

Helen Harris

Elizabeth 'Schatzi' Wood 2005

Year of Service 2003/2004

Helen has been long overlooked as a candidate for the Elizabeth Schatzi Wood Award. Like Schatzi, Helen has devoted most of her adult life to the sport of skiing, serving and promoting the joys of the sport to the skiing community in San Diego and the Far West. As a friend and wife of Joe Harris it was a natural and rewarding endeavor.



In recent years, after a hiatus due to family health problems, she has come forth to participate once again in club, council and Far West activities.

She has been Convair/Don Diego's historian and as such has written the origin/formation of the Convair Ski Club, the Don Diego Ski Club, and the San Diego Council, all of which were published in the club's newsletter, Ski Chatter.

She has been a club director-at-large for several years and then the Council representative for the Don Diego Ski Club (Convair having been dissolved) for which she gave verbal and written reports.

For the past two years she has been in charge of the club/council booth at the Snow Jam and enlisted club volunteers to man the booth and share the experience. She has been a constant volunteer at the annual Council Ski Swap and the Council Picnic.

She has been honored with being selected as the 2003 Council Woman of the Year. As a follow-up she conducted the 2004 competition and selection of the Council Man and Woman of the Year.

In response to the Council's interest in honoring Joe Harris as the founder of the San Diego Council, Helen helped establish the requirements for the perpetual Joe Harris Service Award. She even donated one of Joe's favorite trophies, a figure of an early Scandinavian skier, to be modified as the award. She provided funds to start the project and to include keeper awards.

Helen has volunteered her assistance in the setup for the Far West Silent Auction in the past two years. She also was an active volunteer at the San Diego/Palm Springs Convention in 2003.

Helen has actively promoted the support for the Mammoth Ski Museum and Dave McCoy's favorite Mammoth Lakes Foundation, the building of the Cerra Coso Community College. She personally contributed a 1/4-acre donation for the project.

Helen has volunteered to be responsible for the 2005 history boards for Convair/Don Diego Ski Club and San Diego Council to be set up at this year's convention.

Helen is a consummate volunteer and promoter of all ski-related activities and is worthy of this recognition.