



# The Ancient Skier

P. O. Box 331 Kirkland, WA 98083

Fall-Winter 2014 -2015

## NORTHWEST SKI HALL OF FAME BANQUET HONORS FIVE

Early October's biennial Seattle banquet drew well over 100 Ancient Skiers and friends to the Nile Golf and

Country Club to induct Susie Corrock Luby, Doris (and Joe) Harlacher, Jim Martinson and Wini Jones (l-r in photo) into the Northwest Ski Hall of Fame.

Socializing kicked off the event and personal tales from the inductees wrapped up the evening, with much going on in-between.

New board members were introduced by President Bill Price, with one of them, Kirby Gilbert, providing a short overview of the new Ancient Skiers website.

### Hansen honored

Two decades of service and commitment to the organization by John Hansen, outgoing president, were recognized by presentation to him of a handsome 1940s Anderson & Thompson ski bearing a specially inscribed plaque

After dinner, Bill Price kicked off the Hall of Fame induction with presentation to each inductee of a framed certificate honoring their selection. Several former inductees in the Northwest Ski Hall of Fame also were on hand to welcome the new group, including Jannette Burr Johnson, John Hansen, Delight Mahalko, Gus Raaum, Walt Taulbee, Kjell Bakke, Yosh Nakagawa, Bob Cram, and John Woodward.

Inductees spoke and reflected on key moments of their past. A common theme expressed the importance to them of family and friends in the supporting and shaping of their ambitions and interests.

### Susie takes an Olympic bronze

Susie Corrock Luby talked of her experiences learning to ski at Crystal Mountain and Sun Valley and spending a year skiing as a youth with her family in Europe. She looked back at the Sapporo Winter Games and how she was considered a dark horse leading into

the competition. But, with confidence she had developed through experiences training with Jack Nagel and others on Crystal Mountain's challenging terrain, she was able to achieve remarkable success by taking third in the downhill, winning an Olympics' bronze medal.

### Doris accepts honor for herself and Joe

Doris Harlacher reflected on Joe's and her experiences living through periods of widely changing ski instruction methods leading up to the establishment of a defined American ski technique. She noted the many roles she and Joe took on over the years and gave special thanks to the region's ski area pioneers, such as the Moffetts, Kehrs, and Tanners. She pointed out that, if it was not for their persistent efforts maintaining and improving the early ski areas, most of us would not likely have had the opportunity to realize our achievements and enjoy the alpine skiing we have today.

### Jim inspires with comeback to skiing

Jim Martinson spoke of his early love for skiing and how that was severely interrupted during his military service and by a disabling injury in Vietnam. A long period of recovery and support of family and friends got him back into skiing through the Outdoors for All Foundation and, eventually, to winning a gold medal at the Winter Paralympic Games in Tignes, France. He emphasized the importance to him to be self-sufficient and to have the drive that led him to invent special devices that allow disabled skiers on the mono ski to get on and off chairlifts without assistance.

### Wini sets stage for ski clothing design

Wini Jones gave fascinating glimpses into the



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## MUSEUMS MAKING PROGRESS

At the banquet, groups from the two Washington-based ski museum initiatives were on hand to discuss and promote their plans for ski and snowsport museums at Leavenworth and Snoqualmie Pass.

### In Leavenworth

The Northwest Ski Museum and Ski Hall of Fame, a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, has a new board of directors and a goal of building a world-class facility in Leavenworth that will celebrate the rich history of skiing in the Northwest.

Their focus is on historical preservation of skiing and mountain sports. With the completion of the installation of the Northwest Ski Hall of Fame exhibits in the Enzian Inn in Leavenworth last winter, the group is moving on to the next step of installing mini exhibits in several locations in Leavenworth and moving into its long-term facility planning and capital fundraising campaign.

The museum group envisions a green-built, self-sustaining facility that provides an education component for mountain sports and medical rescue training. They are trying to meet a goal of raising two million dollars by spring 2017 to be eligible for a one million dollar grant from the Washington Historical Society to help with a “bricks and mortar” museum project. Call Georgia Bakke for more information at 509-860-3424 or visit <http://www.leavenworthskiheritage.org>.

### At the Summit

Summer construction began in earnest on a commercial building at the top of Snoqualmie Pass along SR 906. When construction is complete in March/April of 2015, the Washington State Ski and Snowboard Museum (WSSSM) will open in a strategically located, 1,200-square-foot space situated between a restaurant and a brew-pub that is expected to bustle with activity throughout the year.

The WSSSM is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization spearheading the museum’s development with the expertise of Seattle-based EDX for design and planning services and Turner Exhibits, Inc. for fabrication of the many museum exhibit displays. Fundraising efforts have reached more than 80 percent of the museum board’s goal of \$600,000.

## 32nd ANNUAL SUN VALLEY REUNION SET FOR JAN. 17-24, 2015

Major remodeling is under way for the Sun Valley Lodge, with reopening scheduled for June 2015. Meanwhile, though, it will be enthusiastic skiing and mingling, as usual, during the Ancient Skiers’ 32nd reunion at the Idaho resort.

Our Sun Valley week will start with registration on Saturday, Jan. 17, 3 to 6 p.m., in the Sun Valley Inn Continental Room. You will get your packet with name tags, reunion event schedule, information about ticket exchange privileges, and a coupon for a free drink. There also will be a no-host bar for all to enjoy while visiting with other Ancients, and sign-up sheets will be available for the week’s various activities. Highlights will include the Monday Western dinner night, so be sure to bring your finest Western wear. Friday’s wind-up banquet will be a dinner-dance, so bring your dancing shoes, too.

With this Newsletter are two forms: “REGISTRATION FORM” and “RETAIN THIS COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS.” Fill out the registration form, total the event charges, and mail the completed form with your check made out to and mailed to ANCIENT SKIERS, P.O. Box 1295, Sun Valley, ID 83353, post-marked no later than Nov. 29, 2014. Please: no email responses. Copy the information from the Registration Form onto the Retain This Copy for Your Records form and bring it to the Saturday registration in case any discrepancies arise. You’ll also find copies of the forms at the Ancients’ new website: <http://www.ancientskiers.com/> (Click on “EVENTS” at the top of the screen and then select “Sun Valley trip.”)

Those who did not book a combined package of lodging and lifts with the Sun Valley Company may purchase discounted lift tickets at the inside ticket counter at River Run Lodge.

Questions? Call Marlys Gerber at (206) 271-1575 or Carol Ward at (208) 309-0168.

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**The museum will showcase** a number of high-definition monitors with digital images and film clips enhancing artifact displays. Exhibits will highlight the history of Washington’s Nordic and alpine skiing traditions as well as snowboarding, with special displays featuring the legacies of modern ski manufacturers such as K2 and Mervin Snowboards. The museum will be free to the public and staffed by volunteers.

More information can be found on their website: [www.wsssm.org](http://www.wsssm.org)

## ANCIENTS GO DIGITAL

Visit our new website:

<http://www.ancientskiers.com>

## ANCIENT SKIER BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE INTRODUCED BY PRESIDENT BILL PRICE



*The Line-up l-r : Board member, Newsletter Chair and Web Master Kirby Gilbert, Secretary Mary Lynne Evans, President Bill Price, Director-at-large Judy Sweeney, Treasurer Tex Steere, Membership Chair Leland Rosenland*

### ANCIENT SKIER BANQUET *continued from page 1*

past inner workings of Roffe and noted how John Woodward, in attendance at the banquet, had played a key role in getting Sam Roffe started in the ski apparel business. Of special interest was the fast-paced project in which she had to outfit the 1972 U.S. woman's ski team in three months -- tying back to a connection between Susie and her, brought up by Susie in earlier remarks. (Following the banquet, Wini also provided a short visual presentation on changing ski fashions over the years.)

A highlight of the evening was John Woodward's attendance. John, who is nearing his 100th birthday, walked among the crowd receiving much attention and was as enthusiastic as ever in recalling his past, including his run in the 1934 inaugural Silver Skis race on Mount Rainier. That's John (photo left) holding a 1930s Anderson & Thompson ski boot with Dave Moffett.



*(l to r) Marge Griffin, Doug Devin, Chuck Welsh, Len Gerber & Bob Cram  
"It's always fair weather when Ancient Skiers get together!"*



*John Hansen, on right, accepts a prized award (an ancient ski with an ancient binding, and a special plaque) from Dave Moffett and Len Gerber. The award was in recognition of John's many years as President extraordinaire of the Ancient Skiers.*

## REMEMBERING

**Bill Talbott 1927 - 2014**

Bill started skiing at The Milwaukee Ski Bowl with his brother and sister at age 12. He joined the Seattle Ski Club and the Franklin High School Quakers ski team. He led the team to City and State ski championships in 1944-46 and was president of the Seattle Ski Council. He was the top racer of the Seattle high schools, winning many trophies.

In 1947, at Sun Valley for an intercollegiate competition, he got a date for the New Year's Eve party with a skier from an avid skiing family from Yakima, Virginia Schwaegler. That led to their marriage in 1951. After 1947, Bill served as Midshipman in the U.S Merchant Marine, making an around-the-world trip.

Bill returned to the University of Washington to earn a degree in business administration in 1950. He began working for the Mobil Oil Company in the Los Angeles area where he and Ginny raised four children, Steve, John, Laurie and Kathy (who all survive him) and all became expert skiers, skiing at Krakta Ridge and Mammoth Mountain.

He retired to Sun River, Ore., skiing Bachelor on a regular basis, but he always made the Ancient Skiers Reunion at Sun Valley each year. His two daughters would come with him after his wife died, and he was always warmly greeted by having these two lovely young ladies among our group of ancients.

Bill skied into his 80s and then moved to Reno to be close to his son, Jack, and his family.

**Dick Bale 1930 - 2014**

Dick grew up in Los Angeles, but, after graduating from high school there, he started college at Oregon State, where lettered in track and field. He transferred to the University of Washington and in 1952 earned a degree in business administration and also a letter in pole vaulting.

During this period, he started skiing, which soon became a life-long passion. It was through skiing he met Marilyn Lockwood and they married in 1953. Teaching skiing to children in the Jack Nagel and Buzz Fiorini ski schools was one of his biggest joys, and he and Marilyn also became members of the Crystal Mountain Founders Club.

Dick spent many happy times with his family, wife Marilyn, and daughters Lisa and Melinda (who all survive him) at the Skier's Inc. Lodge at Crystal. He skied at Sun Valley at Ancient Skier Reunions, and went heli-skiing for a challenge to learn how to ski deep powder. His daughters are keeping Dick's memory alive as they and their families continue skiing at Crystal and staying at the Skier's Inc, Lodge.

**Ross Williams 1928 - 2014**

Ross's skiing started in early life, so he was able to be on the Roosevelt High School ski team as one of their leading competitors.

His competitive ski racing continued with the University of Washington ski team along side Bill Talbott and Rees Stevenson, winning many individual honors and trophies for the UW from 1946 to 1950. He lettered as a four-way competitor in skiing.

At the UW, he met Mary Jean Cochrane (Corky). After Ross got his degree in business administration in 1950, they were married. He then served in the Navy on an escort destroyer in the Korean Conflict until 1953. After discharge, he taught skiing for Buzz Fiorini, earned a pilot's license on float planes, and started pursuit of his career in finance. Living in Portland, Seattle, Denver, Los Angeles, and, finally, San Francisco, he rose to be the head of the Bank of California.

In 1994, Ross and Corky moved to Sun Valley, where he left fast tracks on Baldy daily until into his 80s. He then followed his passion for golf until his death on a Victoria, B.C., golf course in August.

In 1984-85, he served on the board of the U.S. Ski Team. Living in Sun Valley, he became an active member of the Sun Valley Reunion Committee, serving as chairman for several years. In 2010, he was inducted into the Northwest Ski Hall of Fame.

Ross is survived by his wife, Corky; sons Ross Peter and Jeff; daughter Allison Wallace; and four grandchildren.

**Ancient Skiers Board of Directors**

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**Newsletter**

Tina Rieman, Newsletter Design  
 tinarieman@tumwater.net  
 Kirby Gilbert - Editor and writer  
 Mike Dederer, Edits and copy writing  
 Leland Rosenlund - photographer

**Membership Applications  
& Roster Chair**

Leland Rosenlund  
 19675 S.E. 24th Way  
 Sammamish, WA 98075  
 lelandr@sports-unlmt.com  
 cell 425-890-5090