



UPDATES

<http://PacificRimAlliance.org/>

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First With Safety Awareness



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 Council of Ski Clubs [SDCSC], Far West Ski Association [FWSA], and National Ski Council Federation [NSCF].



the Alliance

Chile & Peru—

Read all about it. It was an awesome trip. *[see page 8-9]*

Big Sky, MT, Feb 4-11, 2006—

Big Sky is filling up. There are a few spots remaining. We have reserved just 30 spots. The price is \$879 + air for hotel lodging, breakfast, lift tickets, transfers, a dinner and parties. Air is expected to run about \$400 out of LAX, San Diego or Reno. *[see page 6]*

Val Thorens, France, March 3-11, 2006—

Val Thorens is the highest ski resort in Europe at 2300 m [7,600 feet] and also the summit of Les 3 Vallées. Les 3 Vallées, the largest ski area in the world, offers an exceptional range of skiing, with very easy links between the different resorts [Méribel, Courchevel]. Thus, anyone can ski Les 3 Vallées. And as for the off-piste possibilities, there's just no limit.

Post extension will be to Turkey and Greek Isles. Stay tuned for details. *[see page 7]*

Heuga Wine Maker Dinner —

Our annual Wine Maker dinner raised more than \$1,200. Details will be available next newsletter. Thanks everyone for your generous contributions.

Vertical Express for MS—

Once again we lucked out and will be at Big Sky when they hold the Jimmie Heuga Vertical Express. Our **Fire 'N Ice Team**

will be participating on February 11, 2006. We are still in the process of raising funds. Donations can be made to **The Heuga Center** by sending checks to me at **10818 Viacha Dr., San Diego, CA 92124.**



Ski/Board Shows—

Don't miss the annual Snow Jam and Ski Dazzle Ski/Board Shows. In LA, be sure to stop by the **Big White Booth** and say Hello. * *[see page 7]*



Del Mar Fairgrounds, Pat O'Brien Hall
November 11-13, 2005

Fri, Nov. 11	4 PM to 10 PM
Sat, Nov. 12	10 AM to 6 PM
Sun, Nov. 13	10 AM to 6 PM



The Los Angeles Ski Show & Snowboard Expo
December 1-4, 2005 • LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTER
www.skidazzle.com

LA Convention Center – West Hall
1201 S. Figueroa, LA

December 1-4, 2005

Th, Dec. 1	4 PM to 11 PM
Fri, Dec. 2	4 PM to 11 PM
Sat, Dec. 3	11 AM to 10 PM
Sun, Dec. 4	Noon to 6 PM

2005-06 Membership is PAST due. Please RENEW today.

TRIPPING AROUND

❖ Pacific Rim Alliance ❖

- BIG SKY, MT February 4-11, 2006
Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469
- VAL THORENS, France March 3-11, 2006
- ISTANBUL, Turkey March 11-16, 2006
- GREEK ISLES Cruise March 16- tba, 2006
Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469
- NEW ZEALAND & AUSTRALIA August 2006
Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469
- MADONNA DI CAMPIGLIO, Italy March 2007
Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469

❖ Los Angeles Council ❖

- SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP, H&H Jobbing October 23, 2005
- SNOW GALA, Marina del Rey November 5, 2005
- SKI DAZZLE, LA Convention Center Dec. 1-4, 2005
- ROKKA RACE CAMP, Mammoth Dec. 4-9, 2005
- LACOUNCIL RACE CAMP, Mammoth Dec. 9-18, 2005
- TELLURIDE, Colorado February 4-11, 2006
Bonnie West @ 562-699-8880
- SNOWBASIN/POWDER MTN., Utah February 23-27, 2006
Britt Johnson @ 310.379.8972
- PRAGUE, Czech Republic March 14-18, 2006
- KITZBUHEL, Austria March 17-25, 2006
Bonnie West @ 562-699-8880

❖ San Diego Council ❖

- RANCHCRAFT SKI SALE & SWAP October 22, 2005
- SNOW JAM, Del Mar Fairgrounds Nov 11-13, 2005
- WINTER GALA November 12, 2005
Gene Fulkerson @ 858-467-9469
- BRECKENRIDGE, CO December 7-12, 2005
Mike Sanford @ 858-695-1442
- FAMILY SKI DAY, Mountain High February 15, 2006

❖ Far West Ski/Race Association ❖

- KEYSTONE NATIONALS December 7-11, 2005
groups@moguls.com or 800-925-8914
- TELLURIDE, Colorado February 4-11, 2006
Lynnell Calkins @ 310-278-5900
- ZERMATT, Switzerland **SOLD OUT** March 11-18, 2006
Tucker Hoffmann @ 510-278-5900
- FWRA RACE CHAMPIONSHIPS, Kirkwood .. March 17-19, 2006
- GALAPAGOS ISLANDS / MACHADO **SOLD OUT** May 22 - June 6, 2006
Tucker Hoffmann @ 510-278-5900
- FAR WEST CONVENTION, Phoenix, AZ June 8-11, 2006
- FAR WEST SKI WEEK, Steamboat, CO Jan. 27 - Feb. 3, 2007

Go to "Tripping Around" at <http://www.pacificrimalliance.org> to download color flyers for most of the events listed above.

MEMBER PROFILES

Christel Chang



Courtesy Catherine Ohl

We first met Christel on the Far West trip to New Zealand in 1993. We love telling this story. We had about 60 people on this trip and didn't know most of the them. We managed to meet just about everyone before boarding the aircraft— everyone except Christel Chang.

Once in the air we started looking for an Asian. Turns out there was a bunch of Asians on this flight. We finally got the attendant to give us her seat

number. Imagine our embarrassment when we were introduced to a vivacious blond German.

Of course, we've been in love with Christel ever since. She is a born teacher and often on bus trips, we have turned the mike over to her to entertain and inform us. One of our favorite stories was how wealth in Italy was judged by the size of your pile of cow dung.

Christel is invaluable on any trip. She often helps out with translating for our bus drivers, taking a group off on an excursion, helping with translations at the airport, hosting a happy hour. Christel has been skiing since she was about three. She personally knows some of the greats of our ski history and has shared a lot of that with us. ❄️

Snowboard Safety Tips

- The front foot should be attached by a security leash.
- Before changing direction, especially on a backside turn look behind and check your blind spot.
- Stop only at the side of the slope and kneel or stand facing up-hill in order to see oncoming traffic rather than sitting down in the middle of the run.
- When not attached, your board should be face-down with the bindings in the snow.
- Due to danger of crevasses, do not remove your snowboard when traversing glaciers.
- The rear foot should be detached from the bindings when riding or boarding the chair. ❄️

Active People Need Carbs—

It's hard to know what we should be eating these days. Over the years, there has been an outcry against fat, proteins and now carbs.

With all the hype, no wonder so many of us are confused about what we should be eating. In truth, the message about carbohydrates has been so oversimplified that many of us are skimping on the most critical energy source.

Restricting carbohydrates can zap energy levels, compromising the quality of workouts and negating the benefits of a fitness program. The key is choosing the right carbs.

Following is a list of ten of the best energy-sustaining foods, all loaded with powerful nutrients to keep your body running at peak.

1. Rolled Oats

Heart disease still tops the charts as the No. 1 cause of death among women, so women on a 2,000-calorie daily diet should eat about 30 grams of fiber a day.

2. Lentil Soup

Lentils produce a low-glycemic response, meaning you won't experience a spike in blood sugar followed by an energy-sapping crash. Also loaded with dietary fiber, lentils help mute those intense cravings for sweets.

3. Fresh Figs

Just three figs provide a whopping 30 grams of good carbohydrates along with a multitude of B vitamins, calcium and potassium to help ensure peak muscle function and optimal bone health.

4. Roasted Chestnuts

Chestnuts contain less than one gram of fat per ounce while providing a hefty dose of fiber, vitamin C and folic acid—nutrients important for immune function and reduced risk for cardiovascular disease. Chestnuts are tasty in stuffing, pilaf, vegetable side dishes and soups.

5. Blueberries

A one-cup serving and a mere 80 calories later, you get 20 grams of energy-enhancing carbohydrates, four grams of appetite-curbing fiber as well as a significant amount of vitamin C. In addition, the dye that makes blueberries "blue" has been shown to improve memory, balance & coordination.

6. Low-Fat Plain Yogurt

Yogurt has always been touted as a nutritional powerhouse, partly because it's loaded with calcium, a critical preventative for osteoporosis. Rich in vitamin B-12, yogurt also helps prevent fatigue. And plain yogurt just may be the perfect recovery food for athletes, as it promotes glycogen replenishment and muscle recovery.

7. Rice Bran

Rice bran boasts superior nutritional credentials, with five grams of carbohydrates and more than two grams of fiber in a mere two tablespoons.

Rice bran can replace up to half the flour in any quick bread or muffin recipe and be added to recipes for meatloaf & casseroles.

8. Whole Wheat Pasta

This common carbo-loading meal can be a healthful addition to your diet. Whole wheat pasta provides nearly 40 grams of energy-rich carbohydrates per one cup (cooked) serving. In addition, whole wheat pasta provides five grams of dietary fiber, most of it insoluble fiber, shown to reduce risk for breast cancer.

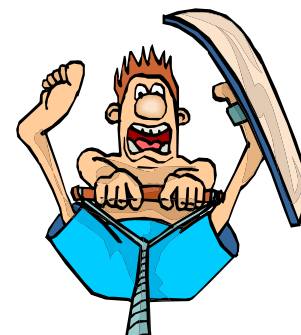
9. Sweet Potatoes

A four-ounce sweet potato contains a mere 143 calories with a whopping 28 grams of carbohydrates and more than 100 percent of your daily requirement for beta-carotene.

10. Oranges

Oranges are rich in natural sugars for a quick energy boost, yet provide three grams of fiber for sustained energy. In addition, just one navel orange meets an

entire day's requirement for vitamin C, while providing immune-enhancing flavonoids, helping to keep colds and flus at bay. *



Water Ski Safety Trip Proper Water Ski Rope —

Pulling a water ski tow rope in from the water to the boat can often result in a coiled mess of knotted rope. This often creates a safety issue.

The proper way to take in the line is to pull it in hand over hand and let it drop on the boat floor in between your feet. Be sure to separate the handle from the rest of the rope when you are done.

A lot of people want to coil the rope when it is pulled in so that it will stay neat. Resist the temptation to do this. Coiling can often result in a knotted rope. It is, however, acceptable to coil the rope when you are storing it away. *

Stretching

Stretching and flexibility exercises should be performed for a minimum of 5-7 minutes before and after exercising.

Back Stretch—

Stand with hands on hips.

Gently twist torso at waist until stretch is felt.

Hold 10 to 15 seconds.

Repeat on other side.

Keep knees slightly flexed. *



INDUSTRY

Ski News

by Catherine Ohl

Mountain High Gets New Ownership Team

Mountain High Resort in southern California was bought by Valor Equity Partners and former GM **Karl Kapuscinski** and key members of his management team. Valor is a Chicago-based private equity investment fund and licensed Small Business Investment Company. Kapuscinski will now become president and CEO of Mountain High.



Courtesy Mountain High, CA

Mountain High, CA

The new partnership will unveil Mountain High North (formerly Ski Sunrise) this season, an area dedicated to learning and snowplay.

Mountain High North—

Mountain High North adds a new dimension to the resort's profile, offering increased beginner terrain and family-friendly snow play facilities.

North, which was purchased in November 2004, has never operated under the Mountain High umbrella making it a new entity this season.

Of the 100 usable acres, the majority will be dedicated to teaching terrain however the new twenty acre, state-of-the-art snow play facility will have a profoundly greater effect on the region. Proposed summertime activities include a restaurant, disc golf and catered events.

Mammoth's Improvements—

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area is focusing on improving skiers' resort experience this summer, with a complete remodel of the Main Lodge dining facilities at the center of the upgrades.

Mammoth will transform the third floor of its oldest lodge into "Broadway Marketplace" — a more open and modern environment with a new fireplace accented by natural tones and mountain charm.

The Broadway Marketplace will feature fresh baked bread, a

grill, a salad bar, brick oven pizza, and lighter fare to meet heathier tastes.

Mammoth will debut "Broadway Lofts," which will provide a quiet and comfortable space in the Main Lodge. Inspired by poolside cabanas, the Lofts will feature a living-room type setting complete with wait service, great views and room to stretch out. Advanced reservations will be required.

Ginn's Ski Area—

A new ski area has been proposed at Battle Mountain near Minturn in Colorado. Ginn's ski area, when and if it's built, will be the first private ski area in Colorado.

At this early stage, it's not clear if the proposed private ski and golf resort will reach the level of price and exclusivity seen at the private Yellowstone Club where you'd have to pony up \$250,000 for an initiation fee, plus annual dues of \$16,000. [And that's on top of the log mansion you'll need to build on the property you have to buy to be part of the club— minimum price for a home site? \$1.2 million.]

But with home prices near the base areas of Vail and Beaver Creek easily reaching into the millions, it may be that developer **Bobby Ginn** can ask for and receive plenty for the 1,400 homes he wants to build. With initiation fees, annual dues, and real estate sales, Ginn can throw the skiing and golf in for free.

At Battle Mountain, early word is it'll be private, but maybe not completely exclusive.

Squaw Invests in the Environment—

Squaw Valley USA is focusing on environmental improvements and guest experience enhancements for the 2005-2006 winter season.

This is why there will be no further development for an indefinite period. Summer environmental sustainability and beautification projects include extensive revegetation efforts designed to prevent future erosion and keep the mountain green, drainage improvements, and maintenance to the Gold Coast wetland.

Three new PistenBully winch grooming machines have been added to the resort's sophisticated fleet of over thirty. ❄️



Courtesy Squaw Valley, CA

Squaw Valley, CA

KID'S KORNER

4 kids & grandkids

Don't Leave the Kids at Home Skiing Vacations Family-Style—

Family-friendly resorts provide opportunities for parents and youngsters to be both together and separate.

The best of the best have congenial slopes for little skiers (and nervous parents), children's terrain gardens, slow-skiing zones, and most of all, top-flight day care and children's ski schools, where full-day instruction, off-slope play, and lunch give parents freedom for the day.

Bonuses include good snowboarding programs and facilities for teen activities.

Steamboat—

Steamboat, Colorado, pioneered **Kids Ski Free** in 1982, and some 10,000 vacationing youngsters a season get free skiing, lodging, and even rental gear. The huge slopeside **Kid's Vacation Center** contains day care and launches small-fry skiing careers on a protected teaching hill outside the door.

Kiddie Corral,

for ages six months to six years, is day care, while kids take to the slopes in **Buckaroos** (ages two through kindergarten, with child-care plus

one-hour private lesson), **Mavericks** (ages three-and-a-half and four), **Sundance Kids** (four and five), and **Jackalopes** (five and six).

Regular ski class for ages six and up and snowboard lessons for age eight and up are available.

Snowboarders love the **Dude Ranch**, a 450-foot halfpipe, and **Beehive**, a terrain park. **Kids' Night Out** is an evening of supervised fun for two-and-a-half to 12-year-olds. Families can meander around Ski Time Square and the old downtown, go night-skiing, skate at Howelson, or hit the recreation center and its wonderful water slide.

Big White—

The **Kids Centre** is structured to provide a safe learning environment for children to improve their skiing and boarding skills.

Ski Cubs offers smaller class ratios and has five ability levels that are well suited to children ages 4-6.

TELUS Flight School and Heavy Metal Shop offers teen skiers and boarders clinics for experienced riders.

After Dark supervised programming at the Kids Centre includes Dinner and Tubing at the Mega Snow Coaster; Hot Chocolate and Skating; and, Dinner and Activities Night with board games and movies.

Alaska / Horizon and Big White have the ultimate winter family vacation deal. Book a flight, accommodation and lift tickets through Big White Central Reservations and kids under 12 will FLY, SKI and STAY for FREE.

Vail—

Vail's kids' programs cut this mega-resort down to child-size.

With three locations, the **Small World Playschool** minds wee non-skiers. Ski programs include **Mini-Mice** for potty-trained three-year-olds, **Mogul Mice** for four-year-olds to kindergartners, and **Superstars** for children of those ages who can ride lifts and are mountain skiers. Eight to 14-year-olds can take ski or snowboarding lessons with peers.

Northstar—

Northstar, California, a small navigable village at the base of a big mountain, is the most compact and family-friendly of the major Tahoe resorts. There's child care for potty-trained tykes of age two and over, with add-on skiing for threes and up.

Minor's Camp combines ski instruction and child care for ages two to six; **Ski Cubs** kicks in for three to six-year-olds; and **Starkids** is the skiing and snowboarding lesson program for six to-12-year-olds.

The resort also offers a distinctive one-hour **Mommy, Daddy, and Me Clinic**, which offers tips on how to enjoy skiing with small children. Also new is **Polaris Park**, Northstar's new after-dark funplex open weekends and holidays for light dinner, indoor entertainment, a tubing hill, snowboarding instruction, or as a departure point for a moonlight cross-country tour.

Free skiing and lodging for youngsters on some packages frost the cake. *



Courtesy Big White, BC, Canada



Courtesy Cynthia Hunter, Steamboat, CO

Big Sky, Montana

February 4-11, 2006



Big Sky Trip Includes—

- 7 Nights at the 3-star Ski-in / Ski-out Huntley Lodge
- Seven Buffet Breakfasts
- Five-of-Six Day Lift Ticket
- Seniors 67+ deduct \$22
- Round Trip Transfer from Bozeman Airport to Hotel
- The Usual Parties, Souvenirs and much MORE!
- Options available to Ski Moonlight Basin or Snowmobile to Yellowstone

\$879
+ air

Air Options—

There is air available out of LAX, San Diego & Reno through Seattle on Alaska for approximately \$400. **Let us know immediately if you plan to get your own air or drive to Big Sky.** Since we expect the majority of our group will be flying out of LAX, here is that schedule (subject to change, of course). San Diego times are close to the same as LAX. Flights are also available on Delta.



Feb. 04	LAX-SEA	AK 595	6:00am - 8:50am
Feb. 04	SEA-BZN	AK 2328	10:10am - 12:50pm
Feb. 11	BZN-SEA	AK 2328	1:15pm - 2:55pm
Feb. 11	SEA-LAX	AK 190	3:55pm - 6:25pm



About the Huntley Lodge—

The three-story, ski-in/ski-out Huntley Lodge was part of the late NBC news broadcaster Chet Huntley's original vision. With recent remodeling, the Huntley is as tasteful as it is convenient and boasts a fine dining room, lounge, shuttle service, internet cafe, concierge, shops, ski storage, fitness facilities, outdoor swimming pool, and the Solace Spa.



Rooms have two queen-size beds and one bath with a wet bar, seating area, coffeemaker, refrigerator, a TV, alarm clock radio, cable TV, pay-per-view movies, direct-dial telephone with voice mail and modem/data port, mini-bar, and hair dryer. Room service is also available.

Deposit & Cancellation Policy—

<u>Date</u>	<u>Deposit Due</u>	<u>Cancellation Fee</u>
Now	\$600	\$75
December 20, 2005	Balance	Full Amt. [unless replaced]

Reservations & Information—

- Send \$600 deposit payable to Pacific Rim to

Fay Mumbauer
6650 Marlowe
Bell Gardens, CA 90201
323-773-5330

or **Gene Fulkerson**
10818 Viacha Dr.
San Diego, CA 92124
858-467-9469



CST # 2031736-40

Val Thorens, France

March 3-11, 2006

France Trip Includes—

- Round trip air on Swiss from LAX to Geneva
- Luxury Coach transfers from Geneva to Val Thorens
- 7 nights Lodging at 3-star plus Hotel Novotel [private bath, dbl. occ]
 - Ski-in / Ski-out in Village Center
 - Seven Breakfasts and Seven Dinners
- The Usual Parties, Souvenirs and much MORE!

What's NOT Included—

- US & Foreign Departure Tax - est. \$150 [subject to change]
- Return Extensions up to 30 Days - est \$50 [subject to availability]
- Excursions from Val Thorens
- Lift Tickets
- Tips and Personal Items

Reservations & Information—

- Contact **Gene Fulkerson** at 858-467-9469
- Send \$600 deposit payable to Pacific Rim to 10818 Viacha Dr., San Diego, CA 92124

\$1999
+ airport taxes

About Val Thorens—

Val Thorens is the highest ski resort in Europe at 2300 m [7,600 feet] and also the summit of the 3 Vallées. Les 3 Vallées, the largest ski area in the world, offers an exceptional range of skiing, with very easy links between the different resorts. Thus, anyone can ski the 3 Vallées. And as for the off-piste possibilities, there's just no limit...

Istanbul, Turkey

Optional Extensions

March 11-16, 2006

Turkey Trip Includes—

- Round Trip Air
- Luxury Coach Transfers
- Daily Breakfasts
- 4 Nights Lodging at 4-star Hotel [private bath, dbl. occ]
- 1 Night Zurich [private bath, dbl. occ.]
- Full day tour of Istanbul
 - Blue Mosque, Hippodrome Square, St. Sophia Museum, Topkapi Palace, Underground Cistern, and Grand Bazaar
- The Usual Parties, Souvenirs and much MORE!

\$679

Also in the works is a 4-day cruise March 15-20, 2006 of the Greek Islands



CHILE & PERU WRAP-UP—

by Catherine Ohl

photos by Elisabeth Maier, Fran Papa, Christel Chang, Barbara McKinnon, Catherine Ohl



Courtesy Fran Papa

Fran, Christel & Barbara Atacama, Chile



Courtesy Elisabeth Maier

Jim & Elisabeth at Iguazu Falls, Argentina



Courtesy Barbara McKinnon

Barbara, Fran, Christel overlooking Santiago, Chile



Courtesy Catherine Ohl

Dinner at Gran Hotel, Chile [we ate well & often]



Courtesy Fran Papa

Our Guide, Fran, Pam, Catherine, Gene [standing]
Christel, Barbara [kneeling]
Grotto & Falls in Termas de Chillán, Chile

At one point we had more than 20 people signed up for this trip. By the time the dust settled and we were on our way, there were only nine of us left. But what a group we had! It was a trip of a lifetime for many of us.

Atacama, Chile—

Fran Papa organized a small group that went to Chile a week ahead of the schedule. Fran, **Barbara McKinnon**, and **Christel Chang** spent a day in Santiago before heading to Atacama Desert in northern Chile, the driest place on earth. Some parts of this remarkable place haven't seen rain for over 400 years.

The salt flats at the Los Flamingos Reserve stretch for more than 100 kilometers and they are the largest in the country. All kinds of exotic bird life flock to the area as it is one of only a handful of water holes in the entire desert.

Iguazu Fall, Argentina—

Jim Murchey and **Elisabeth Maier** joined Fran, Barbara and Christel for a trip to Iguazu Falls in Argentina.

The Falls are spectacular! There are 275 waterfalls that make up the Argentina side that stretch a mile interspersed with lush rainforest greenery. It is the quintessential tropical paradise.

If you only do one side of the Falls, be sure it's the Argentina side. There you can be over and under and right amongst the falls.

The Sheraton International Hotel located in the national park is worth the money. It truly is an international crowd.

We found out the hard way it's very expensive to go to Brazil.

Termas de Chillán, Chile—

The rest of the group— **Pam Beard**, **Gene Fulkerson**, **Catherine Ohl**, and **Heinz Waschhauser**— meet up with the pre-trippers in Concepción for the transfer to Termas de Chillán.

We stayed at the 5-star Gran Hotel, a ski-in/ski-out exclusive hotel. The on-site Thermal Spa Center was an excellent compliment to a day on the slopes. We were pampered with a variety of treatment options.

We especially enjoyed the inside and outside hot pools. Pam, Fran, Barbara, Jim, Christel and Elisabeth didn't miss one evening of water aerobic classes. Gene worked behind the instructor in a successful attempt to throw the class off. It was hilarious.

The food at the hotel was fabulous. At the Club House, we were introduced to the best ever salsa. We even got the hotel to "import" some for us one evening.

Although known for its powder, the conditions weren't that great. It was raining when we arrived but it turned to snow during dinner. Heinz, Jim and Elisabeth were up at the crack of dawn to take advantage of it.

The rest of us took a hike to a grotto and waterfall to get our legs moving. Afterwards, Pam and Gene headed out to the slopes. Most of us just hung around and enjoyed afternoon tea.

It snowed again, so everyone got an early start the next day for great powder skiing. The ski experience was a bit of a disappointment— the lifts are so very old and slow but the skiing was good and the ambience of the Gran was fantastic. The Spa was an elegant & welcome touch. *continued on page 9*

MORE CHILE & PERU WRAP-UP—

More Chile & Peru News from page 8

Portillo, Chile—

The rain continued and turned to snow. The one problem with Portillo is the road. It usually closes when it snows. The good news is that it's a major highway into Argentina so they don't waste any time opening the road.

Unfortunately, the road was closed when we arrived and so we got to overnight in Santiago at a great, centrally located 5-star hotel.

The trip to Portillo was a kick. There were so many trucks parked along the road waiting for the road to open. The road is a bit steep and winding. We arrived just in time for “high tea.”

Hotel Portillo is nestled high in the Andes next to the Lake of the Incas, amidst some of the best skiing in the Southern Hemisphere. The hotel is completely self-contained and offers a full array of modern resort services.

The skiing was awesome. The lifts were fairly new. Everyone got the thrill of riding the unique Va et Vient Slingshot Lifts. These “Come and Go” lifts offer an exhilarating ride and access to some of Portillo's best terrain. They are a four and five person pomas that travel about 25 mph on the snow.

Once again, Fran, Barbara, Christel, Jim and Elisabeth took advantage of the twice daily stretching classes. The outdoor hot tub was awesome.

Portillo is owned by American **Henry Purcell** and managed by his son **Michael**. Their influence is felt every where as they greet, mingle, and take their meals with the guests.

We ate all our meals— breakfast, lunch, tea and dinner— in the magnificent Great Hall. The food, service and ambience were excellent.

Machu Picchu, Peru—

Nothing prepared us for Peru and words can not describe the grandeur. All but Gene left Portillo (9,300 feet) at 4 AM and arrived in Cusco (11,500 feet) by 2 PM. We transferred to Urubamba (9,600 feet) in the Sacred Valley. We were well prepared for the high altitude.

We stayed at the Hotel Libertador Tambo del Inka in Urubamba, one of the most relaxed and focused destinations in the Andes. The meals were outstanding and we were only a few steps from the Train Station.

Sunday morning we left by train at 6 AM for Aguas Calientes and Machu Picchu. This was the best way to get there as we arrived by 9 AM— two hours before most of the other tourists.

First up was a hike to the Sun Gate where we were treated to a fabulous view of the river and Machu Picchu. With our guide we managed to experience the entire Citadel.

We ended the tour with a fabulous meal at the Sanctuary where they served the best cheviche ever. We were pretty tired when we finally got back to our hotel at 7 PM— just in time for more shopping and dinner.

Next day was spent visiting various Inca attractions in the Sacred Valley— Ollantaytambo, Chinchero, Q'enqo, and Saqsaywaman (pronounced by us gringos as “Sexy Woman”).

We finally arrived in Cusco for lunch followed with a tour of the city. The shoppers continued to look for bargains as they strolled around town.

We left for home early the next day. What a wonderful adventure— truly a trip of a lifetime. ✨



Courtesy Elisabeth Maier

A fabulous lunch at the Hotel Portillo, Chile



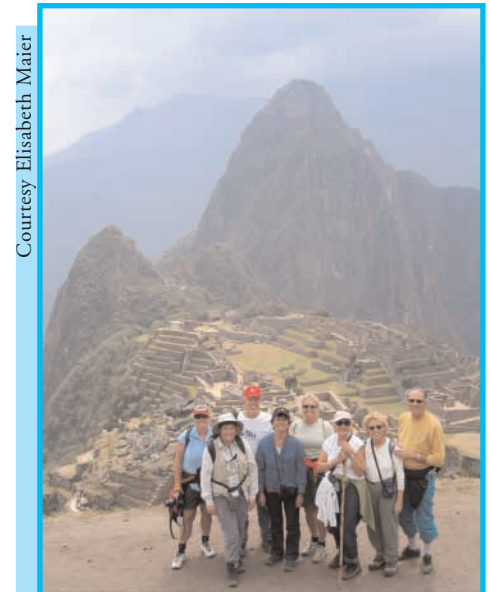
Courtesy Elisabeth Maier

Jim & Heinz at Portillo, Chile



Courtesy Christel Chang

Train Ride to Aguas Calientes, Peru



Courtesy Elisabeth Maier

Great Photo of the group with Machu Picchu, Peru

Check out recently posted photos on web site!

San Diego Council Invites You to Kick Up Your Heels at—

Winter Gala



Saturday
November 12, 2005
6 PM til Midnight

Harbor Island Hilton
1960 Harbor Island

Celebrating

San Diego Council's Man & Woman of the Year
Joe Harris Service Award

Featuring



6:00 PM
7:00 PM
8:30 PM
9PM - Midnight

No Host Bar
Sit Down Chicken or Salmon Dinner
Man & Woman of the Year Awards
Dance to Music of 60s & 70s

Attire is Semi-Formal [Black Tie Optional]

Send check to
[payable to "SDCSC"]
Proceeds to benefit

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

Jimmie Heuga Center for MS

*Tickets are limited and will NOT be available at the door.

All this for ONLY
\$50*

SAN DIEGO FAMILY PICNIC

July 24, 2005

A clear blue sky greeted the more than 200 people that came down to North Crown Pointe in Mission Bay to enjoy the food, fun, drink and silly games at San Diego Council's Fourth Annual Family Picnic.

The food was outstanding, especially the deep-fried, just-caught-that-morning fish from **Sportsmen Seafood**. Everyone really enjoyed **Firestone's** Double-Barrel Ale. Thank goodness we had three kegs. And best of all, \$200 was raised for **The Heuga Center for MS** in Vail, CO.

Special thanks to all the hard workers who made this event such a success.

- Chefs: **Gene Fulkerson, Bob Morton, Catherine Ohl, Ed Langmaid**
- Shopping and Food Prep: **Gene Fulkerson, Catherine Ohl**
- Check-in: **Michelle Langmaid**
- Secure site in the wee hours: **Michael German, Bobbie Owen**
- Wait Staff: **Debbie & Hans Schroeder**
- After Picnic Clean-up: **Helen Harris, Roy Helpiern, MC & Harry Eastman, Debbie & Hans Schroeder**
- Kid's Games: **Judy Schulthesis**
- Timers: **John Tyson**
- Our Sponsors:



SKI SWAP & SALE

4620 Alvarado Canyon Rd., SD • 619-280-0304
OCTOBER 22, 2005, 10 AM - 4 PM



Saturday Swap & Sale—

- New "In-Store" Items Marked Down
- Terrific Sale & Swap Items Outside
- Mountain Reps Available to Answer Questions
- Council & Club Booths
- Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Snacks, Drinks for Sale
- *proceeds to benefit San Diego Ski Club Council*

Special Club Sale Oct. 20, 5-8 PM—

- 5% Off Marked Down "New Items" for Ski Club Members
- *This discount is for Thursday Night Only*
- Hosted Cocktails & Nibbles

Earn Money in the Swap—

- Bring Your Old Ski Stuff to
 - Put it in the swap or
 - Donate to Kids at Risk Program



2005 LAC SNOW GALA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2005, 6 PM



2004 MEN & WOMEN OF YEAR

Marina del Rey Hotel

13524 Bali Way, Marina del Rey
310.301.1000

\$50*

Evening Events—

- 6 PM — No Host Bar
- 7 PM — Elegant Sit Down Dinner
 - Choice of Salmon, Prime Rib or Vegetarian
- 8 PM — **Men & Women of Year Awards**
- 9 PM — Dancing until the wee hours (midnight)
 - The Fabulous **Patti Stone & River Rock Band**
 - Raffle Prizes, Great Door Prizes
 - FREE Parking

Dinner Tickets & Reservations—

- Contact your Club's LAC Representative or
– **Mary Albritton** at 562.856.0922 or programs@lacouncil.org

* **\$70 after October 24, 2005** *Dress is Cocktail / Formal*

Grand Raffle— Tickets only \$1 each

- **Grand Prize:** Trip for Two to Telluride for Five Nights
– Includes 4 Days of Lift Tickets valid for 2005-06 season
- Lots of Great Raffle Prizes [lift tickets, lodging & more]
- Winners need **NOT** be present

Gala Hotel Room Rate at Marina Del Rey Hotel is \$123.17—

- Call 310.301.1000 or 800.882.4000 for reservations
– Rate good until October 5, 2005 or when block is sold out.

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP

Sunday, October 23, 2005
Noon - 5 PM

H & H JOBBING

2772 W. Artesia Blvd.,
Redondo Beach, 310.793.9150

Afternoon Events—

- Deep Discounted Ski & Snowboard
New Fashions & Accessories
- Experience Virtual Snow with
Bob Salerno, 2-Time World Champion
- Food, Drink, Music, Dancing
- Mini-Swap
- Ski Club, Trip Information, Mtn. Reps
- Prizes

For Information—

- **Mary Albritton**
562.856.0922 or programs@lacouncil.org
- **Nancy Sanford**
714.402.0202 or nanskii@aol.com

About H&H Jobbing—

H & H Jobbing is a Discount Outlet Store serving the Greater Los Angeles Area. They have been selling wholesale to the public since 1940. They specialize in middle to high-end ski and snowboard apparel and accessories for the whole family.

You will not find a larger or more extensive inventory anywhere in the world!

In addition to clothing, they carry a huge selection of Snowboards, Boots, Bindings. Hard to find small sizes are their specialty.



MEMBERSHIP HAS IT'S BENEFITS


MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS FAR WEST BENEFITS

The FWSA membership card below identifies the cardholder as a member of not only Pacific Rim, but also as a member of Far West Ski Association [FWSA] during 2005-06.

The card entitles you to receive a variety of benefits as listed on the FWSA web site [www.fwsa.org].

Other membership benefits include excellent trips at reduced prices, recreational racing, social activities, industry discounts and the opportunity to participate in Far West's special events.

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



FWSA
2005-2006
Membership Card
 Expires June 30, 2006
www.fwsa.org

Name _____
 Club Pacific Rim Alliance
 Member ID PRA-007

The bearer of this card is a member of Far West Ski Association and entitled to all the benefits associated with membership in FWSA. This card is non-transferable. Photo ID is required.



MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS NSCF BENEFITS

The National Ski Council Federation has new benefits for club members which include: Cellular Abroad, Bollé, East West Resorts, Rentskis.com, Crazy Heads, Geardirect.com, Breeze Ski Rental, and somuch more.

Check out www.skifederation.org for the complete list of benefits. Go to the "Members Only" area and input the following:

User Name: **skiclub**
 Password: **member**

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS LA COUNCIL BENEFITS

2 LAX Locations—
 5701 W. Century Blvd.
 9101 S. Sepulveda Blvd.



Check out www.lacouncil.org for more benefits.

theParkingSpot[®]
 MAKING AIR TRAVEL A LITTLE EASIER.[®]

NEED A LIFT?

Present this coupon and receive
VALET PARKING AT THE ROOFTOP RATE
 on Airport Parking at either of our LAX locations.



NO BETTER WAY TO START OR END A SKI TRIP.

Features:

- Complimentary luggage & ski gear assistance
- Free *USA Today at check-in
- Free bottled water at check-out
- Frequent parker program
- Major credit cards accepted
- Always open
- For more information, check out www.theparkingspot.com

The Growth Years of Far West

by Catherine Old

Continued from the previous issue...



Janie "Frankie" Hansen

Far West Rebuilt—

The conflict between USSA and Far West came to a head in the 80s. Following the 1983 USSA convention in Boston [referred to by some as the Boston Tea Party], USSA voted to de-emphasize their recreational programs and concentrate on supporting the US Ski Teams. The Amateur Athletic Act of 1978 was used to create a national governing body which required a focus on the national competitive effort. The United States Recreational Ski Association [USRSA] was founded as the national recreational organization and Far West withdrew from USSA to begin rebuilding the association. Clubs were left to determine which association(s) they wanted to affiliate with – USSA, USRSA, and/or Far West.

Meanwhile, the race leagues of Far West formed an independent nonprofit corporation, named the Far West Racing Association [FWRA], to focus on their specialized programs. FWRA continued to generate operating funds through sponsorship, the Los Angeles Ski Dazzle ski swap, and race fees. The president of FWRA currently serves as a member of the Far West Board of Directors.

On November 6, 1984, the Executive Committee of Far West met to decide on the direction the association should take. This committee proposed a new set of bylaws that were approved at the 53rd Annual Far West Convention held at the Oakland Airport Hilton, May 17-19, 1985. Far West was restored as an all-volunteer organization with **Janie "Frankie" Hansen** as president. To encourage clubs to stay with Far West, dues were waived and are not required by clubs as long as they belong to a member Council.

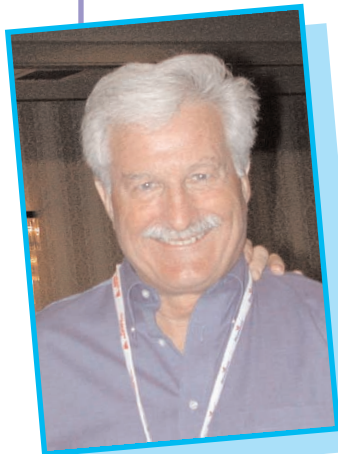
The Modern Far West—

As an all-volunteer organization without dues paying members, Far West had to figure out a way fund their numerous programs. The annual FWSA convention, hosted by Balboa Ski Club, held at the Irvine Hilton & Towers in Irvine, California on May 16-18, 1986 was historic. Special programs attracted a record number of delegates. More importantly, the first annual Silent Auction was introduced and managed by **Jane Wyckoff**. The continued success of this fund raiser set the stage for enabling financial support of Far West programs for the future.

The 90s saw the rebuilding of the Far West travel program by **Gene Fulkerson** with both domestic and international trips being offered. The public affairs program under **Mike Sanford** was rejuvenated and has assumed a significant role on the national stage on a wide variety of issues—area development, safety, transportation, insurance, taxation, consumer advocacy and snowsports history.

The council development program has had dramatic successes in the last decade. Arizona Ski Council and Northwest Ski Club Council [then Portland Area Ski Club Council or PASCC] joined Far West in 1991 and 1992, respectively. Meanwhile Sierra Council built a strong race program and in 1996 once again became actively involved in Far West. In 2000, New Mexico Council joined the association as the tenth council and Far West became one of the founding members of the National Ski Council Federation [NSCF]. ❄️

Thanks to the following contributors: Gene Fulkerson, Chuck Morse, Ingrid Wicken, Russ Tiffany, Jane Wyckoff, John Watson, Mike Sanford, Jane "Frankie" Hansen.



Gene Fulkerson



Jane Wyckoff

LATE BREAKING NEWS

Mammoth Sale is Final—

Starwood Capital Group Global, L.L.C., led by luxury hotel mogul **Barry S. Sternlicht**, is taking a majority interest in Mammoth Mountain. The transaction values Mammoth at \$365 million.



Courtesy Mammoth Mountain

The resort, which is debt-free and enjoying record sales, was one of the nation's three most-visited ski areas last year, drawing 1.5 million skiers, most of whom drove on weekends from

Southern California. It ranked in the top 10 of Ski magazine's 2005 reader resort survey.

Starwood Capital will have the right to operate the 4,000 acres of ski terrain at Mammoth and June mountains and do some development, but the land itself is still owned largely by the U.S. Forest Service. The operators have a 40-year lease that expires in 2024.

Rusty Gregory will retain his position as chairman and CEO of Mammoth Mountain, and will continue to own a substantial 15% stake in the company. Intrawest will also maintain a minority 15% investment. The deal is expected to close within 90 days.

Starwood Capital has also entered into a preliminary agreement with Intrawest to form a joint venture to recapitalize and develop the majority of Intrawest's real estate holdings in and around the Mammoth Lakes region.

The joint venture plans to develop more than 1,000 residential and lodging units and approximately 30,000 square feet of commercial space. Starwood Capital will become the single entity responsible for most of the key real estate development in and around the Mammoth Lakes region—unifying development of the bed base and the amenities that are crucial to developing a destination resort. It is predicted that changes would be evident in three to five years.

In reducing its stake from 59.5%, Intrawest expects to realize a pre-tax profit of about \$101 million, which it will initially use to pay down debt as it evaluates other ways to put the money to work.

Until May, Sternlicht, 45, served as chairman and chief executive of Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc., which grew under his leadership with internationally

recognized brands as Westin, Sheraton, W, St. Regis, Luxury Collection and Four Points. Starwood Capital, based in Greenwich, CN, is not affiliated with Starwood Hotels.

Starwood Capital edged out more than 35 other credible offers. Among the competitors were Colorado-based Vail Resorts Inc. and computer billionaire **Michael Dell**.

Sunlight for Sale—

Sunlight Mountain Resort, 10 miles southwest of Glenwood Springs, CO, is for sale for \$50 million.



Courtesy Sunlight Mtn. Resort

The sale includes the U.S. Forest Service permit for the 2,081 acres (including 67 trails and 470 acres of skiable terrain), four lifts, a base lodge, the Sunlight Ski School and Children's Center, a food and beverage operation, a snowmobile tour company, and rental-retail outlets onsite and in Glenwood Springs.

The sale also includes 400 acres of Sunlight-owned developable land, which has the potential to support more than 700 residential units.

Loveland Opens First for Sixth Year—

Mid-winter conditions arrived early in Colorado, allowing Loveland Ski Area to open for the 2005-06 ski season on Friday, October 14, 2005.



Courtesy Loveland

Loveland to be the first resort in North America to open for the sixth year in a row.

The area offered skiing and riding on a 1,000-vertical-foot top-to-bottom groomed run. The minimum snow base varied between 18 and 21 inches. In addition, a small terrain park was set up near the base for eager jibbers.

The latest snowstorm brought nearly a foot and a half to Loveland, intensifying the race between the area and Arapahoe Basin to see which would open first. The storm, combined with Loveland's snowmaking before and after, won the day. ❄️

SNOWBOARD STRIP

Choosing the Right Snowboard—



Snowboards have come a long way since the early days, and consumers now have an array of great boards to choose from. There are three main areas that are important to consider.

Weight: A lightweight board adds a feeling of liveliness to your feet, makes lift rides a lot more pleasant, and is easier to handle during tricks, especially spinning tricks. Find a nice compromise between price and weight that fits your wallet and riding level.

Torsional Stiffness: High end boards will have additional torsional stiffness that increases the ability to carve during fast turns. Torsionally soft boards are fine to learn on, but it may be worth it to invest in a torsionally stiff board from the beginning.

Vibration Damping: Performance can be improved by adding materials to reduce chatter traveling through the board. Vibration damping helps the most in chopped up snow, and can also increase the durability of a board. *

Membership Application 2005-06

ALL Pacific Rim Alliance attendees must be a member to participate in one of our trips. Our membership year is from 1 July 2005 through 29 September 2006.

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]

PRINTED NAME[S] _____

- Big Sky, MT 2006
 Val Thorens, Fr 2006

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

FAX _____

E-MAIL _____

DEPOSIT DUE:

- \$600 / person Big Sky, MT \$600 / person for France

—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



Fall 2005



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

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 Ski Club 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 for MS and Olympic & Junior Racers, Mammoth Ski Museum.

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

2006+ Trip Schedule-

- Big Sky, MT February 4-11, 2006
- Val Thorens, France & Istanbul March 3-16, 2006
- New Zealand & Australia August 2006
- Madonna di Campiglio, Italy March 2007