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KT AWARDS BLOWOUT!

Squaw Valley suddenly has a new and exciting tradition, established with the First Annual KT Awards Ceremony and Dinner held on November 8, 2003 at the Resort at Squaw Creek. A sellout crowd of 265 people was treated to a multi-media award show accompanied with a gourmet dinner. Many ski celebrities were present along with local heroes of all ages. Several attendees commented that just the chance to be in the same room and mingle with such a group was worth the price of admission alone.

The KT Awards were presented in a broad array of categories to honorees listed below. The KT Award itself was a statue of its namesake mountain, designed and crafted by local artisan Hans Standteiner.

The KT Awards were conceived by Squaw Valley Institute to honor individuals and businesses that make the spirit of life unique to Squaw Valley. Being such a great success on its first try, the event is going to be held again in 2004, only bigger and better. Watch for the date! In addition to its goal of building a greater sense of community, the KT Awards also serve as a fundraiser to help sustain the operations of Squaw Valley Institute.

An original oil painting of KT-22 was donated by local artist, Deborah Von Zink, and was sold at live auction to Paul Arthur for \$2,500. Master of Ceremonies Eric Brandt conducted his first ever live auction like an old pro, and really whipped up enthusiasm. During the evening, a silent auction took place with many ski-oriented items being sold. Additional limited and numbered giclee prints of the painting are available through the Institute and from Gallery Keoki in The Village at Squaw Valley USA.

The following were the award categories, nominees and award winners:



Sandy Poulsen accepts her Lifetime Achievement Award as Assemblyman Tim Leslie looks on.

Lifetime Achievement Awards: Wayne & Sandy Poulsen and Alex Cushing

(Also, joint resolutions of the California State Legislature honoring Mr. & Mrs. Poulsen and Mr. Cushing were presented by Assemblyman Tim Leslie, and Nancy Lundgren representing Senator Rico Oller.)

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WHAT IS SQUAW VALLEY INSTITUTE? HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER!

Founded in 2002, Squaw Valley Institute is an organization of residents and businesses dedicated to presenting events having artistic, cultural and educational values. Through performances, lectures, classes, exhibitions and forums held in our extraordinary environment of Squaw Valley, we strive to serve residents of our surrounding region and visitors.

The Institute is a non-profit corporation under Section 501(c)(3), and all contributions and membership dues are tax deductible for the donors.

Initial funding for the establishment of the Institute has been provided by a generous grant from the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association.

Additional funding has been received from individuals, organizations and businesses that have become Founding Members or Regular Members. Many thanks to all of our [145 members](#) for their support.

Becoming a member shows your support for the Institute, its goals and vision, and will signify your belief that Squaw Valley Institute is a worthy, needed addition to the quality of life in Squaw Valley and deserving of support from the community.

Regular memberships are available for

\$25 per person, \$40 per family, \$25 per non-profit organization and \$100 per business. Members receive our newsletters and discounts to some paid events.

Board meetings are open to the public, and regular monthly meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday of each month at the Fire Station Meeting Room from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. We welcome volunteers to participate on various committees and events.

Call (530) 581-4138 or go to www.squawvalleyinstitute.org for more information. **Think about getting involved!**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS!

“Earthquakes, Faults, and Geological Disasters in the Tahoe Basin” *Dr. Rich Schweikert, Professor of Geology, University of Nevada, Reno.*

Thursday, April 8, 2004, at PlumpJack Conference Center, Squaw Valley. No-host bar and social hour starts at 6:30 pm and the presentation begins at 7:30 pm. Admission is FREE.

Lake Tahoe lies in a geologically active basin. This presentation will feature new research on active faults and large earthquakes, landslides, and tsunamis that have affected the basin during the past 10,000 years. These past events give insights into current geological hazards. Do you have earthquake insurance? Is your property close to the lakeshore? If you have these concerns, you will find this information helpful!

Dr. Schweikert is one of the foremost authorities on the geological structure and evolution of the Tahoe Basin; he has conducted research in the region for more than 25 years. He has published more than 100 technical articles and abstracts describing the present geological setting of the Lake Tahoe region and it’s extraordinary geologic past. His work has documented massive landslides and tsunamis that were generated by powerful prehistoric landslides, and suggests that similar events may occur again in the future.

“Lake Tahoe—Lake Baikal Connection” *Anthony J. Brunello, Executive Director, Tahoe-Baikal Institute.*

Thursday, June 17, 2004 at PlumpJack Conference Center, Squaw Valley. No-host bar and social hour starts at 6:30 pm and the presentation begins at 7:30 pm. Admission is FREE.

Lake Baikal in Russia has many things in common with Lake Tahoe and the two communities have formed an alliance. Baikal is also a mountain lake but is many times larger and deeper than Tahoe. Mr. Brunello will present images and interesting facts about Baikal and describe the operations and plans of the Institute he directs. Accompanying him at the presentation will be a group of science students from Russia who are visiting Tahoe as part of their studies.

More exciting programs for 2004 are now being scheduled—check our website and watch the local papers for event announcements!

MEMBERSHIP ORDER FORM

Name(s): _____

~ Individual \$25

Mailing Address: _____

~ Family \$40

City/State/Zip: _____ E-Mail _____

~ Non-profit \$25

Visa Mastercard Amex Check Total Amount: \$ _____

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Please mail this form with your check or credit card info for the appropriate amount to:

SQUAW VALLEY INSTITUTE
P.O. Box 3325, Olympic Valley, CA 96146
www.squawvalleyinstitute.org



MONSTERS EXPOSED!

Monsters have been sighted in oceans and lakes by sailors throughout history—but are they real? Is there truly a Loch Ness monster or a Tahoe Tessie? Dr. Charles Goldman, limnologist from UC Davis and the leading expert on Lake Tahoe, addressed these questions on January 8, 2004 at the PlumpJack Conference Center in Squaw Valley. His presentation titled “USO’s: Unidentified Swimming Objects” attracted a large and enthusiastic audience.

Making his second Speakers Forum visit for Squaw Valley Institute, Professor Goldman opened by telling us his slogan is “Know lakes, will travel!” In addition to Loch Ness and Tahoe, he stated that other monster sightings have occurred at Lake Manitoba and Lake Okanagan in Canada, Lake Van in Turkey, and Nahuel Huapi Lake in Argentina.

There have been many sightings of Tahoe Tessie including some by several

scientists. All Tessie sightings have one thing in common—no one ever sees the head or tail, only dark body humps in the water. Based on this, Goldman conducted a number of experiments. He showed a photo of Tessie created by filming the splash of rocks thrown into the water. Another photo shows a series of humps in the lake, but in reality are waves; wakes from earlier boats can come back and amplify.

There is a possibility that a very large sturgeon could exist in Tahoe which could have been introduced into the lake with fish stockings over the years. Sturgeon have been known to reach 1,500 pounds and live for up to 100 years. There is an ample food supply to sustain a large sturgeon as there are 50 million crayfish in Tahoe. In 1979, Goldman descended in a submersible to a depth of 1000 feet in Tahoe, but did not spot any monsters. If funding becomes available, he is hoping to get a better look next summer in a more modern sub.

While it is unlikely that Tahoe Tessie exists, the Loch Ness Monster is more

probable. Since the Irish Sea is connected to the Atlantic Ocean through a series of lochs, technically something could swim in from the ocean. Oarfish, the longest of all fish, is a ribbon-like fish that has reached 20 to 30 feet long and 400 pounds. Although it usually lives at greater depth, oarfish have been spotted on the surface and have been mistaken for sea serpents. While some photos of Nessie have been proven to be hoaxes, Goldman said photos taken in the 1970’s by Professor Robert Rains of MIT are more difficult to discount. Goldman was invited by Rains to study Loch Ness with him in August of 2003, but no sightings were made on this recent visit. No sightings of Nessie have been reported in recent years nor have any remains been found.

Professor Goldman also gave us some good news. While the clarity of Lake Tahoe has been declining about one foot per year in recent years, he now believes we have a chance to reverse that trend within the next decade. The world will be watching!

TREASURE HUNT & OLD MOVIES

The Squaw Valley Treasure Hunt is a 40-year-old tradition that had briefly lapsed, but due to popular demand it was revived by Squaw Valley Institute and held on November 1, 2003.

Participants gathered in the early evening at the Plaza Bar in Olympic House Lodge and enjoyed potluck appetizers and refreshments until it got cold and dark. Then teams were selected, clues were distributed and the hunting began. Using the clues as best they could decipher them, the players scoured the western end of Squaw Valley attempting to find and record the cryptic messages discovered. Members of the winning team, with the most correctly identified messages, were awarded designer sweatshirts and the honor of presenting next year’s Treasure Hunt.

Be sure to watch for the next Treasure Hunt date to be announced for the fall season of 2004 and be prepared for a

hunt with some new wrinkles to make it even more fun.

Another “Olde Squaw Valley Movie” night was held on December 7, 2003 at Bar One. A substantial crowd braved one of several December snowstorms to see what Squaw Valley looked like in the old days, including a number of ageless people who were skiing here in the 60’s and 70’s. If you have or know of any old movies showing Squaw Valley, please contact us—we not only would like to show them, but are considering a program to facilitate their preservation.



KT Community Service Award Nominee Tom O'Neill and Nancy O'Neill

WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON?

Feb. 24-26 - On-snow dealer demo day; skis and snowboards. 583-6985

Feb. 25 - Adventure Slide Show, Bar One: Trekking in Nepal. 581-5861

Feb. 27 - Snow Festival Opening Ceremony torchlight parade and fireworks at dusk kicks off weeklong celebration. 583-6985.

Feb. 28-29 - Village Mardi Gras. 584-6267

Mar. 3 - Adventure Slide Show, Bar One: Big Wall Climbing, 581-5861

Mar. 6-7 - Jimmy Heuga Snow Express for Multiple Sclerosis. 587-1044

Mar. 20 - SF 49'er Foundation Celebrity Ski Classic. 581-7188

April 10 - Billy Dutton Uphill Race; nordic, snowshoe - 'run what ya brung'. 583-6985

April 11 - Easter Egg Hunts for kids of all ages. 583-6985

May 8 - Lake Cushing Crossing (tentative date), 583-6985



KT AWARDS, cont'd

Special Award for Support of the Special Olympics and Tahoe Adaptive Ski School:

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and Maria Shriver (accepted on their behalf by a close friend, Franz Weber)

Community Service by a Business:

The Resort at Squaw Creek

Community Service by an Individual:

Charlie Kellermyer, M.D.

Small Business of the Year:

Granite Chief Ski Service Center

Culinary Arts:

Graham's at Squaw Valley

Fine Arts:

Deborah Von Zink

Film/Video:

Scott Gaffney

Photography:

Hank DeVre

Extreme Athlete of the Year:

Shane McConkey

Ski Patroller of the Year:

Wes Schimmelpfennig

Active Athlete of the Year:

Shannon Bahrke

Modern Day Legend:

Scot Schmidt



Dale Cox and Community Service Award nominee Rocky Rudolph at the first annual KT Awards

Legendary Athlete of the Year:

Jimmy Heuga

Snowboard Athlete to Watch:

Adam White

Ski Athlete to Watch:

Shane Collins

Freestyle Athlete to Watch:

Jordan Basile

Spirit of Squaw Valley Award:

Steve McKinney

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Squaw Valley Institute is managed and operated entirely by volunteers. As our activities expand, we have a need for additional volunteers. If you can spend a little time serving our community, you'll meet new people and have fun helping a worthy organization - please contact us.

Bookkeeping: If you have (and know how to use) Quickbooks software, it would take a very small amount of time to do our minimal bookkeeping. No payroll or tax work is involved—just a few bills to pay and deposits to make.

Marketing: We need help in writing, designing and distributing press releases, rack flyers and posters on Institute programs via both e-mail and snail mail.

Grant Writing: If you have experience writing grant applications for non-profits, we definitely need your help!

KT Awards Committee: This important committee has strong and experienced leadership but urgently needs a few more members to help organize this fun and exciting event.



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www.squawvalleyinstitute.org

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