



American SkiBike Association

ASA Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Fall, 2016

ASA Partners with Disabled Sports USA at the Hartford Ski Spectacular



Special points of Interest:

President's Report -
2016 Hartford Ski
Spectacular

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into Mountain Bike
Hall of Fame

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Event Calendar

Membership Info

Board Members

Sponsors

An adaptive SkiBiker with his instructors at the annual SkiAble event, February, 2015, at Sunrise Park Resort, in Greer, Arizona, sponsored by Arizona Disabled Sports.

ASA Board Members and Representatives

Randy Kimball

- President, ASA
- Co-owner **SkiBikeFun LLC**

Melanie Kmball

- Vice President, Treasurer, ASA
- Co-owner **SkiBikeFun LLC**

Don Koski

- Board Member, ASA
- Owner/Manufacturer **Koski Snowsports**

Devin Lenz

- Board Member, ASA
- Owner/Manufacturer **LenzSport**

Gregor Shuster

- Board Member, ASA
- Owner/manufacturer **Sledgehammer SkiBikes**, Austria

Jason Buckley

- Board Member, ASA
- Owner/Manufacturer **3Ski Snow Bikes**, New Zealand

Representatives

Jeff Butcher

- Representative, ASA
- **Koski Snowsports R&D**

Jim Weiland

- Adaptive Representative, ASA
- Adaptive SkiBike instructor

**ASA Partners
with DSUSA at
Hartford Ski
Spectacular
Nov. 28 - Dec. 4
Breckenridge,
Colorado**



**ASA Adaptive Rep,
Jim on Koski FM3 at
Ski Spectacular 2015**

Dear SkiBikers,

The American SkiBike Association (ASA) Board of Directors and Representatives want to **thank you for your support** of our efforts in the past and our exciting progress and efforts moving forward.

Last season while supporting the Hartford Ski Spectacular, we started to feel the winds of change in regards to SkiBike acceptance and application of SkiBikes as adaptive equipment and the amazing niche and need only they fill.

This season at the Hartford Ski Spectacular, the American SkiBike Association will be completing a huge milestone we set out to hit a long time ago. We finally have it in our sights—on November 28, 2016 we will be presenting a day long clinic with DSUSA (Disabled Sports USA) and the Veterans Administration to formally introduce and create a formal SkiBike program with SkiBikes for their event participants.

This is a direct result of our efforts and support of this event over many years showing organizations, instructors, managers and safety groups, SkiBikes are safe, very cool and have a place on the mountain.

We have some great plans for the upcoming season so please attend an existing event, start one at your own mountain or at a minimum bring a friend to an old event.

We need your continued help to keep our work in motion as we move forward working on our ASA projects and goals,

and expanding SkiBike access for you.

We squeeze every penny out of your membership funding, donations and a few small grants we have been very grateful for. Please know, none of the ASA Board of Directors or Representatives are paid for our ASA work, time, travel/food expenses and use of our equipment at these events.. We do this work because we believe its good work and its important work!

We would like to ask you to please renew your ASA Business or Personal Membership for another year (Life Time Memberships are now available....just ask).

<http://www.americanskibike.org/membership.html>

By doing so you will support our efforts to promote the sport, develop better and safer equipment, get more public access, create better information and certification programs on SkiBikes and promote SkiBike racing.

With warmest regards,

Your 2016/2017 ASA Representation:

Randy Kimball-President-Board of Directors-New Mexico

Melanie Kimball-Board of Directors-New Mexico

Devin Lenz-Board of Directors-Colorado

Don Koski-Board of Directors-California

Jason Buckley-Board of Directors-New Zealand

Gregor Schuster-Board of Directors-Austria

Jeff Butcher-ASA Representative -California

Jim Weiland-ASA Representative-Arizona

ASA Board Member Don Koski Inducted into Mountain Bike Hall of Fame



Mountain Bike Pioneers—Donnie, Dave and Eric Koski, Marin, California, 1962

Anyone who has done a study about the early origins of mountain bikes will be familiar with the Koski family and the Cove Bike Shop in Tiburon, California. Donny Koski was a born innovator who worked with many of the early players who contributed to the creation of mountain biking as we know it today. Many familiar with the origins of Mountain Biking in Marin will credit the Cove Bike Shop as playing an integral part in supporting the pioneers of mountain biking.

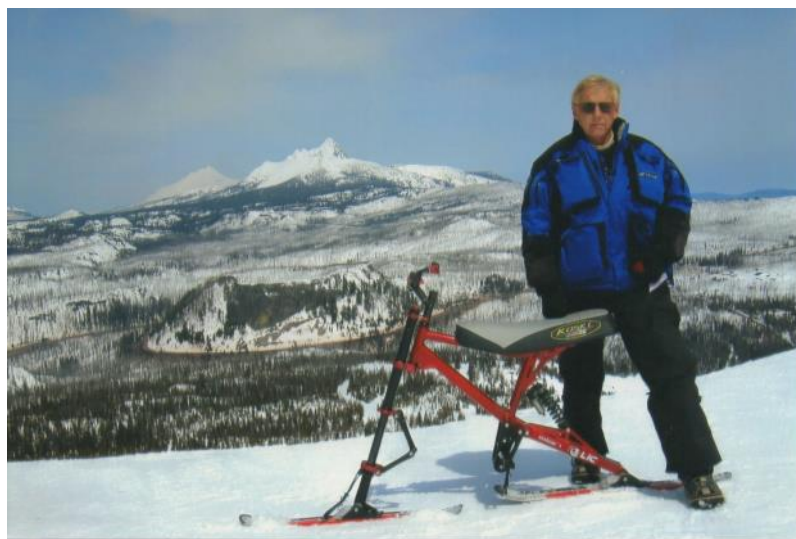
The Koski Family (Earl and Lil, sister Kris and brothers Erik, Dave and Don), worked together as a family at The Cove Bike Shop and created what many consider to be the first “off-road bike shop” in the world. The Cove Bike Shop was in existence from 1970 - 1986 and during that time a great number of people, including Yozo Shimano and Junzo Kawai, came in to experience the “buzz” that the shop was creating. Many of these people went on to become Mountain Bike Hall of Fame members and industry leaders. These were the days of guys and gals having fun while quietly creating a new industry.

As early as the 1970's the Koski's began to source many of the parts for the old bikes that local riders were repurposing for off-road riding. In December of 1974, Don Koski contacted and submitted drawings to Cook

Brothers Racing, at that time a BMX outfit, to have them build a fork that would hold up well on 26 inch wheel Clunkers / Bombers. It was the first production component in modern Mountain Bike history and facilitated the creation of the Mountain Bike, and also the Cruiser industry. Joe Breeze used the Koski / Cook Bros. fork on his first Mountain Bikes (1977-78) and Gary Fisher also put one on his iconic geared Schwinn klunker.

The first of the forks produced was fitted to a hand-built prototype frame that Don and Dave Koski built together in the summer of 1975. It wasn't long after, that Mert Lawill, a customer of the Cove Bike Shop and the 1969 American Motorcycle Association Grand National Motorcycle Champion took an interest in what was being created at The Cove. Using Donny's prototype frame and fork and utilizing the welding skills of Terry Knight, the three of them set about to create the ProCruiser which could be considered the first mountain bike in production with over 600 built.

Before the existence of Mountain Bike magazines, before the Internet and before mainstream bicycle magazines “discovered” the sport, Mountain Biking was barely known outside of Northern California. In 1980, The Cove Bike Shop produced “Trailmaster”, the industry's first Mountain Bike mail-order catalog. It became a worldwide resource for Mountain Bike builders and component manufacturers at the start of the industry.



Don Koski with FMI at Hoodoo Ski Resort, 2012. Building on his Mountain Bike roots, Donnie is an innovative pioneer of the American SkiBike industry..

American SkiBike Association
a 501(c)(3) Non-profit
Organization

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We're on the Web!
AmericanSkiBike.org

Event Calendar

**Pajarito Meet &
Ride Rally**
Jan. 28, 2017
Pajarito Ski Area,
Los Alamos, NM

**PSIA Adaptive
SkiBike Clinic**
Feb. 3, 2017
Sunrise Ski Park,
Greer, Arizona
Contact PSIA-rm.org
(970) 879-8335
Register by Jan. 17

Sipapu SkiBike Rally
Feb. 4-5, 2017
Sipapu Ski Area
Vadito, New Mexico

**Purgatory SkiBike
Festival**
Feb. 24-26, 2017
Purgatory Resort,
Durango, Colorado



The American SkiBike Association is here to help you...

- Gain access to resort for all SkiBike riders, adaptive and able-bodied alike.
- Gain knowledge to help you learn to SkiBike or to improve your riding abilities.
- Be part of a growing community.
- Find all the events and competitions.
- Keep in touch with what the American SkiBike Association is doing for you.

Here's how you can help support SkiBiking: *Join the ASA!*

- **Just \$25 a year (Business Memberships \$150 /year)**
- **Benefits include:**
 - Discounts on new SkiBikes, Rentals, ASA Merchandise
 - Free Demo Rides
 - Free or reduced entrance fee to all ASA events, and More!
 - <http://www.americanskibike.org/membership.html>

The Thrill of Adaptive SkiBiking

SkiBiking can allow people with disabilities to enjoy the fun and excitement of skiing with friends and family.

Adaptive skiing has been around for decades and benefits people with injuries, disabilities, as well as older folks whose joints have been hammered by years of athletic accidents and abuse.

SkiBikes are now emerging as an ideal adaptive option for many people, and the adaptive use of SkiBikes is expanding rapidly.

The best adaptive equipment allows the most independence, and the least restriction for the skier.

SkiBikes provide a low joint impact alternative, and are appropriate for many people with conditions such as



Beth Fox leads Adaptive SkiBike clinic at the 2015 PSIA National Adaptive Academy at the Hartford Ski Spec.

amputations, knee replacements, hip, leg, knee, ankle or foot injuries, arthritis, Multiple Sclerosis, cognitive or balance issues, etc.

SkiBikes are easier to learn, more fun and less restrictive as compared with traditional adaptive ski equipment such as mono-skis and bi-skis, and do not require the high level of stamina needed for three- and four-track skiing.

SkiBikes can allow folks to experience a new winter sport, or once again enjoy skiing in spite of disabling injuries or conditions.

Most ski resorts allow SkiBikes for adaptive use, and more and more are now offering Adaptive SkiBike lessons.

Contact your local ski school, or your ASA adaptive representative-skibikejim@gmail.com for more information.

Krusty Sez: Always follow the SkiBiker's Responsibility Code!



As SkiBikes become more popular in the US, expanding our sport will be enhanced by following your **SkiBiker's Responsibility Code**.

The National Ski Area Association (NSAA) developed "Your Responsibility Code" which has been adopted by ski areas nationwide to help resort users understand the elements of risk in snowsports. These seven common sense rules, combined with personal awareness, can help make the slopes safer and more fun for everyone.

Your SkiBiker's Responsibility Code

Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.

Prior to using any chairlift, you must have the ability to load, ride and unload safely.

Whenever starting downhill or merging onto a trail, look uphill and yield to others.

People ahead of you have the Right of Way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.

Always be in control, and able to stop or avoid other people or objects.

Do not stop where you obstruct a trail, or are not visible from above.

Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.

Some ski areas have additional requirements for SkiBikes, so always check to be sure. If you need help with chairlift loading, or runaway device restraints, refer to the Ski Area's rules, and manufacturer's instructions for your specific equipment.

Contact the ASA for advice on applying the rules, and for the time and location of free SkiBike demos.

View Jim's video on YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/YNGyX25T-IA>

*Krusty sez:
Share the Slopes...
Don't be that guy!*



SkiBike Alley



Sponsorship

ASA Sponsors and Business Members



<http://www.americanskibike.org/sponsorship.html>

ASA Business Memberships are available for only \$150 per Year!

Benefits include:

- Up to three Personal Memberships
- One free half-day lesson and all day equipment use
- Your Business Link and Logo on the ASA Website Sponsorship Page
- Plus all the benefits of ASA Personal Membership, and More!
- See the ASA Website Membership Benefits page for details

<http://www.americanskibike.org/benefits.html>