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Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

October 2009

President's Word

Mitch Dion

Welcome to the 2009/10 ski season! It is easy to forget, after a lovely (smoke free) summer, that it actually snows here sometimes. I am starting to have "ski dreams" and hope you are, as well. Here's what's going on:

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Website

Have you checked in on our website www.farwestnordic.org lately? We hope you enjoy our "new-improved" website. Last year our membership surveys indicated that this benefit was the most highly valued by our members. Our website will continue to be one place to get all the information you need about racing and the happenings in the Nordic ski community. Special thanks to Nancy Rosenblum for the many hours of work on the website. In addition, we will continue to publish and distribute the Nordic News in early winter as the one-stop paper-lovers' guide to the season.

You can also check us out on our Facebook page. Sign up for Facebook to connect with Far West Nordic Ski Education Association.

2009-2010 Key Dates

Nov. 7 Far West Auction & Raffle,
Mt. Judah Lodge, Sugar Bowl
Jan. 24 Tahoe Rim Tour
Mar. 28 California Gold Rush
April 11 Billy Dutton Uphill

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Dues Adjustment

We will be instituting a new dues structure this season. While our basic dues rate remains the same, we are introducing a new category of dues for our RACING members who want to be scored in one of the Far West sponsored race series. It has been 9 years since we last adjusted our dues, and we feel that our memberships continue to be appropriate to the level of services provided by the Association. Pay early- rates go up January 1, 2010. See dues form on page 3 and benefits on page 4 for all the info.

Division News

The race schedule looks great. This region continues to be a mecca for both the recreational skier and the citizen racer. Watch the website for the complete schedule.

Look for a 50th anniversary celebration of the Squaw Valley Olympics this January at Squaw Valley. Should be a great celebration of winter sports, and Nordic events will definitely be included.

Thanks to local trainer/tri-athlete Mark Redpath for inspiring us with his epic 24 hours on his bike doing laps up and down Old Hwy 40/ Donner Summit. Mark raised money for Far West and four other charities with his efforts.

Sadly we have to report that the University of Nevada Ski Team is facing drastic budget cuts and their NCAA program is at risk of folding. Far West is exploring ways we can help, as we all appreciate having a top quality collegiate program in our area. To learn more please visit nevadanordic.blogspot.com. If you would like to help, please contact August Teague at ateague@unr.edu or 775-682-6943.

Seniors Program: Our Senior program is growing. It was great to have Ian Case represent our Division last year. This year we are providing coaching, training and travel assistance to three athletes to further their skiing goals. Ian has returned, joined by former UNR skier Chelsea Holmes and former Denver University and UNR skier Kara LaPoint.

Juniors News: Summer camps provided lots of fun and valuable training. The camps scheduled for this fall:

***West Yellowstone** Nov. 21-29

***Local Thanksgiving Camp:** Nov. 27-29

Masters News: Expect a full schedule of clinics and offerings for Masters with the top coaches that we are privileged to have in our Division. Committee Chairs John Gerbino and Julie Bradley are planning clinics that will help you race to your full potential including waxing clinics and pre-course "race strategy skis".

The Sierra Ski Chase: The SSC will have a new format this year, with "every race counts" and all ages of skiers (including Juniors) welcome. Should be lots of fun.

Giving Back: Please support the organization by volunteering at one of our four fundraising events. The first event is our annual Auction and Raffle on Nov. 7th. Email info@farwestnordic.org for how you can help. The Fund Raising committee meets before each event to plan, come see how you can be involved. Next meeting is Oct. 29. Look for time and place on the website.

Other ways to help: Become a MEMBER, participate or volunteer in our races, donate (FWNSEA is a Charitable 501 (3) in good standing) or **Join the Far West Board or one of our Committees**. The Association is only as strong as its leaders. Our annual meeting and election of Board members is the second Monday in April, 2010. Come on out and get involved! Qualifications: a willingness to donate your energy and ideas to promote the sport that your love.

Thanks for your membership, and I hope to see you on the trails! ❖



FAR WEST NORDIC

2009/2010 MEMBERSHIP FORM

JOIN NOW for 2009/2010! Or join on-line at www.farwestnordic.org
 Far West membership year runs from October 1, 2009-September 30, 2010.
 Make checks payable to FWNSEA
 MAIL TO: FWNSEA, P.O. BOX 10046, TRUCKEE, CA 96162

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL	INDIVIDUAL	FAMILY
SUPPORTING	\$100	\$150
RACING	\$45 (\$55 after 12/31)	\$75 (\$85 after 12/31)
BASIC	\$20 (\$30 after 12/31)	\$35 (\$45 after 12/31)
JUNIOR	\$10	--

PRIMARY OR INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

BIRTH DATE

 MONTH DAY YEAR

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE (____) _____

ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS (for family memberships only - all members must reside at the same address)

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

BIRTH DATE

 MONTH DAY YEAR

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

- Supporting Individual.....\$100
- Supporting Family.....\$150
- Racing Individual.....\$45 (\$55 after 12/31/09)
- Racing Family.....\$75 (\$85 after 12/31/09)
- Basic Individual.....\$20 (\$30 after 12/31/09)
- Basic Family.....\$35 (\$45 after 12/31/09)
- Junior (single member under 20).....\$10

CHECK ONE

Far West may occasionally provide our mailing list to ski industry organizations and/or manufacturers. If you do NOT want your name included on this list, please check.

ADDITIONAL DONATION.....

TOTAL ENCLOSED.....

In our opinion, all Far West membership dues should be fully tax deductible given the nature of benefits associated with membership and as we are a 501(c)(3) California non-profit corporation. Check with your accountant regarding your tax deductibility.

CREDIT CARD NUMBER (VISA or MASTERCARD ONLY) EXPIRATION DATE

- -
 MONTH YEAR

NAME ON CARD _____

CARD BILLING ADDRESS (if different from above) _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS

SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIPS are offered as a structured way for individuals and families to donate a major level of financial support to Far West Nordic. As a nonprofit, we are completely dependent on the generous contributions of our members and the community that we serve. If you highly value what Far West Nordic does, please consider signing up for a Supporting Membership. Supporting members receive all the benefits of Basic and Racing Membership, a special Far West membership card, and the sincere appreciation of the entire Far West community.

RACING MEMBERSHIPS offer all the benefits of Basic Membership, PLUS eligibility to compete and be scored in any Far West Race series, specifically: the Sierra Ski Chase competition, the Fischer Cup, and the new Masters Challenge competition.

BASIC MEMBERSHIP benefits include ski area discounts, eligibility to enroll in Far West programs and clinics, and eligibility to participate in the Sierra Ski Chase. Basic members also receive our periodic e-mails with important news and updates throughout the year. Basic members who complete the minimum number of qualifying races for the Sierra Ski Chase will earn a participation prize and are eligible for Ski Chase raffle prizes. Basic members will however not be scored in the Sierra Ski Chase competition -- members who wish to be scored in the Sierra Ski Chase competition must sign up for Racing Membership.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP benefits include eligibility for Far West's highly acclaimed junior programs, Far West scholarships, access to Far West training logs, and new for 2009-2010 eligibility to participate in the Sierra Ski Chase (eligible for participation prize, but not scoring or raffle prizes).

BENEFITS SUMMARY:

Trail pass discounts at many of our area's cross-country ski centers

Junior camps and trips: Far West Juniors are eligible to sign up for our many Junior Camps and Trips held throughout the year

Far West programs and clinics: Far West members are eligible to register for various Far West programs, including on-snow clinics at discounted member rates.

The Sierra Ski Chase: this is a low-key, age-handicapped racing series that rewards both participation and race performance. The Sierra Ski Chase is open to Far West members of all ages, including juniors.

Masters Challenge: the Masters Challenge is new for 2009-2010 and replaces prior years' Masters Team competition. This race series recognizes the achievements and perseverance of Far West Nordic's skiers over the age of 30.

Fischer Cup: this race series is all about being the fastest.

Far West Scholarships: each year we award scholarships to promising junior athletes

Far West Nordic website: members only access to historical race results for the last 10+ years, our fun archives of photo and multimedia, and informative articles on training, technique, coaching tips, and other fun stuff.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE at <http://www.farwestnordic.org/> for detailed descriptions of all Far West benefits, including ski area discounts.

- Family membership includes Supporting, Racing, or Basic Membership for up to two adults and Junior Memberships for individuals under the age of 20. All individuals applying for a family membership must reside at the same address.
- All memberships are on a 12-month basis, valid from October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010.
- We strive to keep the price of junior memberships as low as possible; junior memberships rates are subsidized by individual adult, family, racing, and supporting memberships.

DECEMBER RACE SCHEDULE

Dec. 6	Sunday	Kirkwood 10 km Freestyle	Kirkwood XC	10 km/5 km Freestyle
Dec. 13	Sunday	Royal Gorge 10 km Freestyle	Royal Gorge	10 km/5 km Freestyle
Dec. 13	Sunday	Tannenbaum 10 km. Classic	Tamarack Lodge	10 km/5 km Classic
Dec. 20	Sunday	Sierra Nordic Duathlon	ASC Training Center	4.5 km. Classic into 4.5 km. Skate Continuous Pursuit
Dec. 27	Sunday	Snowshoe Thompson Classic	ASC	10 km; J2's: 5 km; J1/OJ: 10 km.

JUNIOR OLYMPIC QUALIFIERS

Dec. 27	Sunday	Snowshoe Thompson Classic	Auburn Ski Club	10 km; J2's: 5 km; J1/OJ: 10 km.
Jan. 10	Sunday	Lakes Basin 15 km.	Tamarack Lodge	15 km/Jrs. 5 km Skate
Jan. 18	Monday	Sierra Skogsloppet	Tahoe Donner XC	15 km Skate
Feb. 14	Sunday	ASC Classic Sprints	Auburn Ski Club	1 km

Note: Schedule is subject to change. Check our website for updates.

We invite you to join us. Far West Nordic Board meetings are generally held on the second Monday each month (except July). Check the website for details.

We're looking forward to another great ski season. Think snow!



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