



# UPDATES

<http://PacificRimAlliance.org/>

**Pacific Rim Snow Sports Alliance** Vol. 7 • No. 3 • Winter 2003/2004

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## the Alliance

### Verbier, Switzerland—

Verbier has been sold out. Due to the economy and the poor state of the US dollar, this trip have been cut back.

Everything seems to have settled down. We are all booked on Swiss International. We should be arriving together at the resort while it is still day light. We are all staying at the same hotel. It's a good group and should be a fun trip.

After Verbier some of us will be flying to Barcelona for five days. We are really excited about visiting one of the great Mediterranean cities.

### Bormio, Italy—



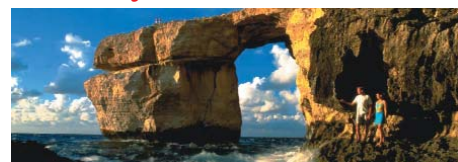
Pac Rim's 2005 European trip will be to Bormio, Italy with an extension to Malta. We have booked the 3-star plus plus Larice Bianco Hotel in Bormio that is ski-in/ski out. Catherine has eaten there and says the meals are 5-star.

The ski resorts in the area are Bormio, Santa Caterina, and San Colombano (Oga/Valdidentro). These areas have

often hosted World Cup races, in particular the men's downhill race which usually takes place end of December. Furthermore, Bormio hosted the Alpine World Ski Championships in 1985 as well as the World Cup Finals in 1995 and 2000. They will be hosting the Alpine World Ski Championships 2005.

Thanks to the Alpine World Ski Championships, by the ski winter of 2005, Bormio will have two new high-speed quads and a cabin cable car on the slopes of the skiing mountain Valecetta.

### Malta, Italy—



Wherever we stay on the Malta Islands, we'll be able to plan a holiday that's as action packed or as relaxed as we want to make it. We'll never be far from the Island's rich archaeological and cultural treasures, a beach, café or shopping. Malta is holidaying à la carte — we decide as the mood takes us.

Situated in the heart of the Mediterranean, the Islands have been a crossroads for ancient and modern seafarers for millennia, which means a vast number of cultures have left their mark. ■

• Ski With Pride •  
• Watch All Sides •  
• Let It Ride •  
First With Safety Awareness

NATIONAL SKI AREAS ASSOCIATION Associate Member  
**NATIONAL SKI AREAS ASSOCIATION**  
nsaa.org

Membership in Pacific Rim Alliance gives you membership in LA Council of Ski Clubs (LAC), San Diego Ski Council (SDSC) and the Far West Ski Association (FWSA).

## TRIPPING AROUND

### ❖ Pacific Rim Alliance ❖

- VERBIER, Switzerland . . . . . 12-20 March 2004  
BARCELONA, Spain . . . . . 20-25 March 2004  
*Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469*
- WINE MAKER DINNER FOR MS. . . . . 18 Sept 2004  
*Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469*
- STEAMBOAT, CO. . . . . 5-12 February 2005  
*Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469*
- BORMIO, Italy . . . . . 5-13 March 2005  
MALTA, Italy . . . . .  
*Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469*

### ❖ Los Angeles Council ❖

- WHISTLER/BLACKCOMB, Canada . . . 31 Jan - 7 Feb 2004  
*Bonnie West @ 562-699-8880*
- SALT LAKE CITY, Utah . . . . . 19-23 February 2004  
*Bonnie West @ 562-699-8880*
- STEAMBOAT, CO . . . . . 5-12 February 2005  
*Bonnie West @ 562-699-8880*

### ❖ San Diego Council ❖

- FAMILY PICNIC . . . . . 27 June 2004  
*Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469*
- WINTER GALA . . . . . 6 Nov 2004  
*Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469*

### ❖ Far West Ski Association ❖

- LAKE LOUISE, Canada . . . . . 24-31 January 2004  
*Judith Miller @ 818-841-4192*
- MORZINE, France . . . . . 6-13 March 2004  
*Kathy Hoffmann @ 510-278-5900*
- FWRA Championships, Heavenly . . . . . 1-4 April 2004  
*Nancy Sanford @ 909-866-9066*
- FWSA Convention, Reno . . . . . 10-13 June 2004  
*Joe Loader @ 775-972-8019*
- SCANDINAVIA . . . . . 26 Aug - Sept 8, 2004  
*Kathy Hoffmann @ 510-278-5900*
- ALASKA CRUISE . . . . . 19-26 September 2004  
*Lynnell Calkins @ 310-370-4617*
- ASPEN, Colorado . . . . . 29 Jan - 5 Feb 2005  
*Lynnell Calkins @ 310-370-4617*
- FWSA Convention, Long Beach . . . . . 9-12 June 2005  
*Catherine Ohl @ 858-467-9469*

## IN LOVING MEMORY

### Sutter E. Kunkel

Sutter Kunkel began skiing in the late 30's on a pair of pine skis ordered from a Sears Catalog. At that time skiing was just a competition sport. Sut's vision of skiing was that it should be enjoyed by everyone.

In 1949, Sut founded and became the first president of Grindelwald Ski Club. The following year he originated the club's famous Ski Swap (the predecessor to the Swap held every year at Ski Dazzle in Los Angeles) which allowed skiers to buy and exchange equipment at a low cost.

He developed an interest in the National Ski Patrol System (NSP) and served at Mt. Waterman and Mt. Baldy from 1957-1974.

Sut was the first Far West Ski Association (FWSA) Vice President of Recreation and served in that position for five years. It was during this time that he made what is perhaps his most significant contribution to the development of recreational skiing. He organized what was to become the Far West's largest and most popular single program — charter flights.

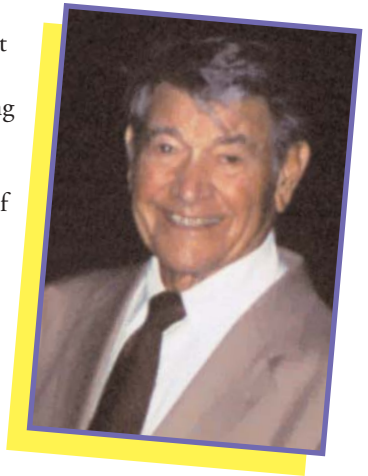
The first flight took place in 1959, followed by two in 1960, six in 1961, with eight to ten flights in subsequent years. These flights were operated under the leadership of Sut and **Will Martin** and were entirely managed by volunteers from 1959 to 1963. Any profits from these trips were returned to the participants and used to send Olympic hopefuls to Europe for training.

In 1963, Sut was elected President of FWSA. During his presidency, he initiated the Proficiency Ski Test Program, a method of measuring a skier's capability of skiing diverse conditions and terrain. The program was adopted by USSA and all its divisions. FWSA has honored Sut with the Hans Georg Award in 1989, the J. Stanley Mullin Award in 1997, and the first History award sponsored by Steamboat in 2000.

A devoted husband, father, grandfather, friend and skier, Sut will be remembered for his generosity, honor, wit, sense of humor and devotions to his family and the sport of skiing.

Donations may be made to the Todd Cancer Institute and Nursing Education at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center Foundation [POB 1428, Long Beach, CA 90801].

Grindelwald Ski Club is having a memorial service for Sutter on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2004, 2 PM. It will be at Fred & Linda Kramer's home at 11017 Willowbrae in Chatsworth. ■



## FWSA Quiz—

1. What was the founding date of the California Ski Association (CSA)? CSA changed its name in 1948 to the Far West Ski Association (FWSA). (hint: The date in the Skiers Guide is wrong.)
2. Who is considered to be the founder of FWSA?
3. When was the intramurals program started in FWSA (now "recreational racing"), and what were the founding leagues?
4. When and where was the first FWSA Ski Week?
5. Who is Bruce Bell?
6. Who was Joe Ross?
7. Where is the newest ski museum in the Far West region? ■

- Winter.
7. Mammoth Ski Museum opened this day.
  - years old but died just after his 99<sup>th</sup> birth.
  88. He wanted to ski until he was 100.
  - a NASTAR gold in Aspen at the age of started skiing at the age of 52 and earned.
  6. Joe Ross, a member of Grindelwald, Lake Placid for charity.
  - then in 1976 roller skied from LA to roller skied to Mammoth from LA and intramurals & recreational racing. He
  5. Bruce Bell was a strong advocate for of the founders.
  4. 1972 in Bear Valley. John James was one Southern Council).
  3. 1964. Rokka and Southeast (both in
  2. Wendell Robie.
  1. October 7, 1930.

## FWSA Quiz Answers—

FWSA, LA, Orange & San Diego presents

## SNOW SUMMIT FUN DAY Sunday, February 15, 2004

Snow play activities are scheduled at Alpine Slide where they have tubing, miniature golf, go-karts, snack bar and video games.

For info, call Nancy at 909-866-9066.



## Why Penguins Never Get Sore—

Instead of an apres-ski Coors and soak in the hot tub, try this: Fill your bathtub with six inches of ice water and hop in. The chilly soak constricts vessels, pumping out lactic acid. When you get out, the rush of fresh blood back to the muscles reduces soreness and quickly rebuilds fatigued muscles.

Ten minutes in an iced tub will make your legs springy the next day. Or if you prefer,

## Consumers Union Dings Boeri—

For the first time, Consumers Union has tested ski and snowboard helmets. The results of their stringent tests are less than flattering for industry giant Boeri Helmets.



Nine.9

According to Consumers Union, the Boeri Rage (high gloss shell) is rated "not acceptable" because it failed their impact test which involved dropping helmets from a height onto a flat anvil. Also appearing on the magazine's "not recommended" list are the W Helmets, Wski with slider, & the Boeri Rage (matte-black shell).

Giro rated spots #1 and #2 with their Nine.9 and Fuse models. Leedom's Scream and Limit models landed spots #3 and #4, followed by K2's Automatic in fifth place.

## NSCF Helmet Discounts—

Bollé is launching a new ski helmet. Their plan for bringing this new helmet to the skiing public will be via direct market sales campaign. NSCF Members receive helmets and goggles at up to 40% savings off retail.

Leedom International is offering Ski/Snowboard helmets at a highly discounted price. NSCF members receive up to 35% off retail prices.

you could perhaps take another shot of tequila and roll in the snow, naked.

## Ski fitness and conditioning—

Do not try to ski yourself into shape. Be in shape before you get to the top of the mountain. Poor fitness and conditioning are major contributing factors of ski injuries. Prepare months before your planned ski trip with a good strengthening and conditioning program.

One should utilize aerobic and stretching exercise which targets the hip and thigh muscles such as cycling, StairMaster, step aerobics and swimming. Weight training, using light weights and high repetition, will compliment your aerobic training. ■

## Fitness Stretch for Skiing—

### Lunges—

Knee Stability, Quads, Glutes, Core

Level 1: Lunge with back leg on a chair or bench.

Level 2: Lunge with back leg on a chair, eccentric loading. Descend slowly for five seconds, then explode back to the starting position.

Level 3: Dynamic lunge telemark jumps. Stand with feet together, then jump up and land in a lunge position, descending until your back knee touches the ground. Jump up again, switching feet in the air, and land in a lunge position with the opposite foot in front (this equals one rep).

**Routine:** Place the top of your right foot behind you on a bench or stable chair. Put your left foot far enough in front of you so that when you descend, your knee is directly over your ankle. Descend until your back knee touches the ground, making sure your knee tracks forward and doesn't shift side to side.

Reps: 15 to 30 per leg per set. ■



# INDUSTRY

## Ski News

by Catherine Ohl

### Muellers to Buy Crested Butte—

**Tim** and **Diane Mueller**, owners of Triple Peaks, LLC, have signed a Letter of Intent for the purchase of Crested Butte and all of its assets from the **Callaway & Walton** families, longtime owners.

The area will be the third turnaround project for Triple Peaks. It has moved Okemo from less than 100,000 visits in 1982 to 604,000 last season, and has taken Sunapee from 109,000 visits to 272,000 visits in the past five seasons. Crested Butte's visits peaked in the 1990s at more than 550,000, but totaled just 342,000 last year.

### Silverton Still Limited—

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) upped Silverton's allowable capacity this year from 40 to 80 sliders while BLM continues to assess the area's request to host 475 sliders a day, both guided and unguided.

**Aaron Brill**, the owner and operator of this new backcountry ski area, owns 344 acres, upon which he installed a lift that accesses the BLM's back country. The BLM is weighing an environmental impact statement as well as safety issues, especially avalanche control. For now, Brill must provide an 8-to-1 client-to-guide ratio, that all sliders must be guided and he must have four full-time safety personnel. A decision by the BLM is expected in January.

### Aspen Seeks Youth—

"The Power of Four," the Aspen Skiing Company's new 22-minute **Greg Stump** promotional film, seeks to entrench Aspen and Snowmass, CO, in the public's mind as a place for the young and hip to ski, ride, and party. **Scot Schmidt**, **Johnny Mosley** and **Glen Plake** showed up at the premiere of the film that has the resorts' status as the headquarters of contemporary cool.

Not an ankle-length fur appeared in the film. Instead, there was abundant footage of the Winter X Games, terrain parks, halfpipes, powder shots, obligatory big air.

### Telluride Gets New Part-Owners—

**Chuck** and **Chad Horning** of Newport Beach, California, have become joint-venture partners in Telluride Ski and Golf Company

with **Hideo "Joe" Morita**, who has been majority owner of the area since 1999. The Hornings bested bids by Aspen Skiing Co. and former Vail president **Andy Daly**.

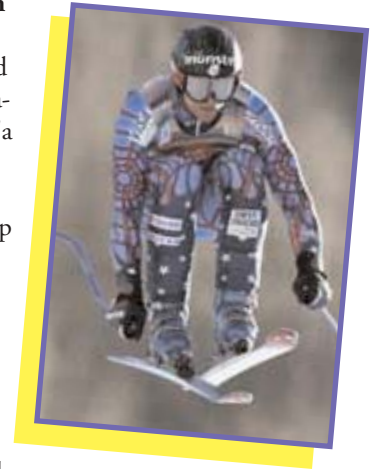
Morita had been sole owner in 2001 after buying out longtime Telluride partners **Ron Allred** and **Jim Wells** and investing \$14 million to expand the resort.

The Hornings own Newport Federal Financial, a real estate investment company that has invested more than \$100 million in a recent string of deals in southern California. Their Telluride stake, though, is a personal investment.

### Daron Rahlves Wins Downhill—

On December 5, 2003 **Daron Rahlves** (Sugar Bowl, CA), battling the remnants of a cold but skiing with double motivation on what he described as "a scrapper run," tore through Birds of Prey and its icy speed run to win his fifth World Cup downhill, the first downhill victory by a U.S. man in the U.S. since 1984.

The Chevy Truck Birds of Prey World Cup race, was added just 48 hours before the race after the International Ski Federation (FIS) moved the race from semi-snowless Val d'Isere,.



### Kirsten Clark on Podium—

On December 5, 2003 two-time Olympian **Kirsten Clark** (Raymond, ME), troubled by apparent equipment problems in training, found the right solution and tore through the first women's downhill of the World Cup season to finish third.

Frenchwoman **Carole Montillet** won while four other Americans joined Clark in the top 30.

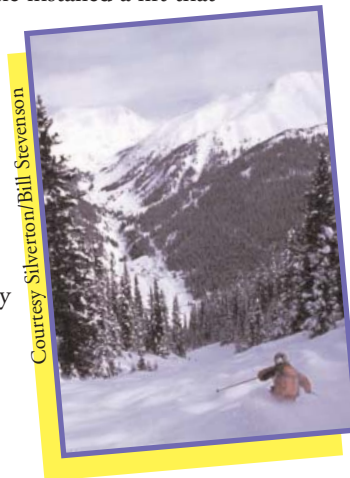
### Snowmass Base Village Project—

As proposed by Intrawest and the Aspen Skiing Co., the Snowmass Base Village would add 635 condos, 10 townhomes, 180 employee units, 184,000 square feet of nonresidential space (including between 50,000 and 70,000 square feet of restaurants and retail), parking for 1,100 cars and 20 homesites.

With additional criticism from the town regarding the overall size of the project and its individual structures, those figures are expected to change in the coming weeks.

### Berthoud Powder Guides Closes Its Doors—

Berthoud Powder Guides is ceasing operations, and will no longer be operating its popular snowcat ski and ride service. The costs for liability insurance and other overhead expenses have made it impossible for them to be profitable. The chairlifts were removed this summer but the 11,302 foot high Berthoud Pass parking lot will be available for backcountry skiers and snowboarders. ■



# KID'S KORNER

## 4 kids & grandkids

### Kid's Check List—

Keeping small children happy while skiing or riding depends on staying warm & dry all day. Enrolling in a children's ski program helps kids enjoy skiing with a group of their peers, and often paces their learning with breaks and indoor activities. Before you go on that family ski vacation, make sure your child has these basic necessities!

**Kid's Clothes—** Check out [www.winterkids.com](http://www.winterkids.com) for quality winter clothes for kids & teens from Spyder, Obermeyer, Burton, North Face, Hot Chillys & more.

### Jacket—

Kids need to be protected from the elements. Waterproof protection, reinforced or taped seams are a must for active winter kids. Light insulation is recommended, but layering underneath properly helps fight the cold. Breathable materials and vents help kids regulate their temperature. Look for ski jackets with drawstring cords at waist or hem, or powder skirts to keep snow out.

### Ski Pants—

Shop for the same elements as in children's ski jackets, but also look for a little more insulation, reinforced knees and rear ends that may be on the snow quite a bit while learning to ski or snowboard. Also stretch cuffs to keep snow from getting inside.

### Underwear—

Your first layer of defense against being cold and wet is "Moisture-Wicking" fabrics that pull sweat away from the body and keep skin

from getting cold and clammy, and keep outside moisture from getting past. Popular blends include silk, merino wool, lighter microfleece and polypropylene layers.

### Moisture Wicking Socks—

There's that moisture-wicking word again. Look for blends and insulating fibers. Ski boots are much warmer these days, but cotton socks are not a good choice, because they lack warmth and stay wet if they get wet from sweat or snow that creeps in. Cold, wet feet is the fastest way to end a good ski day.

### Children's Ski Helmets—

Well worth the investment to help protect against head injuries and fatal accidents, today's lightweight helmets are warm. Check with the ski resort before your trip. Many ski schools now require helmets for children. Many ski areas provide helmet rentals (\$5-\$15), but buying one to properly fit your child is important and kids love decorating their own with stickers.

### Warm Hat—

Even if using a ski helmet, children should have a hat to tuck in their pocket for other outdoor activities, or wear under the helmet for warmth. Hats that are worn under helmets should be smooth and close fitting, to allow the helmet to rest properly.

### Junior Anti-Fog Goggles—

Double lenses are best for preventing fogging, helping kids see clearly. Junior goggles are smaller to fit children's faces, but you should have your child try on several styles to get the best fit. Most are helmet compatible, but you should test them together for comfort and to make sure your child has good

peripheral vision.

### Waterproof, Insulated Gloves—

Many of today's ski gloves come with zip out liners, which makes them easy to lose. You may want to have a back-up pair. Look for gloves with extended wrists and a pull cord to keep snow out.

### Fleece Neck & Face Warmer—

Known as "neck gaiters", or one-piece "balaclavas," these great fleece items protect skin from the cold and windburn.

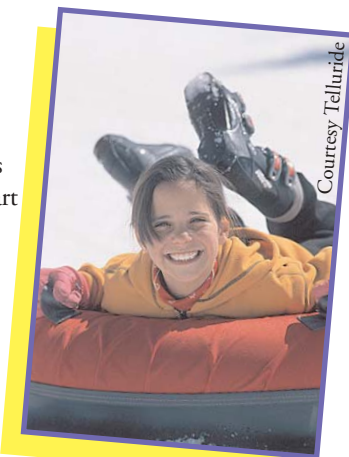
### Last but not Least, A Positive Attitude—

Learning to ski or snowboard should be a fun experience for kids. Start their days out right with a good breakfast. When skiing with your kids outside of children's ski school, listen to how they are feeling. Take breaks often and don't push them too hard — they'll let you know when they're ready for more. ■

### Telluride Thrills—

#### Ride, Glide & Slide—

Telluride is buzzing with afternoon and evening activities for the young and young at heart with the new Thrill Hill. Kids, teens, and adults can satisfy their need for speed at Thrill Hill, offering tubing, snowskating, and skibiking from 2:30-8:00 PM, Wednesday through Saturday. Located at the bottom of lift 2 in Mountain Village. ■



Courtesy Telluride



## Wine Maker Dinner Saturday, September 27, 2003

The Wine Maker Dinner for the Jimmie Heuga Center was a huge success. We had 24 people in attendance and raised \$1,100 for the Jimmie Heuga Center for MS. This was our third annual dinner for The Center and our most successful to date.

We'd like to especially thank **Sportsmen Seafood** in Mission Bay for the Ahi, **Cane's Bar in Grill**, Mission Beach for the Tortilla Soup and **Fetzer, Firestone, Kenwood, R.H. Phillips, Rosemount** and **St. Francis** for the fabulous wines. We couldn't have done it without these generous donations.

We would like to especially thank **Robert & Justin Nordquest, Patricia Ortiz, Stephanie Thompson, Jan & Jim Hess, Paul & Carmen Jackson, Joe Bushalacchi & Vanessa, Dan & Margaret Ellis, Lois Lundgren, Donna Buys, Bob & Helen Schulz, Russ & Diana Walters, Claudia & John Watson, Linda, Mark, Michelle & Jordyn Mathis**, and the Radar River Rats for their generous donations.

And as usual, **Gene Fulkerson**, ably assisted by **Catherine Ohl**, did a fabulous job planning the menu and finding the perfect wine to pair with each course. ■

### Menu

#### 2001 Firestone Chardonnay

Quesadilla with Brie

#### 2001 Kenwood Reserve Sauvignon Blanc

Fresh Exotic Greens

#### 2002 Fetzer Echo Ridge Johannisberg Reisling

Tortilla Soup

#### 1999 R.H. Phillips EXP Tempranillo

Seared Ahi in a Teriyaki

#### 2000 St. Francis "Old Vines" Zinfandel

#### 1999 Rosemount Estate Show Reserve Shiraz

Beef Rib Eye grilled

Roasted Garlic New Potatoes

Grilled Asparagus

#### 1999 Fetzer Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Chocolate Brownie

Assorted Ports, Sherry, Cognac



## NUTS & BOLTS

### Unrecables is having a no-brainer fund raiser—

You can help raise money for The Unrecables by shopping at Ralphs. It a no-brainer, really.



All you need to do is register your Ralphs card number with The Unrecables. Just send your Ralphs' club card number along with your name, address & phone to **Sigrid Noack** at sigridn@earthlink.net. She will write them on a pledge sheet and forward them to Ralph's. Then, as you shop at Ralphs, The Unrecables club gets 4% of your purchases. This is indeed a "no-brainer."

Don't forget to shop at Ralphs as much as possible.

### USARC is Looking for Volunteers—

As the US Adaptive Recreation Center (USARC) at Big Bear starts their 16<sup>th</sup> season of opening doors for disabled individuals to slide down a mountain, they still have a need for new volunteers. Volunteer incentives include free skiing and countless other discounts and benefits. Besides the joy of giving someone the gift of skiing lasts a lifetime.



Their volunteer training clinic is scheduled for January 8-11, 2004. If you are interested in helping out, please call **Bruce Schramm** at (909) 584-0269 or visit [www.usarc.org](http://www.usarc.org).

### Gretchen Fraser—

**Gretchen Fraser** spent her life living the Olympic ideal and sharing the Olympic spirit as an energetic contributor to her community. She worked with wartime amputees, helping them learn to ski so they could enjoy the sport which meant so much to her. She also was instrumental in Special Olympics programs.



### Pac Rim is Going to Steamboat with LA Council—





*Gene, Nancy Greene, Catherine*

### Los Angeles & San Diego Ski Shows—

Pacific Rim worked both the Ski Shows this year. We manned the Council booths as well as helped out in the BC Ski Country booth representing Big White, Silver Star and Sun Peaks, Canada.

The Los Angeles Ski Dazzle was a killer four days, while the San Diego Snow Jam was a more reasonable short three days.

We felt the show went very well. It seems as though the scary kids with the tatoos and piercing are all grown up and looking for quality ski trips.



*Gene with Amber of Big White*



### LA's Man & Woman of the Year—

*Irv Jacobs, Singles*

*Lisa Felker, Century City*

### Los Angeles Council's Snow Gala—

The view from the ballroom overlooked Santa Monica beach and everyone was in a festive mood. On November 8, 2003 at the Sheraton Four Points, **Jacque Nemor**, as President of LA Council presided over the evening's festivities, ably helped by **Ed Knott**.

There were lots and lots of raffle and door prizes. **Bud Margolis** of Edelweiss won the grand raffle prize of a trip for two to Whistler. **Shirley Melendez** of Tri Valley won the grand door prize of a week at Sun Peaks, Canada.

**Bonnie West** had charge of the raffle and door prizes, helped by **Mary Albritton**, **Gwen Evans**, **Paul Bollinger**, **Elaine Guidotti** and **Nancy Gilmore**.

**Judith Miller** conducted the Man & Woman of the Year competition. **Lisa Felker** of Century City and **Irv Jacobs** of Single Ski Club have bragging rights as the Man & Woman of the Year for LAC and will represent us in Reno at the Far West Convention.



*Clubs' Man & Woman of the Year*



### SD's Man & Woman of the Year—

*Helen Harris, Don Diego*

*Robb Kirschenmann, Action*

### San Diego Ski Council's Winter Gala—

San Diego Ski Council celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the annual Winter Gala on November 8, 2003 at the Hilton on Harbor Island. The evening started early with a reception for the club's Men & Women of the Year. The ballroom doors opened at 6 PM for cocktails and the real party started.

**Judy Schulthesis**, Council President, took advantage of the quiet as we were served our salad to introduce the Men and Women of the Year along with the judges. We all enjoyed a delicious dinner of either salmon or chicken. The meal was topped off with a killer chocolate cheese cake. The hotel did a fabulous job. We'll be back.

**Michael German**, North Island, and **Helen Harris**, Don Diego, presented a new award, the Joe Harris Award, named for the founder of San Diego Council. The first annual Joe Harris award was presented to **Jim Ortiz**, Don Diego.

The awards were over by 8:30 PM (ahead of schedule) and it was time for dancing. We found the band in the bar helping us make a good impression on the Hilton by adding to the Council's bar tab. These guys, the Cat•illacs, were absolutely the best! They filled the dance floor with their very first number and didn't quit until the midnight witching hour. They played all the great vintage rock 'n roll numbers we remember so very well. ■

# GLOBAL WARMING

## Why YOU Need to be Concerned

This is a mere outline of the global warming problems we now face. Clearly many of them are outside the control of individual skiers and boarders, but they are very relevant to all of us. And we can contribute to the solution.

### What is Global Warming—

The earth's atmosphere acts like a greenhouse that traps the sun's heat. Without this natural "greenhouse effect," life on earth would not be possible. However, most scientists now believe that human-caused air pollution is thickening the wall of the "greenhouse," trapping more of the sun's heat and causing the earth's surface to warm beyond what is natural. This build-up is expected to change global climate.

Carbon dioxide is the principal greenhouse gas. Its concentration has increased more than 30% since 1750, and is expected to continue climbing. In fact, atmospheric CO2 levels are as high as they've been in half a million years, based on ice core measurements.

Global warming comes from

1. Industry [32%]
2. Transportation [33%]
3. Residential [35%]

Within the industry sector, electric power plants are the single largest source of some of the worst pollutants. Among power plants, coal-fired facilities produce the most pollution.

### Global Warming in Ski Areas—

A new report shows that many low altitude ski resorts in North America face serious economic challenges due to the effects of global warming. The report by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

concludes that ski seasons could shorten; that resorts may have to increase their snowmaking by more than 187%; and some resorts may become completely unviable economically.

The UNEP report follows similar studies showing that in coming years, resorts with a base below 5,000 feet may not receive adequate snow. This includes many U.S. ski

resorts, including all ski resorts in the northeast. These low altitude ski resorts are also where many beginners learn to ski or snowboard, and where families go for local snow sports. With fewer opportunities to learn, this could significantly impact the bottom line for larger mountains as well.

In addition to the pressing problem of climate change, the growth in skiing over the last few decades has, in some cases,

had a damaging effect on the mountain environment. At the height of the alpine season, 1.75 million people an hour use the ski lifts, and this level of people in a wilderness environment obviously leaves an impact, through infrastructure construction, pollution and waste.

Concern about such challenges is the reason the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) created the 'Keep Winter Cool' campaign to spread the word about global warming to ski resorts, skiers and snowboarders to present them with solutions to help stop the problem.

### What Resorts are Doing—

Many resorts are doing much to address the problems by using hydro-electricity, recycling schemes, limiting the expansion of resorts and the building of lifts.

- Implementation of high density /pedestrian friendly development (less vehicle emissions).

- Construction of green buildings (less & cleaner energy use).
- Water conservation (less energy use as well).
- Energy conservation in all operations (facilities, lifts, snowmaking, etc.).
- Use of cleaner energy (vehicle fleets, gas fireplaces, purchasing wind power, solar energy).
- Reduce and recycle consumption.
- Public/employee mass transit.
- Education, outreach and support.

### Sustainable Slopes Outreach—

The third annual Sustainable Slopes Outreach will take place on February 22, 2004. Resorts will communicate a "Keep Winter Cool" message to skiers/boarders on the important topic of climate change. ■



### What YOU Can Do—

Skiers and boarders must themselves recognize that their very presence in the mountains can harm the environment. Resort guests can play an important role in "keeping winter cool."

- Share a ride, carpool, drive an efficient car or take shuttles.
- Be an efficient consumer. Buy energy-efficient household appliances and replace normal light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Turn off lights and heat when you leave a room at a resort or your home.
- Buy clean energy for your home. Contact your local utility to see if "green electricity" is available to power your home through renewable energy sources like wind or solar power.
- Contact your elected representatives and ask them to do more to reduce CO2 emissions and keep winter cool for skiing and boarding.
- Spread the word to your lift mates, family and friends. ■



# SNOWBOARD STRIP

## Avalanche Gear Sales Soar—

With the popularity of "backcountry" snowboarding, avalanche deaths rose to record numbers last year, and sales of avalanche safety equipment have also

soared to a record high. The on-line retailer, BackcountryStore.com, has seen a 500% sales spike over the years in avalanche beacons, probes and other avalanche gear.

Several factors are contributing to this trend, including better alpine-touring gear and more access to "out of bounds" terrain.

However, the most important thing to bring to the backcountry is knowledge.

A directory of classes teaching avalanche awareness and safety is available at [www.avalanche.org/-education/](http://www.avalanche.org/-education/). ■



## Membership Application 2003-04

ALL Pacific Rim Alliance attendees must be a member to participate in one of our trips. Our membership year is from 1 July 2003 through 29 September 2004.

To join the Pacific Rim Alliance, fill out the following and send with your check (payable to Pacific Rim Alliance) to:

PACIFIC RIM ALLIANCE  
10818 VIACHA DR., SAN DIEGO, CA 92124

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDR: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDR: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX LINE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate Membership (Includes membership in FWSA)

- \$8 INDIVIDUAL Membership  
 \$10 FAMILY Membership—Significant other, spouse, children, friends residing at same residence qualify

WAIVER: I am aware that participation in the Pacific Rim Alliance events has, in addition to the usual risks, dangers and hazards associated with travel, snowboarding, alpine, Nordic, Heli & off-piste skiing, certain additional risks, dangers and hazards including, but not limited to: boarding, riding and disembarking ski lifts; changing weather conditions; exposed or hidden natural or man-made objects; avalanches; failure to ski or ride safely or within one's own ability; and negligence on the part of other skiers and boarders, the organization or their staff. I freely accept and fully assume all such risks and danger and the possibility of personal injury, death, property damage or loss, resulting therefrom.

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

## Pacific Rim Trip Sign-Up Form

(You must be a current member to sign up for this trip— include Dues and Membership Application if not a member)

- Steamboat 2005  
 Bormio, Italy 2005

PRINTED NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPOSIT DUE:**  \$200 / person for Steamboat, CO  \$400 / person for Bormio, IT

—Send this Form with Your Deposit Made out to Pacific Rim Alliance to:

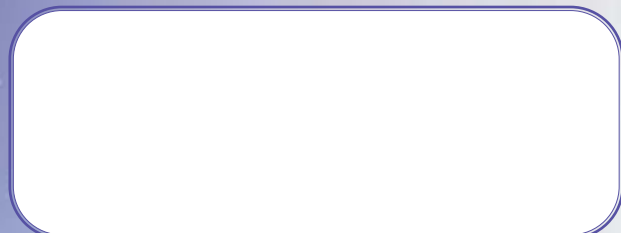
**Gene Fulkerson, 10818 Viacha Dr., San Diego, CA 92124**

# Pacific Rim Alliance

P.O. Box 420552  
San Diego, CA 92142



First Class Mail



**Winter 2003 / 2004**

## PACIFIC RIM

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT**... Catherine Ohl

**MEMBERSHIP**..... open

**TREASURER**.... Patricia Ortiz

**TRUSTEE**.... Bernie Stanton

**TRAVEL**.... Gene Fulkerson



E-Mail us at [info@pacificrimalliance.org](mailto:info@pacificrimalliance.org)

## Mission Statement

The PACIFIC RIM ALLIANCE is a non-profit organization dedicated to the appreciation of skiing, snowboarding, sight-seeing, photography, travel, public affairs and civic awareness. The Alliance is further oriented to the building of international relations among skiers, snowboarders and sports organizations throughout the Pacific Rim. The Alliance is a member of San Diego Council, Los Angeles Council, Far West Ski Association.

Surplus moneys above requirements for deposits for future trips will be donated to non-profit organizations devoted to charity, research & education. We are especially interested in, but not limited to, supporting Ski Area Development, Adaptive Ski Programs, Jimmie Heuga Center and Olympic & Junior Racers.

### For Information & Forms, Contact-

- Catherine Ohl ..... 858-467-9469  
ohl@acatmeowz.com (e-mail)
- Gene Fulkerson ..... 858-467-9469 (eve)  
858-565-6721 (fax)  
gene@pacificrimalliance.org (email)
- Membership ..... 858-467-9469