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SECOND ANNUAL KT AWARDS

Over two hundred party animals celebrated the Second Annual KT Award ceremony on November 13 in the Grand Ballroom at the Resort at Squaw Creek. The opening hour featured a large silent auction with donated bargains galore - celebrants mixed with celebrities and nominees while enjoying their favorite beverages. Would you believe a well-known local bid on and won a B.A.S.E. Jump off a bridge with Shane McConkey?

The group then sat down and enjoyed a delicious banquet dinner, an art the Resort has truly perfected. Finally, as the meal was almost completed, the presentation of the long-awaited KT Awards began. Keeping with the tradition established last year, the award ceremony was dramatized by an exciting, two-screen, multi-media audiovisual display of images of the nominees and award winners. Astonishing footage of extreme athletes met with "oohs" and "aahs" from the audience.

There isn't space to print all that was said, but here are a few highlights. (See page 2 for the names of all of the nominees, winners and presenters.)

Last year's winner, Dr. Charlie Kellermyer, presented the *Community Service Award* to this year's winner, Dr. Ed Heneveld. Ed, an emergency room physician at Tahoe Forest Hospital, has been President of the Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council for many years and was instrumental in making dreams into reality in the land acquisition and construction of the Squaw Valley Park.

Robert Frohlich, the well-known local writer, presented the *Living Legend Award* to longtime resident, Peter Klaussen. Peter moved to Squaw Valley in 1955, was an avalanche patroller during the Olympics and played a key role in the development of the local ski industry including the planning and construction of Alpine Meadows ski area.

Finally, in a very moving talk, local restaurateur Tom O'Neill recounted the life and times of Joseph Marillac, the recipient of this year's *Spirit of Squaw Valley Award*.

Joe, who died in 2001, was the youngest man to receive certification as a French mountain guide and a daring member of the French Resistance during the second World War. Joe was captured by the Nazis three times, escaping each time; once from a prison touted as "impenetrable" by his captors, an hour before he was scheduled to be executed.

In 1953, at the urging of Ski School Director Emile Allais, Joe came to Squaw Valley. His stature and credibility in Europe were critical in persuading International Olympic Committee members to take a huge gamble in awarding the 1960 Olympic Winter Games to the fledgling resort of Squaw Valley.

Joe had several careers in Squaw Valley - ski instructor, ski school director, entrepreneur and realtor. Accepting the award on behalf of Joe's family, his close friend Dale Cox talked about the character and community spirit of an extraordinary man who played such an important role in the history of Squaw Valley.

The KT Awards also celebrated the future of Squaw Valley, as our stars of tomorrow were recognized their coaches and peers.

Special thanks to the *Resort at Squaw Creek* (co-sponsor of the event), *Deb Darby* (Chairperson and fearless leader), *Eric Brandt* (Master of Ceremonies and bon vivant), *Deborah von Zink* (for her original oil painting of the meadow), *Hans Standteiner* (the award statue designer), and Committee members *Valerie Forte*, *Bill Jensen*, *Robert Frohlich* and *Chiara Gajar*.

Also, last, but certainly not least, our sincere thanks to the generous merchants, artists and individuals who donated items for our silent auction.

2004 KT AWARD NOMINEES AND WINNERS

(Winners in each category are in **bold** type)

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Presenter: Charlie Kellermyer, M.D.

Ed Heneveld, M.D.

Evan Benjaminson

Dale Cox

FAVORITE RESTAURANT:

Presenter: Rich Trottnow - Graham's

Fireside Pizza

Wildflour Baking

Mamasake

FILM/VIDEO:

Presenter: Scott Gaffney

Mike Hatchett

Brad Holmes

Itai Nemovicher

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Presenter: Hank DeVre

Keoki Flagg

Larry Prosor

Tom Zikas

EXTREME ATHLETE:

Presenter: Shane McConkey

Jeremy Jones

Ingrid Backstrom

Charles Bryan

ACTIVE COMPETING ATHLETE:

Presenters: Tamara McKinney and

Herb Manning

Daron Rahlves

Marco Sullivan

Julia Mancuso

Jayson Hale

McKenzy Golding

INSTRUCTOR/COACH:

Presenters: Ernst Hager and

Dick Banfield

Anne Chippendale

Mike Costello

James Murtagh

ATHLETE TO WATCH -

ALPINE SKIING:

Presenter: Shane Collins

Travis Ganong

Nick Daniels

Jamie DuPratt

ATHLETE TO WATCH -

FREERIDE:

Presenter: Jared Semmens

Cooper Golding

Sean Field

Katie Fielding

ATHLETE TO WATCH -

SNOWBOARDING:

Presenter: Adam White

Sean Stewart

KC Batory

Summer Fenton

LIVING LEGEND:

Peter Klaussen

Presenter: Robert Frohlich

SPIRIT OF SQUAW VALLEY:

Joseph Marillac

(award accepted by Dale Cox)

Presenter: Tom O'Neill



Tom O'Neill describes the remarkable life of Spirit of Squaw Award winner Joseph Marillac - Alpine guide, French Resistance fighter, ski instructor and entrepreneur.



Living Legend Award winner Peter Klaussen left corporate life with Polaroid to fight avalanches, build ski areas and raise his family in the mountains.

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COMING EVENTS

January 14, 2005: "The World Politics of Global Warming" will be presented by scientist and Professor **Stephen H. Schneider** of Stanford University. He will address what, if anything, our leaders and the leaders of other countries are doing in response to the threats of global warming. Are they doing anything? Are they listening to the science? This exciting and timely presentation takes place at the PlumpJack Conference Center in Squaw Valley. Presentation at 7:30 pm, no-host bar social hour starts at 6:30 pm. **FREE!**

February 10, 2005: "The Story of The Donner Party" will be presented by **Mark McLaughlin**, an award winning writer, historian and lecturer. Learn about the ill-fated party who became stranded in the snow in late October of 1846. This true story of local history takes place at the PlumpJack Conference Center in Squaw Valley. Presentation at 7:30 pm, no-host bar social hour starts at 6:30 pm. **FREE!**

March 10, 2005: "Ancient Volcanoes of the Northern Sierra." Geologist **Frank DeCourten** continues his four-part lecture series (the first two lectures are described in brief on page 4 of this edition). In this talk, Frank will examine the evidence of prehistoric volcanic violence in the Lake Tahoe region. There are clues that can be seen today (even by a modestly knowledgeable observer) that demonstrate the ancient volcanic action that helped shape our area. DeCourten is currently Dean of the Sierra College Truckee Center, has a Masters Degree in Geology, has taught at several universities and is a dynamic and knowledgeable speaker. This illustrated and interesting talk happens at the PlumpJack Conference Center in Squaw Valley. Presentation at 7:30 pm, no-host bar social hour starts at 6:30 pm. **FREE!**

April 13, 2005: "The Tahoe Ice Age." In the final talk of a four part series on the geologic formation of our local mountains, **Frank DeCourten** will describe the glacial history of the Tahoe Region and nearby areas. The region has experienced multiple "ice ages" over the

past 2 million years and only about 10,000 years ago, the ice melted back to reveal a rugged landscape bearing the scars of extensive glacial abrasion. This illustrated and interesting talk takes place at the PlumpJack Conference Center in Squaw Valley. Presentation at 7:30 pm, no-host bar social hour starts at 6:30 pm. **FREE!**



40th ANNUAL TREASURE HUNT

On the evening of November 6, a spirited group of treasure hunters ran around in the dark gathering clues after dining on delicious potluck appetizers and enjoying a fun social hour. For the first time in its 40-year history, children were included in the Hunt, and several participated enthusiastically. The Hunt Committee devised a challenging assortment of 40 clues that kept the teams guessing and scrambling. In the end, the winning team members were Cindy Bansen, Helen Bansen, Dennis Bresnahan, Gail Tomlinson and John Wilcox. Wearing their coveted Winners sweatshirts, all they could say was "Wait until next year!"

Speaking of next year, the Institute needs feedback on whether it should continue to organize and sponsor the Treasure Hunt as it has for the past two years. The event had lapsed due to lack of interest until the Institute revived it in 2003. The participants in both the 2003 and 2004 Hunt events seemed to have a great time, but the attendance was very small. It seems hard to justify the large amount of time and effort on the part of the volunteers who put on the event if so few people are going to attend. Please give us your advice on whether we should continue the Treasure Hunt by e-mail to info@squawvalleyinstitute.org or a phone message to (530) 581-4138.

NEW PROGRAMS AND VOLUNTEERS

In addition to the events scheduled and listed here for January through April, several very interesting programs are being developed for later in 2005. To check on the latest event schedules and details, visit www.squawvalleyinstitute.org. Also, if you would like to receive e-mail notices on events, sign up for our e-mail list via info@squawvalleyinstitute.org. (We promise not to share or abuse your e-mail.)

We have an active Program Committee, ably chaired by Valerie Forté. Please contact us if you would like to be involved in event planning or other Institute activities. We currently have a need for a volunteer to handle marketing activities, such as designing press releases and printed fliers and posters. Being a volunteer is a great way to meet new people and to put your enthusiasm, energy and talent to work to benefit the Institute and the community!



Photography Award winner Keoki Flagg and presenter Hank de Vre



Katja Dahl and Diane Howell raise a glass to the winners at the 2005 KT Awards

GEOLOGY TALKS BY FRANK DECOURTEN CONTINUE THIS SPRING

How were our local mountains formed? What evidence of their formation can we observe today while hiking and skiing? A few months ago, one of our members suggested we present an expert speaker on this subject. We thought this was an excellent idea, so we went looking for an appropriate expert.

It was an easy search, because we have such an expert in our midst! Institute Member and active participant on our Program Committee is **Frank DeCourten**. Dean of the Sierra College Truckee Center, Frank has a Masters in Geology and has taught at the university level. Most important, he's a dynamic and knowledgeable speaker. He quickly agreed to answer our need, but advised that the subject was too large to cover in one talk, so we ended up with a series of four presentations, two of which were presented this fall: two additional lectures have been scheduled for the spring.

The first program, titled "**Dinosaurs in the Sierra?**", on September 16, covered

the Mesozoic Era, 245 to 65 million years ago. At that time, the Sierra Nevada range was geologically active and sloped down to the Pacific Ocean: the coastline was about where the edges of today's foothills lie. In appearance, the Sierra was similar to the western edge of South America today and was populated by a broad range of dinosaurs and other creatures, some of which were illustrated in the presentation.

The second lecture, "**Rivers of Gold in the Ancient Sierra**", was presented on October 19 and covered the Eocene Epoch, 55 to 34 million years ago. This talk described how gold was deposited in the Sierra, triggering the California Gold Rush of the nineteenth century. Imagine an ice-free world so warm that palm trees grew in southern Alaska and the temperature in northern California was 35 degrees higher than it is today.

The third and fourth programs in this series have now been scheduled for March 10 and April 13, 2005.

Descriptions and schedule details are listed on page 3 of this newsletter. The first two talks were very well attended and received, so mark your calendars for the final two. The entire series is **FREE** and no reservations are required - don't miss these worthwhile events!



Geologist Frank DeCourten discusses dinosaurs in the pre-historic Sierra Nevada



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