



UPDATES

<http://PacificRimAlliance.org/>

Pacific Rim Snow Sports Alliance

Vol. 12 • No. 1 • Spring 2008

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Alliance..... 1 Features

- Member Profile: Paul & Sue..... 2
- Mammoth News..... 5
- Kid's Korner 9
- Membership Benefits 16
- Snowboard Strip..... 17

Public Affairs

- Health, Fitness, Safety 3
- World Cup Results 4
- Air Transportation Issues 6-7
- Industry Ski News..... 8
- Environment: Glen Canyon Dam 13

Tripping Around 2

- Far West Convention 2008 12
- Water Skiing 2008 12
- Wine Maker Dinner 2008 12
- Las Leñas, Argentina 2008..... 10
- Big White 2009..... 11

Trip Wrap Up

- Japan & China..... 14-15

Sign-Up Forms 17

the

Alliance

2008 Ski Trips—

The Pacific Rim winter trips are history. And what history making trips they were. The wrap for **Japan** and **China** can be found in this newsletter. Photos are on the website for your perusal. *See pg. 14 - 15.*

Madonna di Campiglio and **Sorrento** were wonderful. We had a great group of people and probably the best Italian hotel we've ever stayed in. And, of course, the ski week went by way too fast.

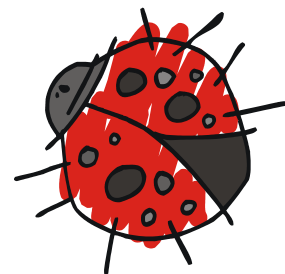
For all of you who canceled out of **Big White**, you missed the best ever skiing in Spring. Winter conditions prevailed with fresh powder, mild snow storms, temperatures in the high 20s, impeccably groomed slopes, and untracked powder for days. We ended the week with the annual Spring Fling festivities and gun-barrel coffee.

We will close 2008 with a trip to **Argentina** and **Brazil** this summer. The trip is almost full with 25 people signed up. *See pg. 10.*

2009 Ski Trips—

We are currently putting together our schedule of ski trips for 2009. I will be attending the Mountain Travel Symposium in Vail in April and will get the opportunity to meet with a number of ski resorts.

I am hoping to finally put together the **Kootenay Safari** which will possibly include Whitefish (formerly Big Mountain), Fernie, Kimberly, Panorama, Kicking Horse, and Lake Louise.



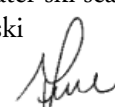
Due to the very weak US dollar, we are not planning a trip to **Europe** for 2009. I will, however, be looking into Lech and Zurs for 2010.

We will be offering another Spring Madness Ski Week to **Big White**, BC, Canada on April 6-13, 2009. This will be their season closer. If you are interested, we encourage you to purchase air as soon as possible. *See pg. 11.*

Other trips we are considering is joining Far West in Big Sky, MT and/or possibly going to Beaver Creek or Vail. We will also be looking into a possible return to Aspen/Snowmass as another alternative. Let us know where you would like to ski next season. Just drop me an email (gene@pacificrimalliance.org) or call (858-467-9469).

We will be returning to the South Island of **New Zealand** next summer. We will again start in Christchurch and work our way down to Queenstown with a stop in Wanaka. The trip should start around the first of August. I'd like to plan an extension to Melbourne and Tasmania. Sign-ups are now being accepted.

Water Ski

Don't forget that the water ski season is almost upon us. We ski the Colorado River bi-monthly. *See pg. 12.* ♦ 

- Ski With Pride •
- Watch All Sides •
- Let It Ride •

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].



Coming this Summer — Las Lenas, Argentina

TRIPPING AROUND

❖ Pacific Rim Alliance ❖

- SKIER'S APPRECIATION, MAMMOTH. April 26, 2008
Bonnie Wheaton / 858-652-0172
- LAS LEÑAS, Argentina August 20-Sept 3, 2008
Gene Fulkerson / 858-457-9469
- WATER SKI WEEKENDS Twice a month June - Oct
Patricia Ortiz / 323-651-0686
- JIMMIE HEUGA WINE MAKER DINNER Sept 27, 2008
Gene Fulkerson / 858-457-9469
- BIG SKY, MT (tentative) January 24-31, 2009
Gene Fulkerson / 858-457-9469
- KOOTENAY SAFARI, Canada February 2009
Gene Fulkerson / 858-457-9469
- BIG WHITE, BC, Canada April 6-13, 2009
Gene Fulkerson / 858-457-9469
- SOUTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND August 2009
ARGENTINA & TASMANIA
Gene Fulkerson / 858-457-9469

❖ Los Angeles Council ❖

- TAOS, New Mexico March 21-25 2009
Iris Johnson / 310-466-4861

❖ San Diego Council ❖

- ASPEN, CO. December 2008
Mike Sanford

❖ Far West Ski/Race Association ❖

- FAR WEST RACE CHAMP, MAMMOTH April 4-6, 2008
Bob Ellis / 530-414-4270
- CONVENTION, SEATTLE, WA June 5-8, 2008
Mary Olhausen / 360-892-1814
- GREEK ISLAND CRUISE. October 1-17, 2008
Norm Azevedo / 925-944-9816
- BIG SKY, MT January 24-31, 2009
Gloria Raminha / 713-818-0471

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

MEMBER PROFILES

Sue & Paul Sindelar

The thing about running smaller trips is that you really get a chance to connect with everyone. One couple we really related to on the Italy trip was **Sue** and **Paul Sindelar**. Sue and Paul were also traveling with brother **Peter** and planned to tour northern Italy after the ski week. This was not the first time in Europe for them as they recently went to Prague to investigate the Sindelar heritage.

Paul and Sue are mostly very quiet and they both have great smiles. They seemed so relaxed on vacation, you would never guess that they are both probably type A personalities.

Sue is a self professed workaholic. She is a purchaser for the City of West Covina and loves her job. Paul is retired but continues to work as a contract manager consultant.

He too loves his work. Luckily they get to carpool to work.

Sue and Paul have been married for more than 30 years. Sue was raised in Vallejo (Northern California) and met Paul while he was working as a Merchant Marine. Paul called Sue from all his ports of call while on tour. His favorite place was New Zealand. He hopes to take Sue there one day soon.

In December 1998, they bought a two-bedroom condo in Maui, Hawaii. They love the island and manage to spend two weeks at a time there, about three times a year. While enjoying the beach, they have been taking the time to fix up this second home. They have thought about retiring to Maui, but Sue wants to stay near her grand babies.

Paul & Sue have two children. Their daughter is 30 with the 2 grandbabies. Their son Michael is 27 and available. They even offered him to one of the cute waitresses at our hotel. And Michael, she is interested.

Both are intermediate skiers and love it. They've been skiing for more than twenty years, mostly Mammoth. They also belong to Tri-Valley Ski Club in Los Angeles. ♦



Spring Ski Tips

Altitude Sickness—

No matter how often we write or talk about it, we find that some people still get altitude sickness when it can most often be avoided. The higher up you are, the thinner the air, which means your heart works harder.

In addition, unfit people wearing the wrong clothing and going balls-out are candidates for altitude sickness.

You lose an unbelievable amount of sweat through evaporation and exercise. The higher the altitude the more you lose.

Replenish the loss with more water. Do not drink alcohol since it will further deplete your body of much needed liquids.

Protect Your Eyes—

To avoid burning your eyeballs, wear protective goggles or glasses. Note that not all trendy, overpriced eyewear will screen the sun's rays, so look for adequate UV protection.

Protect Your Skin—

Be sure to wear a good sun-block, even on cloudy days. The sun reflects off the snow and is stronger at high altitudes than you think!

Cover Your Head—

Wear a hat or helmet (preferred) as 80% of heat-loss is through the head.

Cover Your Hands—

Wear warm gloves or mittens. Mittens are usually better for those who are susceptible to cold hands.

Dress in layers—

Layering allows you to accommodate your body's constantly changing temperature. Propylene underwear

(top and bottoms) feels good next to the skin, dries quickly, absorbs sweat and keeps you warm. You should also wear a turtleneck, sweater/fleece and waterproof jacket.

Take a Lesson—

Put beginners in ski/boarder school to get them on the right track. Instructors know how to teach so let them do what they do best.

After a few lessons, you'll be able to enjoy riding with your friends and they will be proud to show you their new abilities.

Know When To Stop—

For example, if the clothing layer next to the skin stays wet and you're

chilled, if you're injured, have a problem with equipment or even if you're just simply worn out, it's time to stop for the day. It's alright to stop before the end of the day.

Set a Meeting Place—

If you get separated from your group you should have a time and place to meet. The walkie talkies now available are convenient and an easy way to stay in touch with those skiing different runs.

Drink Water—

Again, this can't be repeated often enough— drink plenty of water. ♦

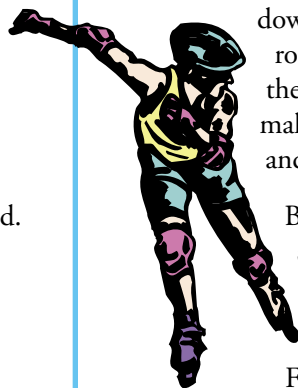


FITNESS

Improve Your Skiing Balance—

One of the best things you can do for your skiing, in or off season, is to roll on skates.

Have you ever watched the pros race? These skiers show very little up and down movement, but spread their feet apart and smoothly roll both skis from edge to edge. There is no pivoting of the skis and rarely any skid—just arc-to-arc carving. They make skiing look so easy. The trick is to find your balance and it will be easy.



Balancing on inline skates is identical to standing over the sweet spot on today's carving ski. There is little margin for error. You can't be too far forward, and sitting back will have you on your butt in a second.

Find a wide paved area with a gentle pitch. The yard at a local school might be your best bet. Set up some obstacles and "run the gates." Wear a helmet, knee and elbow pads and wrist protectors, and "crave" this slope all year round. The more miles you skate, the more ready you'll be to make precise turns on the slopes. ♦

AMERICANS

World Cup

A Big Day for American Skiing—

The US won five of the 12 crystal globes awarded to winners of World Cup titles— an extremely huge day for American skiing.

Lindsey Vonn won the World Cup overall and downhill titles and placed 2nd in combined.

Bodie Miller won the World Cup overall and combined titles and finished 2nd in downhill, missing first place by just 5 points. Bodie was extremely upset when the Bormio downhill was canceled due to soft snow, eliminating his chance to win another downhill title.

Ted Ligety won a World Cup giant slalom and finished 4th overall. **Julia Mancuso** finished 7th overall with a 4th place in giant slalom.

Lindsay's and Bode's wins mark the first U.S. wins since **Phil Mahre** and **Tamara McKinney** both won in 1983.

Lindsey Von Wins World Cup Overall—

Lindsey Vonn won the World Cup overall title on March 14, 2008 when she finished in the top 15 and **Maria Riesch** of Germany failed to finish.

Lindsey became the second American woman to win the overall. She already captured the season's downhill title after she broke the U.S. career downhill record set by **Picabo Street** on Saturday, March 8, 2008, in Crans-Montana, Switzerland.



Lindsay lagged behind in 25th place after the first run, but fought back with the fastest second run to finish 11th on the day, more than enough for the overall title. Lindsey now has 10 career World Cup downhill victories, breaking the U.S. record set by **Picabo Street** (1996) and **Daron Rahlves** (2006).

Lindsey just missed adding the individual super-combi to her downhill title, finishing 0.26 seconds behind the winner for third place.

Downhill Globe Lifelong Goal for Vonn—

Lindsey Vonn fulfilled her lifelong goal of winning the World Cup downhill title when she received the coveted crystal globe during the finals in Bormio, Italy. She received the globe in the same village where her childhood hero **Picabo Street** won it in 1995 when Vonn was just nine.

Vonn grew up on tiny Buck Hill outside Minneapolis. She showed signs of promise as a young ski racer in a USSA club program under noted coach **Erich Sailer**. After a few years, she moved on to Ski Club Vail.



Bodie Miller Wins World Cup Overall Title—

Bodie Miller secured his second overall title on March 13, 2008 when **Didier Cuche** of Switzerland announced Thursday he would not enter Saturday's season-ending slalom.

Bode has two overall titles and is sixth all time with 31 World Cup wins. There are five skiers with more World Cup wins than Bodie—**Ingemar Stenmark** (86), **Hermann Maier** (53), **Alberto Tomba** (50), **Marc Girardelli** (46) and **Pirmin Zurbriggen** (40).



Ted Ligety Catches the Globe—

American **Ted Ligety** joined in the celebrations of compatriots **Bode Miller** and **Lindsey Vonn** by claiming his very own World Cup title in Bormio on March 14, 2008.

Ted came from behind to win the final World Cup giant slalom of the season and capture the discipline title when overall champion **Bode Miller** missed a gate in the second run.



Ted jumped from seventh to first in a blazing second run to beat **Benjamin Raich** of Austria, his nearest challenger for the giant slalom title. ♦

SKI CLUB APPRECIATION DAY
APRIL 26, 2008

MAMMOTH NEWS

MARK THE DATE

REGISTRATION
BEGINS
MARCH 10, 2008

REGISTRATION
FORMS WILL BE
SENT TO YOUR CLUB
LEADER OR
CONTACT THE
GROUP SALES
OFFICE AT
760-934-0629

REGISTRATION
DEADLINE
APRIL 14, 2008

SKI CLUB
APPRECIATION
DUMMY DOWNHILL
& PARTY
APRIL 26, 2008



FOR GROUP
LODGING SPECIALS
PLEASE CONTACT
BONNIE WHEATON
AT 858-652-0172

SKI PARTY PLUNDER

Spring Fest Package—

Enjoy tons of sun and great spring skiing and riding with the Spring Fest Lift and Lodging package starting at only \$111*!



Offer valid for arrivals from April 20 to May 16, 2008 at the Mammoth Mountain Inn, Juniper Springs Resort, the Village Lodging and Tamarack Lodge.

Stay two or more nights and get a lift ticket for each person, for each night stayed.

* Price is per person per night, based on double occupancy in a standard hotel room at the Mammoth Mountain Inn. Does not include taxes or fees. Two night minimum stay required. No refunds for early departures. Lift tickets valid starting day after check-in. Restrictions apply.

Mammoth Season Pass for 2008-09—

The Mammoth Season Pass (formerly "Gold Pass"), is now the only unrestricted pass for skiing and snowboarding at Mammoth and June Mountains starting May 1, 2008 and every day in the 2008/09 season



What you get is world-class skiing and riding anytime you want it and the inside track to season-long benefits in the Mammoth Club. Purchase in April 2008 for special Activity Pass, Gift Card and passcash offers at the time of purchase, plus more season-long discounts on lodging, lesson, food, retail and "Bring a Friend" offers than ever before.

In addition, purchase your Pass in April and save over 50%. Pays for itself in 10 days. Available April 1-30, 2008 at MammothMountain.com or by calling 800.MAMMOTH. Prices for April are listed below.

Adult 19-64	Youth 13-18	Child 7-12	Senior 65-79
\$786	\$589	\$393	\$393

MVP9 Passes for 2008-09—

MVP9 Passholders will enjoy unlimited skiing and riding at Mammoth and June Mountains during the 2008/09 season along with exclusive pricing on future pass products and exclusive MVP events.



- Pays for itself in 7 days of skiing/riding
- Available exclusively for existing members
- Must renew MVP9 to remain eligible for MVP pricing in future seasons
- No MVP9 Passes will be sold after April 30, 2008

Adult 19-64	Youth 13-18	Child 7-12	Senior 65-79
\$576	\$432	\$288	\$288

Airlines are struggling with rising fuel prices, labor strife, depressed ticket demand and heightened competition. Analysts don't think larger carriers are in imminent danger of bankruptcy. But many industry observers have long warned that sustained high fuel prices and a slowing economy could push larger airlines to the brink.



Northwest Limits Bags—

On March 28, 2008, Northwest said it would begin charging \$25 each way for a second checked bag. It also raised its fee for a third bag from \$80 to \$100. And it doubled its \$25 fee for bags over 50 pounds.



Delta and Northwest Hopes—

A long-awaited merger between Delta and Northwest airlines was announced late in February 2008. The merger could create the world's largest airline, with 79,000 employees in mainline operations. It would have major hubs in Atlanta, Detroit and Minneapolis and numerous routes to Asia and Europe.

Currently the pilot unions at both carriers are in talks. But any deal would need to win the approval of the U.S. Department of Justice. Competitors and consumers could weigh in, too.



Aloha to Aloha Airlines—

Aloha Airlines' ticket counters are empty after 60 years in business, ceasing all passenger service after filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on March 21, 2008. The airline will continue to operate as a cargo carrier.



ATA Shuts Down—

ATA Airlines shut down operations and stranded thousands of travelers Thursday, April 3, 2008, when an unexpected loss of key charter flights and soaring fuel costs forced the carrier into bankruptcy.

ATA said in a statement that the cancellation of a critical agreement with FedEx for most of the airline's charter business left it unable to offset exorbitant fuel prices.

Once the nation's 10th-largest air carrier, ATA entered bankruptcy for the second time in just over three years. The company had more than 2,200 employees, and "virtually all" were told that their jobs were gone.

ATA's bankruptcy will also affect Southwest Airlines customers. The Dallas-based airline has a code-share agreement with ATA for travel to Hawaii. ♦

United Limits Checked Bags—

United Airlines has announced that, by May 5, 2008, they will allow only one checked bag weighing 50 pounds or less for most passengers and that a \$25 service fee will be applied to additional bags.

Obviously, this will mandate a charge of \$25 or \$50 (one way) for most skiers flying to a North American ski resort on United.



Delta Raises Prices—

Delta raises the price on some items which took effect on April 1, 2008. Carrying a pet in the cabin will cost \$100 instead of \$75. The oversize bag fee will be \$150 instead of \$100.

The unaccompanied minor fee will be \$100 on all flights instead of \$50 for nonstop flights and \$100 for connecting flights.

Please join the National Ski Council Federation in sending letters of encouragement to airlines asking them not follow United's lead. More information, including sample letters to the airlines and any breaking information can be found at www.skifederation.org.

If you would like to comment to United on the new charge and let them know that you will take this fact into consideration when booking future ski trips, contact Pamela A. Coslet, General Manager for customer relations at 877-228-1327 or customerrelations@united.com.

When flying most of us just want to get through airports as quickly as possible, avoid the long lines at security and waits at the gate, and spend as little time stuffed into an airplane seat as possible. Here are a few tips.

Know your airport—

Big airports are as different as the cities they're in. Check out the maps in the airport magazine usually found in the front seat pocket.

Las Vegas is by far the worst, with long security lines that often take 45 minutes, particularly at the newly expanded D Gates (serving American, United, and Delta). New York's JFK is the toughest airport to navigate if you're switching carriers because there are nine separate terminals.

The easiest airports have connected terminals and multiple security entrances that give you access to virtually every gate after you've gone through security. Philadelphia International Airport and Dallas Fort Worth are two examples. Charlotte, N. C., is relatively compact, and domestic connections are quick and painless.

The new terminal in Detroit is large, yet the design makes it easy to get from one gate to another. In St. Louis and Memphis, on the other hand, you walk forever.

Also, most airports let you check in with checked luggage up to 30 minutes before takeoff. But don't show up a mere half-hour early in Vegas or at LAX in Los Angeles. You'll miss the 45-minute cutoff, and you won't get a boarding pass. Denver and Miami also have a 45-minute pre-flight deadline to check luggage but require only 30 minutes if you just need a boarding pass.

Picking the Short Line—

The shortest airport security line is not necessarily the fastest. Look at the type of people waiting in a line, not the number. A dozen business people will move through security much faster than two families with young children or a tour group of senior citizens. Just remember this equation: One baby carriage equals four typical passengers.

Another tip for moving through security: Aim for the far left or far right scanner lanes. Most people just walk straight ahead and end up waiting longer as a result.

When to Board—

Early boarding is not necessarily desirable. On crowded flights, the big planes can take 40 minutes to fully board, forcing you to spend all that extra time in a cramped seat. Unless you're afraid there won't be room in the overhead bins for your carry-on, wait.

Another reason to wait until everyone else has boarded is if you're assigned a middle seat on a flight that isn't full. Once the rest of the plane is seated, chances are you'll be able to change to a window or aisle seat in the back.

Don't be Left Behind—

Planes sometimes close the door to passengers before the posted departure time. Many carriers would rather have a flight pull away 10 minutes early and leave a customer or two behind than arrive at its destination 10 minutes late.

More flights have been missed this way than for all other reasons combined. The worst offender is US Airways.

When Your Flight is Canceled—

Frequent flyers get no preference when flights are canceled. If you are a frequent flier with a particular airline, you're supposed to have an advantage in getting on that carrier's next flight. You may have priority if you are on standby, but basically it's first come, first served.

The person who gets to any gate agent for the airline first, anywhere in the airport, snags the first empty seats. So if you're standing in a long line at your assigned gate waiting for rebooking, look for an agent at an empty gate or pick up your cell and call. ♦



INDUSTRY

Ski News

by Catherine Ohl

Resorts Extend the Ski Season—

Colorado ski resort Wolf Creek has joined Monarch Ski Area in extending their seasons. The reason for lengthening the season? Big snow. Wolf Creek has received 41 feet of snow so far. It will remain open daily through April 13, and weekends through April 27.

Aspen Highlands, CO, will run weekends through April 27, providing two “bonus weekends” of operation. With over 120 inches on the ground in Highland Bowl and almost 100 inches at mid-mountain, Highlands will be open to the 12,382-foot summit of Highland Bowl.

The Exhibition, Loge and Deep Temerity lifts will run daily from 10:30 AM to 5 PM providing access to the entire mountain. There will be live music, events and special packages available; more details will be announced shortly. Adult tickets will be \$39 per day, youth and seniors will pay \$35.

The closing weekend coincides with Frontier Airlines’ inaugural flights into Aspen. Frontier’s new Denver to Aspen service includes five flights daily, year round, beginning April 26, 2008.

Vail Ups the Ante in Season Pass War—

The highly competitive Colorado market is known for ultra cheap season passes as giants Intrawest (Winter Park, Copper Mountain and Steamboat) and Vail Resorts (Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge and Keystone) battle for visitors. And the battle has escalated once again.

Vail Resorts has thrown the latest punch with the announcement of an extremely inexpensive unrestricted season pass, the **Epic Season Pass**, for the 2008-2009 ski and snowboard season. Aimed at destination travelers, it makes available Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone and Heavenly for just \$579 for adults, \$279 for children ages 5-12.



courtesy Vail Resorts

In designing the **Epic Season Pass**, the key limitations and restrictions were removed and will be offered on-line. It will be available for purchase through Nov. 15, 2008. It will also earn points in the Company’s PEAKS loyalty programs.

Heavenly Opens Longest Zip Line in US—

Heavenly Ski Resort announced the creation of the **Heavenly Flyer**, at 3,300 feet, the longest zip line in the continental U.S. The year-round ride propels riders at speeds up to 50 mph and features two separate lines with a 525 vertical foot drop.

Winter hours of operation are 10 AM - 3 PM, seven days a week, weather permitting. Summer hours are 10:30 AM to 5 PM Rides are \$30 (\$20 for pass holders who present an active Heavenly season pass).

Rides are scheduled by appointment only. Riders must be at least 52 inches tall and weigh over 75 pounds, and cannot exceed 80 inches tall or 275 pounds.

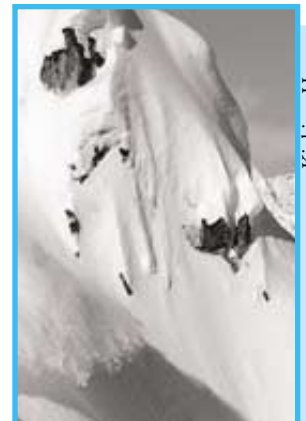


Kicking Horse Launches Big Mountain Center—

Kicking Horse resort in British Columbia has announced the launch of a new “Big Mountain Center (BMC).” The Center is an attempt by the resort to improve and enhance the big-mountain skiing and snowboarding educational experience.

With sponsorship from Red Bull, Peak Performance, Nordica, Rossignol, Salomon, Faction and Burton Snowboards, Kicking Horse hopes its Center will become a hub for modern day ski and ride development, specializing in everything that defines the big-mountain culture.

Located on the mountain in a Mongolian style yurt, the BMC will offer single-day, 3-day and 5-day camps for intermediate to expert riders who are looking for adventure skiing and riding not found in typical resort programs. Kicking Horse’s terrain, featuring many in- and out-of bounds chutes, bowls and cliffs, is a prime location for this kind of project. ♦



courtesy Kicking Horse

KID'S KORNER

4 kids & grandkids

Spring is here...Water, Sun and Fun

While childhood memories are often filled with carefree days, emergency room doctors know it as "trauma season." Tragedies peak during the warmer months because children are supervised less, have more free time and engage in more outdoor activities.

Water Safety Tips for Kids—

- If you do not know how to swim, always wear a life jacket.

If you fall, get pushed in or accidentally get near deep water, a life jacket can keep you floating on the surface until you can get help. Even strong swimmers should wear a vest in deep or rough water.

- Swim with a buddy.

You've probably heard this many times, but it's worth saying again. If you get into trouble, your friend can get help fast.

- Always check out unfamiliar water before jumping or diving in.

There could be rocks or tree stumps in rivers and lakes. Even pools can be more shallow than they look. So always check out the depth of water before you dive in.

- If you see someone in trouble, signal the lifeguard or a responsible adult.

Don't try to rescue the person yourself—you could get pulled under the water. Wave your hands over your head to signal the lifeguard or another adult.

- Don't EVER pretend you are drowning. *It wastes lifeguard's time and may take their attention away from someone who really needs help.*

- It's a good idea to stay near people who know you and will notice if you are in trouble.

If you are with a group of people, have a check-in time and place to meet. Be sure

you show up on time so you won't give the adults gray hairs.

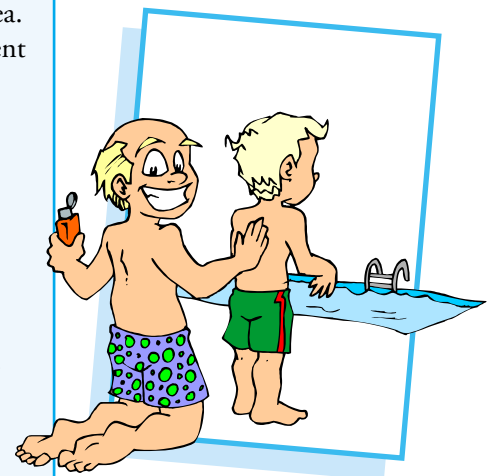
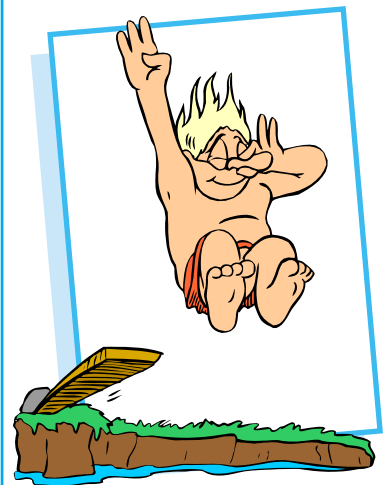
- Don't let your friends tease you into something you don't want to do. *Even if all your friends are jumping in, don't do it if you are afraid or feel like you can't handle it. Knowing your limitations is nothing to be embarrassed about.*
- Make sure you always follow the adult in charge's instructions!
- Wear sunscreen! ♦



Online Safety for Kids—

Kids, here's are some Safety Tips for you when you go online.

- Don't ever give out information about yourself like your last name, your phone number, where you live, or where you go to school.
- Never e-mail a picture of yourself to strangers.
- If somebody emails something to you that makes you uncomfortable, don't look around or explore. Tell your parents.
- Making plans to meet your internet buddies in real life is a really bad idea. People in real life can be very different from how they are online.
- Don't open up e-mails, files, or web pages that you get from people you don't know or trust.
- Don't ever give out your password, except to responsible adults in your family.
- Always follow your family's rules for the using the internet.
- Don't ever do anything that costs money. ♦



Join Pacific Rim for a Trip of a Lifetime—



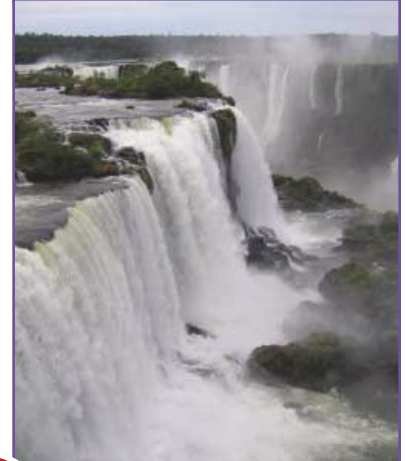
Las Leñas, Argentina

August 20-31, 2008 **

\$2,979*
USD

Trip Package Includes—

- **Two Nights Lodging** in Buenos Aires at 5-star Melia Hotel.
 - Daily Breakfast.
 - 3-1/2 Hour Local City Tour.
 - Dinner & Tango show.
- **Seven Nights Lodging** in Las Leñas at Píscis 5-star with Mountain View.
 - Ski-in / Ski-out.
 - 7 Breakfasts.
 - 7 Dinners Choice of two all-inclusive restaurants for dinner.
 - Gourmet Theme Week with Special Events & Meals.
 - Free Wi-Fi in lobby.
- **Lift Pass** for Week (8 days).
 - Non-Skiers and those over 65+, deduct \$TBA*.
- **Round Trip Air***
 - LAX to Buenos Aires via LAN.
 - Buenos Aires to Marlargue (90 minutes) via Las Leñas Charter.
- **Round Trip Transfers** from Buenos Aires and Marlargue (45 minutes).
- Welcome & Daily Cocktail **Parties**.

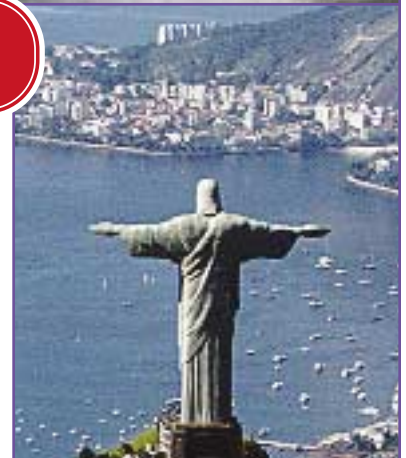


Iguazu Falls & Rio de Janeiro Post Extension—

\$899*
USD

August 30 - September 5, 2008 **

- **Round Trip Air** Buenos Aires to Iguazu Falls to Rio de Janeiro
- **Round Trip Transfers**
- **Two Nights Lodging** in Iguazu Falls at 4-star Continental Inn Hotel.
 - Daily Breakfast.
 - Full Day Falls Tour on Brazil side and Devil's Throat on Argentina side.
- **Three Nights Lodging** in Rio de Janeiro at 4-star Luxor Regente.
 - Daily Breakfast.
 - Full Day Rio Tour including Sugar Loaf & Cocorado.
- **Brazil Visa** Additional (currently \$110).



Reservations & Information—

- \$700 Payment due NOW.
- \$1,500 Payment due February 15, 2008.
- Final Payment due by April 15, 2008..
- Check payable Pacific Rim Alliance send to—
Gene Fulkerson, 10818 Viacha Dr., San Diego, CA 92124.
- For information, call 858-467-9469 or email gene@pacifcrimalliance.org.



Piscis Extras—

- Gourmet Theme Week (lots of extras for FREE!)
- Choice of TWO all-inclusive restaurants for dinner.
- Ski Valet.
- Casino, Bars, Restaurants.
- 24-Hour Room Service.
- Indoor/Outdoor Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi, Sauna.

* Prices may fluctuate based on the Argentina Pesos (ARS).
Airport taxes for Basic trip estimated \$320. Airport taxes for extension estimated \$32.

** Depart LAX 8/20/08 and arrive 8/21. On return, arrive home next day in early AM.

•• Cancellation policy will apply.

Last revised 01/15/2008

Join Pacific Rim for



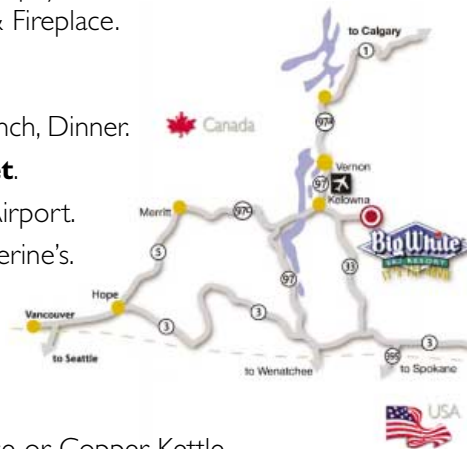
SPRING MADNESS

April 6-13, 2009

Trip Includes—

- **Seven Nights Lodging** at the Inn at Big White (dbl occ).
 - Ski-in / Ski-out, located in the Village Center.
 - Standard Room with 1 Queen + 1 Murphy Bed.
 - Rooms have Mini-fridge, Micro-wave & Fireplace.
 - Hot Tub & Sauna & Swimming Pool.
 - Free Wireless Internet.
 - Carvers Bar & Grill open Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.
- **FREE Five-out-of-Six Day Lift Ticket.**
- **Round Trip Transfer** from Kelowna Airport.
- Daily Cocktail **Parties** at Gene & Catherine's.
- One **Dinner** at Gene & Catherine's.
- **GST & Bed Taxes.**

\$650* est.
+ air



Options—

- **Group Dinner** Kettle Valley Steakhouse or Copper Kettle.
- **Air** on your own or possibly through Big White.

About Big White—

- 25 feet annual dry powder.
- 2,800 patrolled skiable acres.
- 2,550 feet of vertical.
- 4.5 miles longest run.
- 6% 22% 54% 18%
- 118 designated runs.
- 10 ski lifts (6 are high speed).
- Free ski hosts two times a day.
- 5,757 feet Village elevation.
- 18 Restaurants & Bars.

For Information & Reservations—

- **\$200 deposit due at sign-up. Final Payment due February 20, 2009.**
Send check payable Pacific Rim Alliance, send to—
Gene Fulkerson, 10818 Viacha Dr., San Diego, CA 92124.
- For information call 858-467-9469 or email gene@pacificrimalliance.org.

* Prices based on an exchange rate \$1 Canadian to \$1 USD.
Cancellation policy will apply.

Revised 3/23/08



Photos courtesy Big White Ski Resort

only
\$110

Water Skiing & Wake Boarding at its Best 2008 Colorado River Schedule

- Two Days Water Skiing • Equipment • Instruction •
- Sandy Beaches • Camping • Food • Beer • Wine • Soda •

June 13-15 July 11-13 Aug 8-10 Sept 5-7 Oct 3-5
June 27-29 July 25-27 Aug 22-24 Sept 19-21 Oct 17-19

For information: Visit www.RadarRiverRats.org
Call Patricia at 323-651-0686 (before 9 PM)

Everyone Welcome — Friends, Family, Beginner, Expert

WINE MAKER DINNER

Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008, 5 PM
10818 Viacha Dr, San Diego

- YES, please sign me up!
- Sorry I won't be able to attend.
Here's my Tax Deductible contribution
for The Heuga Center.

\$75

For Information—

- Call Gene at 858-467-9469

Send Check—

- payable to **Heuga Center for MS**
- to Gene Fulkerson at
10818 Viacha Dr., SD, CA 92124

100% of proceeds to benefit
The Jimmie Heuga Center for MS!



Since this is a fundraiser for charity, there will be no refunds.

Far West 2008 Convention

June 5-8, 2008

Meydenbauer Center & Westin, Bellevue, WA

Convention Highlights —

- Friday night **Silent Auction**
- Saturday morning **Travel Expo**
- Saturday Awards **Luncheon**
- Saturday afternoon **Multi-Media Reception**
- Saturday night **Awards Banquet & Dinner Dance**
- Sunday morning **Eye Opener**
- Sunday morning FWSA **Business Meeting & Elections**

Fun Optional Activities —

- Thursday night **Top o' the Needle** Pub Crawl
- Friday Annual Michael German **Golf Tournament** at Whirlwind Golf Club, includes lunch
- Friday **Kayak** on Lakes Union & Washington
- Friday **Wine Tour**
- Friday **Pike Place Market & Duck Tour of Seattle**

Convention Registration —

- Download complete convention forms, optional activities at www.fwsa.org
- Early registration through April 30th for \$135 per person

Hotel Reservations —

- Call 425.638.1000 and state your affiliation with FWSA
- Follow the link at www.fwsa.org under Convention
- Reserve now before May 15th for special \$137 per night rate plus tax

Contact Information —

- Sheri Parshall, Host Council Convention Chair
- E-mail at cougskier@aol.com or 503.706.0522 (cell phone)



**ALL Clubs
members are
invited to
reserve your
room today at
the fabulous
Westin Bellevue
in WA at
425.638.1000**

**Visit fwsa.org
to download
registration and
activity forms.**



ENVIRONMENT— GLEN CANYON DAM

Grand Canyon—

Four giant steel tubes released a man-made flood on March 7, 2008 into the Colorado River below the Glen Canyon Dam in Page, AZ. Grand Canyon officials say the effects of the flood were immediate and substantial.

The Grand Canyon boasts new sandbars ranging in size from small nooks and crannies to ones as large as football fields, the results of a man-made flood designed to nourish the ecosystem of the Colorado River.

On a couple of big sandbars there were already beaver tracks, bighorn sheep tracks. Animals are already exploring new aspects of the old canyon.

The three-day flood was designed to redistribute and add sediment to the 277-mile river in the Grand Canyon, where the



ecosystem was forever changed by the construction of a dam more than four decades ago.

The sediment provides a habitat for plants and animals, builds beaches for campers and river runners and helps protect archaeological sites from erosion and weathering.

But since 1963, the Glen Canyon Dam just south of the Arizona-Utah state line has blocked the sediment from the Colorado downstream, turning the once muddy and warm river into a cool, clear environment that helped speed the extinction of four fish species and push two others near the edge.



Narrated by Robert Redford, the newly released “Grand Canyon” IMAX movie stirs a cauldron of alarm over wasteful water practices used by flood irrigation-dependent farmers, by desert cities like Las Vegas, by poorly planned U.S. reservoirs and other climate change factors making mega-drought cycles which now face the Southwest. ♦

MAMMOTH

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area is pleased to announce that we are offering, with limited availability, special promotional lodging rates, **April 3-7, 2008** exclusively for Far West Ski Association Members. Please call 800-Mammoth to make your room reservations, requesting the special rates for the Far West Championships.

Promotional rates are per room, per night and do not include tax and appropriate reservation fees:

Mammoth Mountain Inn:

Standard Hotel rooms 1 or 2 beds	\$129
Superior One King Hotel Room	\$159
Hotel rooms w/loft (2 or 3 beds)	\$189
One Bedroom condo (2 beds)	\$268
One Bedroom Loft condo (6 beds)	\$369
Two Bedroom Loft Condo (8 beds)	\$479

Juniper Springs Resort:

One bedroom Condo	\$195
Tow Bedroom Condo	\$239

The Village Lodging at Mammoth:

One Bedroom Condo	\$239
Two Bedroom Condo	\$359

Groups needing 10 or more rooms may book separately through Group Sales. Please call Bonnie Wheaton at 858-652-0172. Email: bwheaton@mammoth-mtn.com

JAPAN & CHINA WRAP-UP—

by Gene Fulkerson & Catherine Okl

photos by RC & Joe Escamilla, Patricia Ortiz, RT & Jonnie Johnson, Don Brenholt, Bob Chapman,



RT & Jonnie in Nagano



RT, Pat, Sharon at Hakuba



Chris, Bob, Patricia at Tea Party in Tokyo



RC & Joe at Wasabi Farm, Nagano



The Group at Imperial Palace, Tokyo

We were very pleased with our trip to Japan and China. It was much more than we expected. We especially enjoyed China. It was cleaner, clearer, colder, and less congested than we expected. The people were friendly and spoke more English than we encountered in Japan.

We departed from LAX on Saturday, January 19, 2008 and arrived in Tokyo the next day where we caught a bus to Hakuba. We arrived at our hotel around 11 PM and were greeted with a light meal and champagne. The Tokyu Hotel lived up to its reputation of a five-star. The rooms were large and elegantly finished. Dinner was in their French restaurant two nights and their Japanese restaurant the other two nights. The breakfast spread was extensive. We all fell in love with the heated toilet seats. **RT Johnson & Gene Fulkerson** loved the bidet. The Onsen was an interesting experience.

The first day, most of us tried the skiing at Happo-One, the resort closest to our hotel. Later we discovered that the slopes were extremely hard packed due to a recent rain. Tuesday, the skiers spread out to other resorts including Hakuba 47 & Goryu-Toomi. Since it snowed a bit the previous night, the skiing was awesome wherever we ventured. It snowed pretty hard on Wednesday and Thursday and so most of us whimped out and toured.

Tuesday, there was an optional tour to visit the Jigokudani (Hell's Valley) Wild Monkey Hot Springs, situated at the base of Shiga Kogen resort. This unique area is home to about 200 wild monkeys who spend their days soaking in the natural hot springs. The hike to the hot springs took approximately 30

minutes each way. We enjoyed a traditional Japanese lunch and a tour of the beautiful 240 year-old Masuichi Sake Brewery.

We next visited Nagano City, host of the 1998 Winter Olympic Games. We stopped at Zenkoji Temple, home to the first image of Buddha brought to Japan in the seventh century. The streets surrounding the temple are lined with small, lantern-lit shops and tiered roofed stalls and galleries.

Wednesday, there was an optional tour to Matsumoto Castle, a five-storied donjon and one of the oldest castle structures in Japan and one of only four to be designated a "National Treasure." It is more a fortress than a castle and has a wonderful museum.

On the way to Matsumoto, the tour stopped at the Daio Wasabi Farm, the largest of its kind in Japan. It was the perfect place to taste wasabi ice cream!

Friday, we took the bullet train to Tokyo while most of our luggage made its way to the airport. Upon arrival, we immediately boarded a bus for a tour of the city with stops at the Imperial Palace, Tokyo Tower, and Hama-rikyu Gardens. We then took a boat ride down the river to Asakusa, with one of the oldest temples in the city, the Senso-ji Temple, which features a five-story pagoda.

Saturday, we were on our own. We easily figured out the train system and went our various ways— to Shinjuku, (lots of people to watch with a great deal of nightlife), Shaboya (Tokyo's New York Times Square), Ginza (more shopping), a Japanese Tea Ceremony, Asakusa, or the Kabukiza Theater.

 continued on page 15

JAPAN & CHINA WRAP-UP—

More Japan & China News from page 14

On Sunday, **Pat Holzinger** and **Sharon Bays** headed for home while the rest of us went onto Beijing. We took the time to explore the area around our hotel before being picked up for one of our many meals. Our guide, **David Lui**, was awesome and our bus driver was aggressive and courageous. We loved them both. The next four days were filled with activities, shopping, great Chinese cuisine and hospitality.

Monday, we toured the Temple of Heaven and the Lama Temple. We stopped at a silk factory and got the short version of how silk is produced. **RC Escamilla, Fay Mumbauer, Chris Vaughn,** and **Jonnie Johnson** bought silk duvets, covers and sheets. **RC** and **Patricia** had jackets custom made.

Tuesday, we toured the Great Wall of China. We had 3 hours and couldn't believe how little of the wall we were able to scale. It's harder than it looks, especially because all the steps are of varying heights. Some of us were hurting big time the next day. Since we are skiers we thought we were in better shape. Before lunch we stopped at a jade factory where **Gary Bunney** & **Kathy Bell** bought a beautiful jade eagle. Afterwards, we trekked to the Ming Tombs. **RC** & **Joe Escamilla, Patricia Ortiz, Fay, Don, Bob Chapman, RT** & **Jonnie** and **Chris** enjoyed the Peking Opera.

Wednesday, we started the morning at Tiananmen Square and walked through most of the Forbidden City. **Bob**, in his bright neon ski jacket, attracted a number of young girls who wanted their photo taken with him. **Gene** and **Joe** were so jealous, they found girls they wanted their photo taken with.

Afterwards we took a rickshaw ride into Hutong for an incredible lunch at a

local women's home. That evening we attended an Acrobatic Show put on by some amazingly talented kids. It was wonderfully entertaining.

Thursday, we visited the Summer Palace, a pearl factory and saw the pandas at the Zoo of Beijing. **Don Brenholt** bought a beautiful pearl necklace and earring set for his daughter. We enjoyed a wonderful Peking Duck lunch, a treat you do not want to miss.

We couldn't believe our trip was over and we were headed home. There is just so much more of China to see. We will just have to go back. ♦



RC, Fay, Bob & Don feasting again



Gene & Patricia at Great Wall of China



Jonnie & RT lunching in Hutong



Kathy & Gary at Great Wall of China



Catherine & Gene riding in Rickshaw in Hutong



Patricia, RC, Bob, Chris



Joe & RC in Forbidden City



Fay, RC & gang in Occidental Bay Hotel

Check out recently posted photos on web site!


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 2007-08.

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.

	FWSA 2007-2008 Membership Card Expires June 30, 2008 www.fwsa.org
Name _____	
Club <u>Pacific Rim Alliance</u>	
Member ID <u>PRA-007</u>	
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, East West Resorts, Rentskis.com, Crazy Heads, Geardirect.com, Breeze Ski Rental, Mountain Chalet, and so much 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**

HOT DEALS AT NSCF

See NSCF website www.skifederation.org for further details.

- **Cellular Abroad**, 3019 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, CA, (800) 287-3020. \$25 off international phone rental or purchase & \$10 off SIM card purchase at www.cellularabroad.com.
- **Mountain Chalet**, City of Industry, CA, (800) 535-5438. 15% off orders over \$50 on snowsports posters, cards, t-shirts, cabin decor and other vintage gift items at www.mchalet.com.
- **Penguin Group USA**, New York, NY, (212) 366-2368. 15% off online book purchases at <http://us.penguingroup.com>.
- **Hertz Car Rentals**. Up to 20% off in the U.S. & Canada and up to 25% off Europe at www.hertz.com.
- **Sport Innovations**, Washington Depot, CT, (860) 488-5973. 50% off Heat Vario Plus shoe dryers and heaters from Mematec Products at www.sport-innovations.com/skiclub.
- **SportStar Pro Sales** (ProSunglass), 258 South Taylor Ave, Louisville, CO, (800) 784-4090. Up to 35% off Bolle goggles and up to 36% off Bolle helmets plus other manufacturers' products at pro form prices at www.ProSunglass.com (see NSCF website for further details).
- **Ski Daddle Rolling Ski Tote**, Arlington, TX, (817) 939-4571. 33% off at www.dfw.net/~morris/nscf.html (see NSCF website for further details).
- **Breeze Ski/Max Snowboard Rentals**, (800) 525-0314 x122. (60 locations in U.S./Canada - CA, CO, NM, OR, UT, WY, British Columbia, Alberta). 30% off rentals, 25% off shop services & 10% off retail sales at www.SkiRental.com.
- **RentSkis.com** (100 locations in U.S./Canada - CA, CO, ID, UT, WY, British Columbia, Alberta), (800) 544-6648. 25% off online equipment rentals at www.rentskis.com (some black out dates).
- **Terry Sports** (4 locations Steamboat Springs, CO & Taos, NM), (800) 233-7547. 25% off rentals, 25% off shop services & 20% off retail merchandise at www.TerrySports.com. ♦

SNOWBOARD STRIP



Snowboarders Flock to Taos—

Taos Ski Valley opened its slopes to snowboarders March 19, 2008, and thousands of riders turned out to hit the famous slopes and

steps. The end of the snowboard ban at the 53-year-old area leaves just three areas that remain closed to snowboarders: Mad River Glen, VT, and Deer Valley and Alta, Utah.

Sherman Poppen, the 78-year-old inventor of the Snurfer, the forerunner to snowboards, was on hand to encourage riders as they made history. Several snowboard companies were also on hand to mark the occasion, and set up company tents in the resort village. Riders found themselves amid the spring-break crowds, populated heavily by Texans who were largely unaware of the significance of the day. ♦

Membership Application 2007-08

ALL Pacific Rim Alliance attendees must be a member to participate in one of our trips. Our membership year is from July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008.

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: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

WORK PHONE: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

Indicate Membership [Includes membership in FWSA, LA & San Diego Councils, NSAA]

- \$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] _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

FAX _____

E-MAIL _____

DEPOSIT DUE:

- \$700 pp for Las Leñas \$200 pp for Canada \$400 pp for New Zealand
 \$500 pp for Iguazu Falls

- Argentina 2008
 Big White, Canada 2009
 New Zealand 2009

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

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

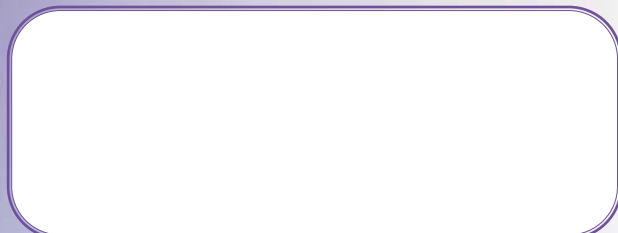
* Cancellation policy will apply.

Pacific Rim Alliance

10818 Viacha Dr.
San Diego, CA 92124



First Class Mail



Spring 2008



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]
gene@pacificrimalliance.org [email]
- Membership 858-467-9469
10818 Viacha Dr., San Diego, CA 92124

2008 & 2009 Trip Schedule-

- Las Leñas, Argentina August 20 - Sept 5, 2008
- Kootney Safari, BC, Canada February 2009
- Big White, BC, Canada April 6-13, 2009
- New Zealand, Australia & Tasmania August 2009