

SLO SKIERS, INC.
P.O. BOX 1047
SAN LUIS OBISPO
CA 93406

MEETINGS
2nd Wednesday
of the month
at the
Margie's Diner
1575 Calle Joaquin
San Luis Obispo

BOARD: 5:30pm
SOCIAL: 6:00pm
MEETING: 7:00pm

JOIN US
Annual Dues: \$40
sloskiers.org

FALL BIKE
RIDE
SCHEDULE
First Friday of the
Month

UPCOMING
RIDES:

*There's no
scheduled bike
rides this month
because all of our
riders are busy as
ever running
holiday errands on
their bikes!*

*Happy
Holidays
SLO Skiers!*



Official Newsletter of *The SLO Skiers Club, Inc.*
A Ski, Sport and Social Club

www.sloskiers.org

DECEMBER 2015

President's Message

We've filled up two week-long ski trips; we've made our money at the auction, some of which will go to support those upcoming ski weeks; we held our annual Pray for Snow Dinner & Dance, praying and dancing our way through the night; and now the snow is falling. It sounds like a successful lead up to ski season to me. Way to go SLO Skiers!



President Fran Long and the board

Janet Leonard and her committee did a great job, once again, in organizing our gala Pray for Snow event. It was evident that everyone there was having a great time. Thank you Janet, for all your hard work throughout the year to make this event a success.

Thank you, **Pete Sarafian**, for that rigorous hike up Valencia Peak. My recently recovered fractured kneecap got just the workout it needed to assure me it is ready for ski season.

The Home Exchange Workshop, presented by **Helen Jacobsen**, was well-attended, with standing room only. Helen did a great job, and now she's got all kinds of SLO Skiers interested in trying it out! Thank you, Helen, we really appreciate your time and organization in sharing this information with the SLO Skiers.

If you want to go skiing, you might be able to sweet talk Lauren into adding you to either the Tahoe or Park City trips. Also, due to a work conflict, I have one spot available for a male, and one spot available for a female on the Telluride trip, January 30-February 6, 2016. Additionally, there will be three weekend trips this season, two to Mammoth and one to a Tahoe resort. Stay tuned to Meetup for details on these trips. See Fran about the weekend trips and the Telluride openings.

Congratulations to last month's SLO Skier of the Month, **Stacey King**. We all know she did an amazing job with the auction. This is a year-long project, and she has already started thinking and gathering for next year's auction! Stacey's one disappointment in our auction is that she doesn't have enough help throughout the year. The day of the auction are always many folks wanting to help. Let's consider letting her know we are willing to take on some of the little jobs that need to be done ahead of time and make her job a little easier.

Please see President, P2

December Philanthropy Is Important

December is an important month for SLO Skiers Philanthropy activities for two reasons.

First Reason: We want to donate canned, boxed, and other nonperishable food items to the Food Bank during this holiday season. Please bring food items to the Christmas Party on December 11th. If you are not going to make the Christmas party please bring your food items to the December meeting. Last year we donated 206 pounds of food to the Food Bank at Christmas. I hope we can meet or exceed that amount this year.



Second Reason: The new Charitable Giving documents are now posted on the MeetUp web site. On the Home page go to Menu and then click on Files and you will see the documents posted there. Members can now use the Charitable Giving Request by a Member form to submit their request for charitable giving. Members can make requests for charitable giving in the 3rd and 4th quarters of our giving year. Please read the Charitable Giving Guidelines document for more details on our Philanthropy plans and guidelines for this year. Christmas time is a great time for members to submit their ideas for charitable giving. As a reminder we give \$500 each quarter. The \$500 can be split among more than one receiving organization.

Merry Christmas to All,
Michael Krebsbach
Philanthropy Officer

President

From PI

Following our November meeting at Margie's Diner, I received a little feedback from our members. For the most part, the feedback was positive regarding the location and the date change to the second Wednesday. The food had mixed reviews. It is definitely diner food, and there is definitely plenty of it! It might be helpful if some of those eating wanted to sit out in the restaurant area as opposed to everyone trying to get served in our meeting room.

For now, then, we will continue meeting at Margie's on the second Wednesday. Times will remain the same, with social hour beginning at 6:00 PM, and the meeting following at 7:00.

Happy Holidays to all!

Dinner & Sing Along

By John Smith

Eight lucky people (Bonnie and Mike, Janet and Brent, Sharon and Thom, Irene and John) cashed in their auction prize won last month. The evening event was hosted by Julie Page and, Steve Balog, with Pam Stanley and Linda Tarbel-Messer leading us in a lively time of sing-a-long songs. Solve the following puzzle to get the rest of the story.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. The house with its view of the Pismo Beach Coastline was | A. a musical delight and great fun. |
| 2. Drinks, appetizers, entrees and desserts were | B. all lovely. |
| 3. With Pam and Linda playing the guitar and leading, the evening was | C. numerous, varied and all delicious, |
| 4. The company was | D. breathtakingly beautiful. |
| 5. Mike's bongo drumming, Thom and Sharon's kazoo playing as well as John's singing were | E. comfortably loose. |
| 6. The ladies present were | F. hilariously out of harmony. |
| 7. Overall, the evening was | G. well worth repeating! |

***Thank you Julie and Steve
for offering this incredible Turtle Auction package event.***



The SLO Skiers Annual Christmas Party

FRIDAY DECEMBER 11, 2015

SLO GRANGE
2880 Broad Street, SLO



Happy Hour 5:00-6:00

Buffett Dinner 6:00-8:00

Gift Exchange and Fun 8:00-10:00



On the menu:
Pork Tenderloin
Pan Seared Salmon
Fingerling Potatoes
Roasted Veggie Medley
Coffee and Tea

Please Bring to Share
Last Name Beginning with:
A-I: Appetizer
J-R: Salad
S-Z: Dessert

For those of you who R.S.V.P'd thank you!
Don't forget to **BYOB**, something for the gift exchange like a
\$15 (or more) bottle of booze or wine **AND** don't forget to
bring a non-perishable food item!

This is a free event for all ski club members who are current in their dues.
Questions? Contact Lauren at MLNskier@gmail.com 805 636 0477

Valencia Climb

by Pete Sarafian

Eleven SLO Skiers all met,
In Montana de Oro, you bet!
They gathered together,
In near-perfect weather,
Before the next day became wet.

On SLO Skier hikes, renown
through the earth,
Two Danes and a Norwegian
joined in our mirth.
Most all, jock or geek,
Summit-ed the peak,
Of fun on Valencia, there was no
dearth.

Following a tough ascent,
To lunch most of us went.
We had Chinese food,
Everyone said was good,
By then many said they were spent.

But Pete and a bevy of girls,
Went out for yummy chocolate curls.
That is- Black Forest cake,
Madonna Inn likes to make,
To celebrate birthdays fine as pearls.
Collins opt for sinful birthday desserts.



From left to right- Peter Jacobsen, Marvin Gross, Helen Jacobsen, Niels Jacobsen, Inga Jacobsen, Kara Edwall and Pete Sarafian enjoy the summit of Valencia Peak.



Membership News!

As longtime members renew their membership in September, we can also welcome quite a few new faces into the club. In September we gained Dave and Kathy Doody, Patricia Edwall, Richard and Jennifer Novick, Loren Fisher, Katie Sasinis and Robert Ballo. October brought us Charlie Capobianco, Patty Malone, Sharon Brooks, Diane and Keith Opalewski and Ray Guillen. At the November meeting, three of our guests added their names to our membership, welcome Melanie Cleveland, Frances Wheeler and Jennifer Wilburn. And thank you to all members who have renewed and turned in your updated applications and waivers.

Teresa Rice
Membership Chairman

“Pray For Snow” Dinner and Dance

This year's Pray For Snow provided plenty of good company, food music and bling. Here are just a few highlights and “Thank You's for this fabulous evening of fun:

A Lovely Warm, Welcome from our SLO Skier Pres---Thank You, Fran. for introducing Pray For Snow (PFS) neophytes: Joan, Jennifer, Robert, Katie, Ray, Frances, John, Dottie, Christie and Javier.

Our fun loving PFS veterans of 31 years still dancing: Joe, John, Lauren, Keith, Brent and Fran.

Hal, you delivered another wonderfully touching prayer and speech. “Thank You!”

The band "Storm" delivered fabulous music and there was plenty of action on the dance floor!

And the shoes!

We enjoyed excellent service and dinner from the SLO Country Club Event Staff.

A Huge thank you to PFS committee: Sharon and Thom for diligent accounting, June and Peter made our place cards, John, Irene, Brent and to all of you who took photos.

A grand time was had by all!

Pictures will be included in the January Gazette...sorry. : (

Say Cheeezzzzz!

Here's just a few candids that were snapped at the last SLO Skiers meeting in November. Just a reminder to bring you camera to any of the SLO Skier events. We need a little extra help capturing all the fun we have! Please submit your photos to Stacey at sking@co.slo.ca.us and she might add them into the next Gazette Newsletter. We LOVE to see random candids!!!



TRIP UPDATES

South Lake Tahoe:

First, let me remind you that you need yourvail Pass confirmation number to pick up your Pass. I have emailed them to those people who were smart enough to purchase them. Don't forget to put that paperwork on your phone, in your ski boot, somewhere where you can't forget it. Speaking of forgetting passes, guess who forgot to take their Mammoth pass to the slopes?

Second, there are several new members on this trip. Your attendance at the pre-trip party is really important. This event was originally scheduled for February 10th. If our meeting location doesn't change that will be a conflict with the regular meeting date. We will have no choice but to move the pre-trip party to Monday, February 8th. Please reserve this date as a "fall-back" option.

Third, the dates of the trip are from 2/20 to 2/27. That means you will be checking into your rooms on the 20th. Check in time is 4 PM. Your five day group lift tickets start on **Sunday, 2/21**. The welcome party is scheduled for Sunday. If you are driving up on Saturday you won't miss the party if you arrive later in the evening.

Most importantly, there are still hotel rooms available for the trip. Now is the time to sign up and pay your money. When you RSVP on Meet Up that does **not** hold a space for you. By now, it is pretty safe to forecast there will be snow in the Sierra. Heavenly and NorthStar both have excellent snow making capabilities. We will be skiing at those two resorts plus at Kirkwood. Of all the resorts in Tahoe, Kirkwood is my personal favorite. Kirkwood typically has the deepest, driest snow in the area. The resort has a 2000 vertical drop and over 2300 acres of terrain. The runs vary from the calm groomers for beginners to steep cornices and cliffs.

There will be a group ski day at NorthStar. As the name implies this resort is on the north shore of the lake. This lay-back mountain has 3,170 skiable acres. A gondola takes you from the base area to the top of the mountain. The elevation is 6,800 feet. There are long cruiser slopes on the back side. The

Please see Updates, P8

Updates

From P7

longest run is Logger's Loop. It is 1.4 miles of yahoo skiing. 60% of the slopes are intermediate and 27% are for our more advanced skiers. There are 7 trails and 600+ acres of **gladed tree skiing**.

Heavenly is the largest of the resorts in the Tahoe area. There are 97 trails and 28 chairlifts. There are 4,800 skiable acres and 3,500 vertical feet. The top elevation is 10,067. That is the highest ski run at Lake Tahoe. For the boarders, in the group, there are 3 terrain parks. Mott Canyon and Killebrew Canyon is where the hot dog skiers will be found. Most important for the SLO Skiers, the gondola accessing this massive ski area is a really easy walk (even in ski boots) from Forest Suites.

The town of South Lake Tahoe sits right on the shores of the lake. There are a number of world class casinos for the gamblers in the group. The hotels have great shows and restaurants. There are ski shops very near the Forest Suites. Across the street is a full service grocery and liquor store. This amazing combination of great lodging, skiing and entertainment is yours... SIGN UP NOW! EMAIL LAUREN @ MLNSKIER@GMAIL.COM.

MEET UP AND RSVP

By now, most of us have sign up and use Meet Up. If you RSVP you are going and the club makes arrangements based on that fact, it could cost the club money if you don't show up.

Please use an RSVP only when you are committed to attend.



Hopefully, you receive this newsletter prior to the Christmas party. Anytime there is food involved it is really important to RSVP to an event. If something comes up and you can't make it please notify the event chair person directly. The Club is purchasing the entrée for the Christmas party. The cost is \$20 each. If we don't have an accurate number of RSVP's it is impossible to order the food.

Gladed Tree Skiing

Wikipedia

Glade skiing is alpine skiing through trees off-trail or on a defined woods trail.^[1] Glades are variously sought for their solitude, beauty, or caches of ungroomed powder. Woods also tend to hold better snow longer thanks to the shade and shelter trees provide.

Glade skiing is inherently more dangerous than skiing on trails and usually reserved for experts, though moderate glade terrain exists. Hazards such as cliffs or streams may or may not be blocked off by ski patrol. Other dangers include tree wells, logs, stumps, and the trees themselves. Equipment required includes a ski helmet, ski goggles, and gloves all to protect against the trees and underbrush. Glade riders need to be fit and agile to negotiate trees and hidden obstacles such as tree wells or concealed root systems.

Ski resorts may have defined glade trails, ungroomed glade areas, or boundary-to-boundary policies.



National Ski Club Newsflash



SUNSHINE VILLAGE GETS CANADA'S FIRST HEATED CHAIRLIFT

The Banff area's Sunshine Village is building the first heated lift in Canada complete with footrests and bubble covers. It's called the TeePee Town LX and will open this November!

NEW LIFTS AT U.S. RESORTS

Utah's Solitude Mountain Resort, now owned by Deer Valley, has upgraded the Summit chair to an express quad, creating a faster route to the expert terrain of Honeycomb Canyon.

Vail Resort is swapping out the frontside Avanti Express, which was a quad, with a high-speed six-pack with a loading conveyor belt in the hopes of dispersing skiers more quickly from the Lionshead.

Purgatory, in Colorado, has a new high-speed quad chairlift and three new runs just west of the new lift.

#1 SKI DESTINATIONS IN THE WORLD

Despite poor snow conditions last season, France sold 53.9 million skier days last season. The United States was a close second, with 53.6 million skier days and Austria was in third place with 51.8 million.



SELLER OF TRAVEL

2093324-40



SLO SKIERS PRESENT:

FEBRUARY 20—27 , 2016

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- ◆ 7 NIGHTS LODGING FOREST SUITE HOTEL ROOMS
CONVENIENTLY LOCATED STEPS FROM THE HEAVENLY GONDOLA
- ◆ FULL BREAKFAST DAILY
- ◆ 5 DAYS LIFT TICKETS AT HEAVENLY, NORTHSTAR OR KIRKWOOD
- ◆ WELCOME AND FAREWELL PARTIES



PACKAGE PRICE: DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

\$ 899 SENIOR \$955 ADULT



\$ 674 NON SKIER \$ 599 VAIL PASS PRICE

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT TRIP LEADER; LAUREN NAGLE

MLNSKIER@GMAIL.COM 805-636-0477

SLO SKIERS

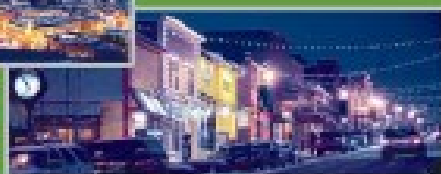
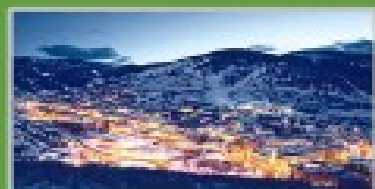


 PARK CITY

MARCH 19 - 26, 2016

Package Includes:

- Roundtrip Airfare: SFO to SLC via Delta Airlines
- Roundtrip Transfers: SLC to Lodging
- 7-Night Stay at the Park Station Condominiums
- 5-Day lift ticket for Park City / Canyons
- Welcome and Farewell Parties



Package Price:

\$1324

per person
double occupancy

* Non-Skiers: \$1134

* Vail Pass Price: \$1034

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please contact your trip leader:

LAUREN NAGLE

mlnskier@gmail.com • 805-636-0477



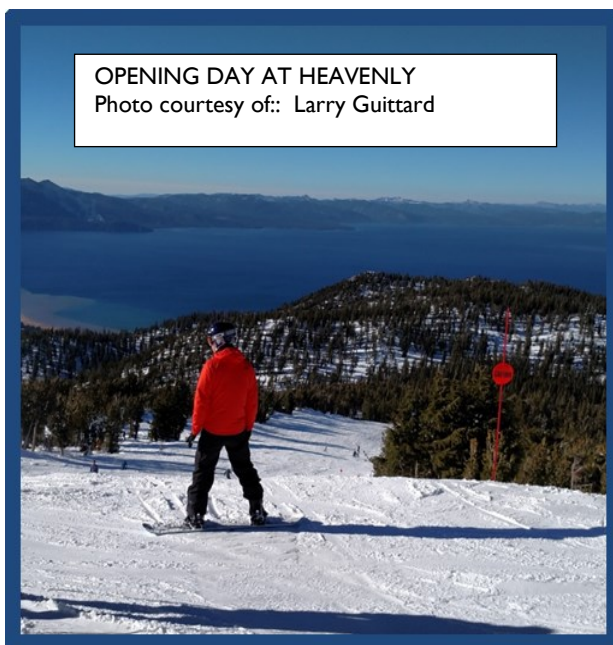
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SKI SEASON HAS BEGUN

BROOMFIELD, Colo. – Nov. 11, 2015 - Another in a series of intense winter storms will make for this season's first hat trick for skiers across Colorado, Utah and Lake Tahoe, where some of the most popular ski resorts are opening at a record pace.

"This early-November storm is taking a perfect path across the western US, dropping snow on most major mountain ranges, including Tahoe, northern Utah, and most of Colorado," notes Joel Gratz, founding meteorologist at OpenSnow.com. "This storm has pushed the snowpack above average for Tahoe and will increase the already above-average snowpack in much of Colorado."

This is great news for the ski industry as resorts open across the country.



There is Only One. Park City

Vail Resorts has linked two of North America's greatest ski areas – creating the largest resort in the United States with 7,300 acres of skiable terrain. We are excited to announce that **all** of our \$50 million in mountain improvement projects for this historic season **will be ready for Christmas week**, weather conditions permitting. This includes the new Quicksilver Gondola that connects Park City and Canyons creating America's largest ski resort with 7,300 skiable acres. The brand new Miners Camp restaurant. Renovations of Summit House and Red Pine restaurants. Increased snowmaking on Iron Mountain and trail widening on Chicane. And of course the upgraded Motherlode detachable high-speed 4-pack and the upgraded high-speed King-Kong Chair.

The Far West Ski Foundation

The Far West Ski Foundation has had a busy year. In July, we granted two scholarships (\$1000) to the *Fly Girls Program of Women's Ski Jumping for Development Camp*; which involves young women from the USA as young as 12, and is the development program for the national team, now taken over by the U.S. Ski Team.

We have authorized Grants, in the amount of \$500 each to *Oregon Adaptive Sports* and the *Adaptive Sports Center at Crested Butte Mountain Resort* (the site of our 2016 Mini Ski Week). Also planned, is our annual contribution to the *Vail Veterans Program*, to support their adaptive ski weeks. VVP and its partners annually draw rehabilitation patients (and clinicians if needed) from the major Armed Forces hospitals - Walter Reed, Brooks, and Balboa, bringing them to *Vail* at no cost to the patient.



This month, we are offering grants to racing schools in support of the *FWSA/FWSF Athletic Scholarship Program*, in the amount of \$11,425. The 13 scholar-athletes are trained by 9 ski racing schools in four states. This is the program's 12th year in existence.

We depend on you, fellow believers in the worth and future of snowsports, to help sustain the Far West Ski Foundation and its missions - Alpine ski racing, adaptive snowsports, the development of women's ski jumping, and preservation of the legacy of snowsports. Please take some time to think about contributing to the *Far West Ski Foundation* before the end of the year. It's easy to do. You can use your PayPal on the website farwestskifoundation.org; or you can send a check to John Reinhardt, FWSF Treasurer, 6105 SW Sheridan St, Portland, OR 97225. Make check payable to **FWSF**.

Fun Facts

- Roughly 80 countries offer some form of ski area.
- France, Austria and the USA each have around more than 3'000 ski lifts.
- 40 US states have ski resorts

No American man had won an Olympic Gold Medal in alpine skiing until 1984, when two accomplished the feat. Bill Johnson won gold in the downhill, while Phil Mahre was the champion in the slalom. Phil's brother Steve won the silver medal in the slalom in that same year. In 2006, in Torino, the U.S. earned two golds in alpine: Ted Ligety in the men's combined and Julia Mancuso in women's giant slalom.

Battle of the Drones Heats Up On The Slopes

As the use of recreational drones, to film video, is rapidly increasing in popularity, ski resorts — and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) — are scrambling to determine how to deal with this rapidly emerging new technology on the slopes. Fearing impacts with other skiers, lifts or other infrastructure, the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) has drafted its own set of rules banning the flying of personal and commercial aerial drones at ski areas.

Ski resort operators fear that without taking preemptive action, aerial video drones could one day become as ubiquitous on the slopes as GoPro POV cameras are today. Violation of the NSAA rules could result in drone confiscation and/or loss of skiing privileges, and in some areas potentially regulatory fines as well. At the same time, the NSAA is urging the FAA to allow resorts to fly their own commercial drones to assist in lift inspections, search and rescue operations and avalanche mitigation.



New Benefits Partners Join Far West

With each new season comes a few new Member Benefits and new Benefits Partners. Check out our website, under “Member Corner”. Click on “Benefits” and see what everyone is talking about! Along with all of our great lodging partners from 2015, we have now added



the *Lexington Hotel & Suites* in **Jackson Hole**. The *Powder House*, in Lake Tahoe, has opened another new shop, and we have added *Hillcrest Sports*, on the highway to **Mt. Hood**, for your shopping pleasure.

We also have an additional transportation company at our disposal.... *Bell Limo*, out of the **Reno-Tahoe** area. *Bell* will be providing 10% off your shuttle costs when you come into Reno, headed for any one of the many outstanding resorts in that area. Lastly, we have partnered with *Oregami Luggage*, a Portland-based business, for some great, uniquely styled travel

bags. Check them all out, and begin making your winter plans to include stops at some of our partner shops, lodging properties, and start taking advantage of the great discounts afforded FWSA members by our many partners. You'll be glad you did.

"Thank You" Turtle Auction Donors

Once more, please help support our community by supporting our Turtle Auction donors.



ANCIENT
PEAKS
WINERY



Robert Cazier Construction



Anna King

Caryn Maddalena



Happy holidays to all and to a wonderful 2016 ski season!

Board of Directors & Officers 2015-2016

Your Board is here for you. If you have any questions, suggestions on activities, want to be more involved, contact any of the following Directors or Officer. Remember, the SLO Skiers & Social Club is YOU!

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- ♦ **President** - Fran Long—president@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Vice President** - Steve Thatcher—vicepresident@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Secretary** - Ralph Gibson—secretary@sloskiers.org
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- ♦ **Trip Director** (Week Long) - Lauren Nagle—trips@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Weekend Trip Director**— Fran Long—president@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Membership Chair** - Teresa Rice—membership@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Ways & Means Chair** - Diane Mandala & Barbara Collins—ways@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Meet-up Coordinator** (Website) Fran Long—webmaster@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Schedule Coordinator** - Fran Long—president@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Philanthropy Chair** - Michael Krebsbach—philanthropy@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Club Photographer** Jana Favalora—photo@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Past President** - John Smith
- ♦ **Publicity Chairperson** - Pete Sarafian—publicity@sloskiers.org



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the SLO Skiers year after year!

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Do you have something newsworthy to share with the SLO Skiers? Contact Newsletter Editor, Stacey King and she'll help you get it published. Send her an email to slostacey@yahoo.com or send her a message on Meet-up!