

Hans Georg Nomination

BILL CLARK

Nominated by:
Alan Christian
Mike Sanford

Bill Clark has been involved with California skiing his entire career which spans nearly 40 years. Starting as a junior racer in the Auburn Ski Club (his dad preceded him as a jumper); Bill is now the club's executive director in charge of a 6 figure budget. After graduating in the mid 70s from Sierra College and Sacramento State with a BA in Commercial Recreation Bill joined the coaching staff conducting programs at Boreal in the winter and Mt. Hood in the summer.

In 1979, Bill and his family moved into the small apartment in the Western America Ski Sport Museum at Boreal and in addition to his other responsibilities, have been responsible for the museum operation since. He initiated the display of FWSA award recipients and is today a supporter of our program.

Bill should count as one of his great accomplishments the mediation of egos and conflicts between Wendell Robie, club founder, and Bill Berry, museum curator emeritus. Bill is now on the board of the Squaw Valley Ski Museum Foundation and will be in an influential position for the new museum content and focus. The plan is to relocate the museum from Boreal into a new facility near the entrance to Squaw Valley.

The Auburn Ski Club (ASC) is a major operation with 40 coaches and over 250 competitors offering coaching for every Olympic on snow discipline. The club has been recognized by USSA as the nation's top Nordic club twice in the past 10 years. ASC just finished hosting the US Nordic Nationals and is in preparation for the 2015 Junior Olympics.

Bill and his wife, Laura, direct the entire business which includes hosting numerous collegiate and junior events each year. Often their 3 grown daughters are there to assist though they would likely not volunteer to move back into the old apartment across the Boreal parking lot from the modern training center. The program's most prominent competitor is Jeff Hamilton (FWSA President's Award), '92 speed skiing Olympian and past record holder (150 mph).

In today's age of megaresorts and corporate oversight it is indeed rare for a ski club to maintain the facilities and significant influence that ASC has achieved. The results are in large part due to Bill's continuing guidance and stewardship. Bill rose from a club background and now stands as one of the nation's premier event hosts and youth program directors. Our recognition is far overdue.

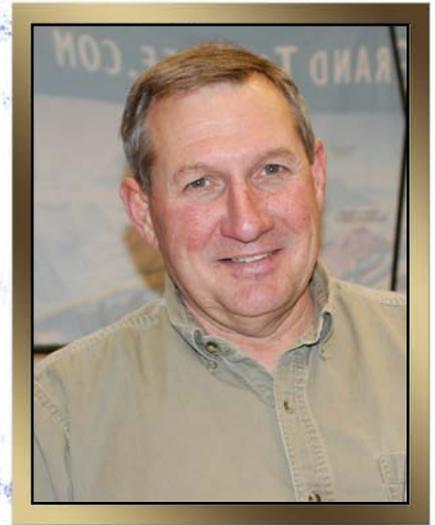


Photo courtesy Catherine Ohl.