Reed, Brooks, and Balboa, bringing them to *Vail* at no cost to the patient. One week is planned for families, the other week for adults. *Vail* hosted 42 children in one family ski week last season. This month, we are offering grants to racing schools in support of the *FWSA/FWSF Athletic Scholarship Program*, in the amount of \$11,425. The 13 scholar-athletes are trained by 9 ski racing schools in four states. This is the program's 12<sup>th</sup> year in existence. The names of those young athletes are listed in the article below.

We continue to review the direction and impacts of the Foundation, searching for better ways to achieve and surpass our goals. We depend on you, fellow believers in the worth and future of snowsport, to help sustain the Far West Ski Foundation and its missions - Alpine ski racing, adaptive snowsports, the development of women's ski jumping, and preservation of the legacy of snowsport. Please take some time to think about contributing to the *Far West Ski Foundation* before the end of the year. This would be your personal testament in addition to any commitments from your organization. It's easy to do. You can use your PayPal on the website [farwestskifoundation.org](http://farwestskifoundation.org); or you can use your PayPal and just send the contribution to [FWSFPresident@gmail.com](mailto:FWSFPresident@gmail.com) or [FWSF.Treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:FWSF.Treasurer@gmail.com); or you can send a check to John Reinhardt, FWSF Treasurer, 6105 SW Sheridan St, Portland, OR 97225. Make check payable to **FWSF**. Your contribution can be either unrestricted or designated for one of the Foundation's missions. **John Watson, President, Far West Ski Foundation, says " Let me make this challenge: I will match the first contribution of \$500 by an individual made on or before December 6, 2015. Who is willing to take John up on that challenge?"**

## FAR WEST ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP

**FWSA Announces 2015-2016 Recipients:** The Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Committee has announced the scholarship recipients for the 2015-2016 season. Thirteen individuals were awarded scholarships this year to assist them in their racing endeavors. They are: *AJ Hurt* (Squaw Valley, CA), *Hannah Bodily* (Mission Ridge, WA), *Alexandria Oseland* (Crystal Mountain, WA), *Haley Louis* (Sugar Bowl, CA), *Jimmy Wehsener* (Mammoth Mountain, CA), *Kris Westman* (Stevens Pass, WA), *Harrison Goss* (Squaw Valley, CA), *Noah Williams* (Squaw Valley, CA), *Max Wingard* (Squaw Valley, CA), *Sheldon French* (Mammoth Mountain, CA), *Walter Lafky* (Sun Valley, ID), *Nathan Gunesch* (Mt. Hood, OR), and *Ashley Lodmell* (Mt. Bachelor, OR).

FWSA wishes these young individuals the best for a successful season. In addition, FWSA would like to thank all of the sponsors, partners, and individuals who contributed to make this possible.

## FAR WEST MEMBER BENEFITS

**New Benefits Partners Join Far West:** With each new season comes a few new Member Benefits and new Benefits Partners. Check out our website, under "Member Corner". Click on

“Benefits” and see what everyone is talking about! Along with all of our great lodging partners from 2015, we have now added the *Lexington Hotel & Suites* in **Jackson Hole**. *The Powder House*, in Lake Tahoe, has opened another new shop, and we have added *Hillcrest Sports*, on the highway to **Mt. Hood**, for your shopping pleasure.

We also have an additional transportation company at our disposal.... *Bell Limo*, out of the **Reno-Tahoe** area. *Bell* will be providing 10% off your shuttle costs when you come into Reno, headed for any one of the many outstanding resorts in that area. Lastly, we have partnered with *Oregami Luggage*, a Portland-based business, for some great, uniquely styled travel bags. Check them all out, and begin making your winter plans to include stops at some of our partner shops, lodging properties, and start taking advantage of the great discounts afforded FWSA members by our many partners. You'll be glad you did.

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