



# The Ancient Skier

P. O. Box 15712 • Seattle, WA 98115

Summer 2012

## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR THE NORTHWEST SKI HALL OF FAME

At our Biennial Banquet October 7, 2012, members of the Northwest ski community will be inducted into the Northwest Ski Hall of Fame. The inductees will be selected from nominations submitted to David Gossard, President of the Northwest Ski Museum and Hall of Fame, 1410 East Pine St., #425, Seattle, WA 98122, 206-324-5081, or by e-mail, carolyngossard@comcast.net. Deadline for submittal is August 20, 2012.

Nominees may be from the skiing community at large and are not limited to members of the Ancient Skiers organization. Nominations should be submitted with statements of others supporting the nomination. The three Ancient Skiers below have already been nominated.

### Yosh Nakagawa

While a senior at Garfield High School in Seattle, Yosh started working for Scott Osborn, Olav Ulland and Hal Kihlman in 1950 in the former Eddie Bauer store at Second and Seneca. He continued working for Osborn & Ulland Sport Shop while going to the University of Washington. Yosh came to be the "O-U Kid." He rose from being the janitor and stock boy to become president and CEO of O & U. Yosh and Olav were the leaders after Hal Kihlman left during the period of the greatest growth in the ski industry.

The store relocated to another Eddie Bauer location at Third and Virginia and continued to thrive. They opened stores in Bellevue, Northgate, Southcenter, Burien, Portland and San Francisco. Yosh promoted the King Headway ski instruction program at Snoqualmie Pass. He continually brought notable skiers to his stores so locals could meet their heroes. A few were Phil and Steve Mahre, Stein Erikson, Wayne Wong and Jean-Claude Killy.

The most notable merchandising Yosh was involved in was the Labor Day weekend "Sniagrab" ski sales at the Seattle Center. "Sniagrab" is "bargains" spelled backwards. For 40 years, these sales offered quality ski gear at very reasonable prices. They were so popular that skiers camped out for days prior to the sale opening so they would be able to buy the "door bust-

*Continued on page 3*

### Kjell Bakke

Kjell grew up in Leavenworth and began skiing in 1936 when he was three years old. His father, Magnus, was his instructor. While in high school he was a member of the ski team and competed in x-c, jumping, nordic combined and 4-way events.

In 1951, he was awarded a four-year ski scholarship to the University of Washington and competed in all the nordic and alpine events. In 1955, he was chosen to participate in the Winter Olympic training competition at Steamboat Springs, Colorado. In 1955, he won the ski jumping competition held indoors at the Civic Ice Arena in Seattle.

From 1956 to 1958 he served as a member of the Leavenworth Winter Sports Club board of directors, and again from 1995 to 2008.

In 1959, Kjell received his certification as a national ski jumping judge. He judged tournaments throughout the West. In 1963, he was on the panel of judges for the NCAA jumping championships in Gunnison, Colorado. He performed in that capacity until 1979. Kjell was one of many nordic officials from the Pacific Northwest who officiated at the 1960 Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley.

He retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 1985 and returned to Leavenworth, at which time he began coaching the boys and girls in ski jumping.

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### Walter Taulbee

From 1949 to 1953, Walt was a member of Seattle's Franklin High School ski team. He won the 1953 Beta Cup, an all-city competition, at Stevens Pass, and he was named to the all-city and all-state ski teams.

1953-56: Walt qualified for the PNSA ski team and skied in the Nationals at Franconia, New Hampshire and the Internationals at Stowe, Vermont. In 1953, he won the Arnold Lunn Downhill at Mt. Hood. Also in the same year, Walt won the PNSA giant slalom championship at Snoqualmie Pass and the PNSA downhill at Stevens Pass.

1956-57: He skied for the University of Washington and won the NCAA downhill at Winter Park, Colorado; won the downhill and GS at the International Collegiate Championships at Banff, Alberta; and was selected to the NCAA All-American Ski Team.

1958-1963: Walt began his coaching career for the Washington Athletic Club, and he was selected by the PNSA to coach the junior boys team to compete at Aspen. In 1959, the PNSA named him to coach the junior boys team at Maine's Sugar Loaf International. Additionally, from 1958 to 1962, Walt coached the Washington State junior boys team and the junior American Legion team that won the junior championship at Sun Valley. His state team won twice, beating Colorado, California and Utah.

Also during this period, he served as chairman of the coaches committees for both PNSA and the USSA.

## ANCIENT SKIER MEMBER GLORIA OSBERG RECEIVES RECOGNITION

*Gloria Moore Osberg was honored July 2, 2011, at a trail dedication by the Wood River Land Trust, Idaho Conservation League, and Ketchum Ranger District.*

A trail in the mountains a few miles north of Sun Valley, Idaho has been named for Gloria Moore Osberg. Gloria started skiing at Stevens Pass during World War II, worked for the Sun Valley Company in 1951 as the secretary of the Sun Valley Ski Club while continuing skiing, left when being married, and returned to Sun Valley in 1979. During summers, she hiked the trails in the Sun Valley area and realized a hiking guide would be very useful for these trails. So, in collaboration with Ann Hollingshead, she researched 70 different trails and created an unusual guide book.



The book covered 70 hikes, with each hike on a separate page with the trail description on the front of the page and a USGS map with the trail marked on the back. What was unique was that the book was a three-ring binder so the page of the trail one wished to hike could be removed and inserted in a plastic sleeve which came with the book. It was titled "Day Hikes Near Sun Valley."



With her husband, John, she was very active in the Ancient Skier Sun Valley Reunions when our group was growing in the late 80's and early 90's. Each year, they graciously hosted a wonderful cocktail party for us at their home. The popularity of these parties contributed greatly to the increased attendance at the Sun Valley Reunions to where continuing the cocktail parties was no longer possible.



*The Gloria Moore Osberg Trail, formerly known as the Ridgeline Trail, is a 10-mile trail running along the ridge between Fox Peak and the Baker Lake trailhead.*

## ANCIENT SKIERS 2013 - 30th ANNUAL SUN VALLEY REUNION

Arrangements have been made for the 30th Sun Valley Reunion January 19-26, 2013. The reservation booking form was sent with the Spring Newsletter. When booking a room, a booking code is no longer used. Just tell the reservationist you're with the Ancient Skier group. Call Sun Valley at 1-800-786-8259.

The form for registering for the reunion will be sent with the Winter Newsletter near the end of October. Deadline for signup is November 28, 2012. If you plan to be away from your home in November, arrange for someone to send in your registration form before the deadline. Changes in reunion registration will be permitted through the first week of January.

*Marlys Gerber, Chairperson, 206-271-1575  
Becky Klassen, Registrar, 208-309-0366*

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THE HALL OF FAME BANQUET

Our Biennial Banquet for induction of members from the Northwest ski community to the Northwest Ski Hall of Fame will be held Sunday, October 7, 2012 at the Nile Country Club. Details are being finalized. The registration form for the banquet will be sent with the Fall Newsletter in early September.

## THE NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL

About 165 of our members received the Spring Newsletter by e-mail. This saved our organization about \$90 in printing and mailing costs. The Board of the Ancient Skiers encourages more participation in the sending of our newsletters by e-mail.

If you wish to receive your newsletter this way, please e-mail our Roster Committee Chair, Carole Taylor, at [taylorски-erес@comcast.net](mailto:taylorски-erес@comcast.net).

## SOLVING MYSTERIES

In the Spring Newsletter pictures of the Sun Valley reunion, a couple on Page 4, Picture 7 was unidentified. They are Jim and Rosalie Hopper. Would the couple shown on Page 5, Picture 3 please identify yourselves.

Call John Hansen, 206-726-0674 or e-mail him at [johnski-2sea7047@aol.com](mailto:johnski-2sea7047@aol.com) so you can be recognized.

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## SNAPSHOTS IN TIME . . . 75 YEARS AGO

*The following appeared in the November-December 2011 issue of Skiing Heritage and is reprinted with permission from Skiing Heritage. To subscribe, go to [www.skiinghistory.org](http://www.skiinghistory.org).*

### Ski Bus and Eddie Bauer Bargains

Leave your automobile at home and take the ski bus from downtown Seattle to Snoqualmie Pass. You will enjoy the trip thoroughly relaxed, talking, singing and laughing with your companions. No slipping off the road, getting stuck in the snow bank or frozen radiators. The round-trip fare is \$1.50.

Eddie Bauer advertises a package of hickory, flat-top nicely finished skis with canvas climbers, Norwegian Gresvig bindings and imported ski poles \$6.45. Ski boots, \$6.95. Bauer ski pants from \$4.45 to \$9.25.

### Seattle Ski Boom

The Northwest is ready to take over the esteemed title of "The Switzerland of America." Seattle is the home of 20 manufacturers of skiing clothes and equipment. There are 40 firms annually selling \$60,000 of ski clothes and equipment. Seattle ski clubs have more than 3,000 members. It's estimated that people spend \$400,000 at Northwest ski resorts.

*Items above from Ski Magazine's premier issue, Winter, 1936*

## SKI HALL OF FAME NOMINEES

**Yosh Nakagawa** *Continued from page 1*  
ers.” Yosh’s promotion through the local newspapers and television brought crowds so large that Yosh had to have the Seattle Mounted Police be present for crowd control. Yosh stocked these sales with good ski equipment at prices that allowed families wanting to begin skiing to be outfitted, allowed last year’s beginners to move to advanced equipment, and provided products for advanced and expert skiers. Consequently, Yosh’s retailing was a major factor in the increased popularity of skiing in the Northwest as thousands benefited from Yosh’s philosophy to make happy skiers.

After 45 years with O & U Sports, Yosh retired and now is active with the National Park system to establish a National Historic Site about the Minidoka Internment Camp near Twin Falls, Idaho, where he was incarcerated with his family during the Second World War.

**Kjell Bakke** *Continued from page 1*

In 1994, he was appointed to the Stevens Pass Greenway board of directors and also participated in the planning and promotion of a ski museum to be located in Leavenworth. This is an ongoing effort and is supported by the Northwest Ski Museum and Hall of Fame.

He feels his greatest achievement is the successful fundraising for the building of a Leavenworth jumping hill for training youngsters, which includes a cable lift for uphill access.

In 1999, he was the named original founder of the Ski Hill Heritage Foundation which has been promoting the Leavenworth Ski Museum. He is also the official head jumping judge at the annual Bakke-Cup, a 3-way competition for youth 6-18, named in his honor.

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**You Know You’re An Ancient Skier If**  
... you remember when driving up the last grades to the Pass, the windshield wipers would slow down or stop because the vacuum that operated them was being sucked off by the engine.

## ~ REMEMBERING ~

### **Ivar “Buzz” Birkeland, Jr. 1932 - 2012**

Buzz grew up with his ski instructor father, Ivar, a Northwest Ski Hall of Fame member, supported his children’s ski racing, skied areas world-wide, had over a 1,000,000 vertical feet over 25 years of heli-skiing in Canada, and was U.S. Ski Team doctor for eight years. Buzz skied every season at Sun Valley with his wife, Joanne, starting in 1993. With her, he was active in the Sun Valley Ancient Skier Reunion committee and chaired the reunions several years. From Overlake High School in Bellevue, he went on to graduate from the University of Washington Medical School and had a 30-year practice in orthopedics and operated primarily at Swedish Hospital.

### **William (Bill) Cook ASE 1914 - 2012**

Bill skied until age 91. He graduated from MIT in aeronautical engineering in 1938 and worked at Boeing. One of his major accomplishments (with Bob Withington) was the design of Boeing’s trans-sonic (approaching the speed of sound) wind tunnel which resulted in the jet engine, swept wing airplane basic design used for planes starting with the B-47 to those of today. He skied at Stevens Pass and moved to Crystal Mountain where he and his family skied regularly while staying at their cabin at the Dalles. He is survived by his wife, Priscilla, and children Sandi, Wyatt and Carrie.

### **Bob Kruse ASE 1920 - 2011**

Bob was an early member of the Penguin Ski Club and was involved in the construction of its lodge. From Queen Anne High School in Seattle, he continued to the University of Washington, graduating in mechanical engineering. This led to his career with US West Telephone. He helped run the infamous #4 Bowl Tow at Stevens Pass. and taught skiing for Buzz Fiorini for many years. His wife, Betty, preceded him in death. He is survived by his children, Nancy and Rich.

### **Clinton Gossard 1928 - 2012**

Clinton skied at Crystal Mountain and enjoyed Sun Valley Reunions. His wife, Beth, preceded him in death. He is survived by his children, Kimberly, Camilla, and Elliot and his brother, David.

### **Ron Lyle 1926 - 2012**

Ron started skiing in high school and flipped hamburgers for Webb Moffet in the old Quonset Hut at Snoqualmie Pass. After marrying Lenore, he assisted her in the Ski Masters Ski School by helping students in trouble to set them on their way to enjoying skiing. He ran the ski rentals for their GLM program. He graduated from the University of Washington in pharmacy which became his life-long profession. He loved family activities, skiing, sailing, fishing, and hunting. He assisted Lenore in conducting European ski trips for 22 years. Flying was also one of his great pleasures. He is survived by his wife, Lenore, and children Greg and Clauden.

### **Jim Nussbaum 1923 - 2011**

Jim became a Boy Scout at an early age, graduated from Roosevelt High School in Seattle, and was very active with Boy Scouts of America in Seattle and at Camp Parsons on Hood Canal. He joined the 10th Mountain Division, trained in Camp Hale and taught mountain combat. He was wounded in the Italian campaign and received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He enrolled in the Pacific Northwest School of Photography and became a successful commercial photographer. For several early Ancient Skiers banquets, he made photographic albums of the event. He is survived by his children, Elaine, Jan and E. Michael.

## ~ REMEMBERING ~

**Jim Tupper 1928 - 2011**

Jim graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and did a residency in orthopedics at the University of Washington. He specialized in spinal and scoliosis treatment. Jim was a Navy doctor during the Korean war. He was a founder of Skiers, Inc. at Crystal Mountain, where he skied with his family. He was at many of our Sun Valley Reunions. Jim is survived by his wife, Sylvia, and children Brad, Christy, Karl and Kathie.

**Henry "Hank" Simonson ASE 1918 - 2011**

Hank went from Ballard High School to graduate from the University of Washington in 1940. He was a pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps in the South Pacific from 1941 to 1946, landing troops in Japan on V-J Day +1. He became a partner in the Anderson and Thompson (A&T) Ski Company with John Woodward. A&T became famous for locally building wood skis and manufacturing ski poles and ski racks. A&T was the first distributor of K2 skis and Salomon bindings. A&T was sold and Hank retired in 1975. The Republic of Austria appointed him Honorary Austrian Consulate General in 1960, and, later, he received the "Grand Decoration of Honor" for his 24 years of service. In 1988, the U.S. Olympic Ski Committee honored Hank for dedication and service to the ski industry. He cherished being selected as King Neptune XXXIX for the 1978 Seafair. He is survived by his wife, Lois, and children Susan and Nancy. He is preceded in death by his son Gary and brother Justin.

**Ralph Eskenazi ASE 1919 - 2011**

Ralph was born in Seattle and graduated from Garfield High School and the University of Washington in aeronautical engineering. He supported his education by selling shoes for Nordstrom and the Bon Marche. He had a long career in aviation at Boeing. He was an active skier, hiker and climber and an early member of the Mountaineers. He truly loved the Cascades and Olympics.

**Karl Stingl, Jr. 1922 - 2012**

Karl was born in Elbenberg, Czechoslovakia. Sensing the beginning of WW II, his parents sent him to Bremerton to live with a cousin. He graduated from Bremerton High School in 1939.

Skiing was his way of life. At eleven, he was a competitive jumper and cross country racer. He began jumping for the Seattle Ski Club after the Norwegians in the club discovered what a great jumper he was. As a junior, he won every contest he entered. The club introduced him to slalom skiing. Karl was soon a top competitor in jumping and slalom events. In the 1942 Snoqualmie Summit Team Championships, he took home Blue Ribbons in the jumping, slalom, downhill and men's team events.

Karl was in the 10th Mountain Division from its early formation, fighting in the Aleutians on Kiska and in Italy. In the closing days of the war in the Apennines Mountains, shell fire flipped his Jeep, injuring him. He received the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star and many campaign ribbons.

After the war, Karl taught skiing at Aspen, Sun Valley and Alta. He actively ski raced and was an alternate on the 1948 Olympic ski team. Stevens Pass became his ski home and, through the Penguin Ski Club, he met Sunny and they were married in 1955. He was the University of Washington ski coach for 17 years and, for the next ten years, he worked for Webb Moffett at the Snoqualmie Pass Ski Area. In winter, he headed the ski school, and, in summer, did construction. He became a self-employed carpenter and cabinet maker.

Karl loved working in the Mighty Mites program, developing young ski racers. He was inducted into the Northwest Ski Hall of Fame in 1992, and he had received many awards for his contribution to alpine skiing and jumping.

Karl will be remembered for his great smile, his colorful accent, and his willingness to help you on the hill at any time to improve your joy of skiing.

Karl is survived by his wife, Sunny, and children, Heidi, Karl, Sandy and Christie.

## NORTHWEST SKI HALL OF FAME

*In 1987, at the second Ancient Skiers' banquet, the first of the Northwest Legends of Skiing were honored. They all had been previously inducted into the National Ski Hall of Fame.*

**1987**

Gretchen Fraser  
Don Fraser  
Otto Lang  
Hjalmer Hvam  
Grace Carter Lindley

**1990**

Graham Anderson  
Debbie Armstrong  
Hermod Bakke  
Magnus Bakke  
Kiki Cutter  
John Jay  
Jeannette Burr Johnson  
Bill Johnson  
Dick Kohnstamm  
Earle Little  
Phil Mahre  
Steve Mahre  
Fred McNeil  
Gus Raaum  
Merritt Stiles

**Also in 1990**

Walt Hampton  
Elvin (Bob ) Johnson  
Lyle St. Louis  
Olav Ulland  
*By 1992, the Northwest Ski Hall of Fame had been formed and the following people were inducted along with the above national legends.*

**1992**

Nelson Bennett  
Clarence "Buster" Campbell  
Joy Lucas  
Webb Moffett  
Karl Stingl  
**1994**  
Wolf Bauer  
Shirley Fopp  
Jim Lucas  
Betsy Withington

**1996**

Don Amick  
Dave Faires  
Buzz and Julie Fiorini  
Ed Link

**1998**

Stan DeBruler  
Hans-Otto Giese  
Bill Healy  
John Woodward  
Irv Pratt

**2000**

Art Audett  
Franz Gabl  
Bruce Kehr  
Jack Nagel  
**2002**  
Ivar (Buzz) Allsop  
Frank Cumbo  
Leif Odmark  
Hank Seidelhuber  
Elsie Seidelhuber

**2004**

Bob Cram  
Randy Garretson  
Bob Mickelson  
Bob St. Louis  
**2006**  
B Jo and Tom Allen  
Ivar Birkeland  
Walt Little  
Delight Mahalko  
**2008**  
Bill McNabb  
Otto Ross  
Rees Stevenson  
Eloise Stevenson  
**2010**  
John Hansen  
Ross Williams