

# Ski MEISTER

SPRING 2022

Alf Engen Ski Museum | Utah Olympic Park, Park City, Utah



Preserving the rich history of snowsports in the Intermountain West

**MAJOR  
MUSEUM  
REMODEL**  
see pages 2-3



Fourth grade students from Trailside Elementary, Park City, tour the museums and the Utah Olympic Park.

Field trips return to the Alf Engen Ski Museum  
and the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles  
2002 Olympic Winter Games Museum

SPRING 2022



# New exhibits set to WOW visitors



Remodeled area and new exhibits

The Alf Engen Ski Museum opened its doors shortly after the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in May 2002. Over the past 20 years, the museum's Board of Trustees has continued to achieve its goal "To inspire guests by providing a rich assortment of interactive displays which allow visitors to gain insight into the development of winter sports throughout the Intermountain Area." The museum strives toward its vision "To be the recognized world leader in ski history museums." To these ends, an ambitious project started to take form in 2018.

The museum finds visitors returning to the museum several times a year knowing they will see one or more new exhibits that have been installed during the year. A "sub plot" of that effort is aimed at attracting new visitors. We educate and entertain close to 500,000 guests each year by offering two free museums - The Alf Engen Ski Museum and the Eccles 2002 Olympic Winter Games Museum.

In Spring 2018, concept plans for a major remodel of over one half of the museum were presented to the board by our exhibit design/install team, Unrivald, located in Ogden, Utah.



Interactive table opens

**COME SEE US!**  
 We're open, we're safe, and all are welcome!  
 Bring your masks, your family and friends, and take a trip to the museum. You will learn something new each time you visit.  
 Free Admission!

PHOTO U of U Ski Archives  
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# Try our interactive exhibits!



Evolution of Skis



Evolution of Snowboards

Plans were approved and a fundraising campaign commenced with a goal to raise a lofty \$1 million by 2020. After a brief 10-week shutdown, we revived our fundraising and our exhibit team, Unrivaled, started the exhibit build early 2021.



Avalanche exhibit - ski patrol hut

We proudly reopened the second half of our museum featuring nine newly remodeled, interactive exhibits in late December 2021.

The common reaction to our remodel is "WOW!" Please visit our free museum soon to check out the improvements for yourself. You will not be disappointed!



Ski area resorts topographic map



Photo booth



## Thank you to the donors who helped make this possible!

This crowd-pleasing remodel was made possible thanks to our incredibly generous donors, both individuals and Foundations. Thank you to:

**George S. & Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation**  
- last dollar grant

**Sorenson Legacy Foundation**  
- underwriter for the interactive touch table

**Quinney Foundations**  
- helped with the last dollar needed for the Utah resort topo map

**Ski Utah**  
- helped finance the Utah resort topo map exhibit

**Utah Division of Arts & Museums**

**Summit County RAP Tax**

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**Alan & Barbara Engen**

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The Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation

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Cover Photo:

A group of 4th grade students from Trailside Elementary tour the Museums and the Utah Olympic Park

Alf Engen Ski Museum

contact:

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(435) 658-4240

# From the Chairman of the Board



Ron Steele

Greetings,

If my remarks only convey one thing let it be this, **please come up and visit the Alf Engen Ski Museum**, you will not be disappointed. The Vision of the Alf Engen Ski Museum is, *"To be the recognized world leader in ski history museums."* One element in our day-to-day operations that serves to this vision and the mission of the museum is our outreach programs. Just look at the photo on the front page of this Ski Meister, you will see the excited faces of kids that have just finished a recent field trip. We missed those faces in 2020, but with careful planning and following of safety protocol, the staff at the museum made it happen again. These field trips provide an educational and interactive presentation of materials that are related to the core curriculum of schools in the Intermountain Region. I was able to experience one of these in person and the excitement of the youth and of those of our staff and volunteers that conduct them was amazing.

Our past Chair, Tom Kelly, always reminds us that, "History is a roadmap to the future" and nothing is more evident of this than our educational field trips. These school age children experience history, and that challenges them to look at the future. Within the museum, the history is artfully displayed and accompanied by interactive materials that lay a foundation for visitors of all ages to understand history, and to use the value of this history to learn from, and use, that knowledge in the future.

Thank you for your generosity and support of the Museum, without you none of this would happen. I hope to see you at the Alf Engen Ski Museum.

# From the Executive Director



Connie Nelson

Celebration time! We have so much to be grateful for here at the Alf Engen Ski Museum. Number one, we are truly humbled by the support we have received during these past two years. The pandemic put us behind in our fundraising in 2020, but thanks to a multitude of foundations, grantors, individuals and members, we were able to successfully complete the biggest remodel we have had since opening in May 2002. Thank you, also, to our dedicated exhibit design/build team, Unrivaled, who kept the project going despite a multitude of challenges. Thank you, especially to Coty Creighton, the brains and force behind the interactive exhibits.

This brings us to another milestone: being in operation for 20 years. We currently see close to one-half a million visitors through our doors each year, with some 5 million guests being educated and entertained since opening in 2002. This incredible traffic is attributed to our location here at the Utah Olympic Park along with our foundation, staff, board and docents all committed to providing a quality, free experience for guests to enjoy in both museums.

Other festivities at the museum have been celebrations for the 20th Anniversary of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, anticipation of future Olympic Winter Games in 2030 or 2034 and enjoying the 2022 Olympic Winter Games in Beijing. The George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles 2002 Olympic Winter Games Museum continues to remind folks of the incredible achievement hosting the Olympics here in Utah.

Welcome to our new Chairman, Ron Steele. Ron, your guidance and expertise will help guide the foundation to the future. We are sorry to announce a valued member of the board, Barbara McConvill, has resigned from the Alf Engen Ski Museum Board of Trustees. Barbara, your insight and direction will be missed. Best wishes on your next volunteer project.

## Ski MEISTER

Ski Meister is a publication of the Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation. Inquiries, questions, or submissions of press releases and articles of interest for the Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation newsletter are welcome.

[engenmuseum.org](http://engenmuseum.org)



# Olympians, you made us proud!



## YOUTH SPORTS ALLIANCE presents THE ATHLETES OF PARK CITY NATION

CENSUS DATE: 2.25.22

POPULATION: 66

|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p><b>ALPINE SKIING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matthew Brewer </li> <li>Ryan Cochran-Siegle </li> <li>Ravi Drugan </li> <li>Andrew Haraghey </li> <li>Katie Hensien </li> <li>Madison Hoffman (Australia) </li> <li>Breezy Johnson </li> <li>Jesse Keefe </li> <li>Maureen Lebel</li> <li>Orlando Perez (Puerto Rico) </li> <li>Danelle Umstead &amp; Guide Rob Umstead </li> <li>Arly Velasquez (Mexico) </li> <li>Katie Vesterstein </li> <li>Alix Wilkinson   </li> <li>Bella Wright</li> <li><b>FREESKI HALFPIPE</b></li> <li>Zoe Atkin   </li> <li>(Great Britain)</li> <li>Devin Logan</li> <li>Bubba Newby (Ireland)   </li> <li>Brita Sigourney</li> </ul> | <p><b>CROSS-COUNTRY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dani Aravich </li> <li>Rosie Brennan  </li> <li><b>FREESKI SLOPESTYLE/ BIG AIR</b></li> <li>Isabel Atkin   </li> <li>(Great Britain)</li> <li>Mac Forehand</li> <li>Nick Goepfer</li> <li>Alex Hall   </li> <li>Marin Hamill   </li> <li>Darian Stevens </li> <li>Colby Stevenson   </li> <li>Maggie Voisin  </li> <li><b>FREESTYLE/AERIALS</b></li> <li>Ashley Caldwell</li> <li>Kaila Kuhn  </li> <li>Chris Lillis</li> <li>Eric Loughran</li> <li>Megan Nick</li> <li>Justin Schoenefeld</li> <li>Winter Vinecki  </li> </ul> | <p><b>FREESTYLE/MOGULS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sabrina Cass (Brazil)   </li> <li>Olivia Giaccio</li> <li>Jaelin Kauf</li> <li>Cole McDonald   </li> <li>Nick Page   </li> <li>Hannah Soar</li> <li>Brad Wilson   </li> <li><b>LUGE</b></li> <li>Ashley Farquharson   </li> <li><b>NORDIC COMBINED</b></li> <li>Taylor Fletcher</li> <li>Jasper Good</li> <li>Ben Loomis   </li> <li>Stephen Schumann   </li> <li>Jared Shumate   </li> <li><b>SKELETON</b></li> <li>Andrew Blaser</li> <li>Nathan Crumpton (American Samoa)</li> </ul> | <p><b>SKI JUMPING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kevin Bickner</li> <li>Decker Dean</li> <li>Casey Larson</li> <li><b>SNOWBOARD</b></li> <li>Noah Elliot </li> <li>Katie Maddry </li> <li><b>SNOWBOARD HALFPIPE</b></li> <li>Seamus O'Connor (Ireland)  </li> <li><b>SNOWBOARD SLOPESTYLE/BIG AIR</b></li> <li>Courtney Rummel  </li> <li><b>SNOWBOARDCROSS</b></li> <li>Faye Gulini</li> <li>Lindsey Jacobellis</li> <li><b>SPEED SKATING/LONG TRACK</b></li> <li>Georgia Birkeland</li> <li>Ethan Cepuran</li> <li>Casey Dawson    </li> <li>Ian Quinn</li> <li><b>SPEED SKATING/SHORT TRACK</b></li> <li>Maame Biney</li> </ul> |
|--|---|---|--|

Park City School District

The Winter Sports School

Park City Day School

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Park City Speed Skating Club

Rowmark Ski Academy

Wasatch Freestyle

Wasatch Luge Club

YSA Scholarship Recipient

Get Out & Play Program

National Ability Center

JANS JANS Winter Welcome Junior Greeter

Competing for the USA unless otherwise noted

Keep watching #YSAParkCityNation

The greater Park City-area sent 55 athletes to compete in the Beijing Olympics. The delegation dubbed 'Park City Nation' drew from athletes who grew up in Park City, training with one of the seven YSA-partner winter sports teams; athletes with close connections to Park City or athletes who make Park City their home. Athletes competed for six different countries.

Park City Nation finished in 12th place in the medal standings between Canada and Japan. Local athletes earned four gold medals, four silver medals, and two bronze medals. In 2014, Park City Nation, if competing as an independent country, would have finished 10th in the medal count, tied with Switzerland. In 2018, we finished 20th, tied with Australia.

The Paralympic Games are up next with Park City Nation heading to Beijing ready to compete!



## KÜHL : BORN IN THE MOUNTAINS

The Museum Staff and Docents have been the lucky recipients of a generous donation from the local outdoor brand, KÜHL.

The KÜHL story began in the snow-covered peaks of the Wasatch Mountains. Relentless weather and challenging conditions shaped the characteristics of the brand and is evident in the stylish and rugged clothing.

THANK YOU KÜHL!

Staff model summer and winter uniforms (Thalia Barnett, Tucker the dog, Connie Nelson, Becky Lewin, Alison Hayes)





Docent - Fred Rubinfeld "Rube" guides Trailside Elementary 4th Grade through Eccles 2002 Olympic Winter Games museum.

## FIELD TRIPS RETURN TO THE ALF ENGEN SKI MUSEUM AND THE ECCLES 2002 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES MUSEUM.

After a year-long break due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the Alf Engen Ski Museum and the Eccles 2002 Olympic Winter Games Museum are pleased to announce their doors are open to field trips!

**From Newman Elementary:  
 "Thank you so much for hosting us! It was a wonderful day for our students, most of whom come from disadvantaged homes and have not had much opportunity to explore this beautiful state we call home. They learned so much today. We were so impressed with your organization, the high-quality, educational stations and all of the help from your volunteers. The amazing fall colors were a bonus".  
 ~ Jeanette Hufford, 5th Grade Teacher**

## HISTORY HIKES Led by Alf Engen Ski Museum Curator, Sandra Morrison



A group of hikers sit atop Ecker Hill June, 2021

Developed as a world class ski jump in the 1930s, this group of hikers had the opportunity to participate in a locally guided history tour of Ecker Hill. Hikers examined the remains of the historic ski jump site and marveled at the views of the former Rasmussen Ski Ranch location. Thank you volunteer guides Pat Pond and Robin Fillion.



Hikers in front of the Stein Erikson statue, Deer Valley's Snow Park Lodge July, 2021

Hikers enjoyed learning about the rich and varied ski and mining history of the Deer Valley area. From the Works Progress Administration (WPA) ski trails in the 1930's to the 2002 Winter Olympics, there is a lot to explore. Thank you to volunteer guide, Mike O'Malley.



WILL and JEAN PICKETT



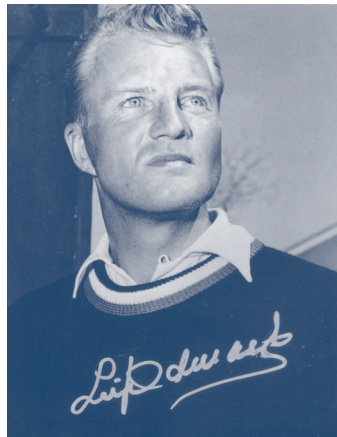
INTERMOUNTAIN SKI HALL OF FAME

Located inside the Alf Engen Ski Museum, the Intermountain Ski Hall of Fame is one of the most popular exhibits, commemorating 86 individuals who have recorded exemplary achievements in skiing and snowboarding competition, innovation and development, and/or made significant contributions to the overall promotion of skiing and snowboarding in the Intermountain Region. Nominations are reviewed and inductee selections made by a committee from the University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library Ski Archives.



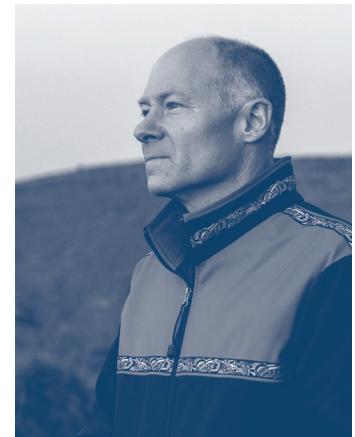
WESLEY "WES" DEIST  
(1923 - 2008 )

Wesley "Wes" Deist stands tall among the giants of skiing in the Intermountain West. Deist shared his love of skiing as a coach of the KKIFI and Kelly Canyon Ski Teams for over 62 years. He established ski schools and served as a certified ski instructor and examiner, a board member of the Idaho Division of the U.S. Ski Association and a two-term president of the Intermountain Division of the USSA. Deist helped develop skiing in the Idaho Falls Area and he was a one-time Golden Gloves boxer and elite Navy Seal during World War II. Through leadership and tireless volunteerism, he was known as the ultimate role model to his athletes. Deist's legacy features a lifetime of inspirational leadership and service.



LEIF ODMARK  
(1920 - 2004)

Leif Odmark, known as "Mr. Sun Valley," was born in Sweden in 1920 and was a Swedish National Ski Team Member in Cross country Skiing/Ski jumping. In 1948 he moved to Sun Valley, Idaho where he lived for 56 years. His passion for Cross-country skiing and life-long efforts to share it reserve his place in the sport's history. Odmark coached the US Olympic Team in Cross-country/Nordic Combined in the 1952 Norway Olympic Games and, in 1970 founded the Sun Valley Nordic Ski School/Touring Center. Besides authoring numerous books, Odmark was a positive and dynamic force in his sport. He sponsored and staged free Cross-country clinics/races for the differently abled, seniors and children.



BRUCE TREMPER  
(1963 - )

Bruce Tremper is know for developing innovative avalanche forecasts, videos, classes and books used throughout North America in the work. Tremper's career spans 40 years as he is a prolific author, speaker, instructor, researcher, videographer and pioneering avalanche forecasting. Tremper developed multimedia backcountry avalanche forecasts, and has been featured in dozens of national and international avalanche documentaries and news programs. Tremper was a member of the Junior National Ski Team and the US Ski Team Talent Squad. In 1973 he was NCAA conference downhill champion. He served three decades as the Director of the Utah Avalanche Center.



# ALF ENGEN SKI MUSEUM MEMBERS

Thank you to all our donors and members!

January - December 2021

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 Uniform donation - KÜHL - Born in The Mountains

*\*Donated multiple times*

## Live PC Give PC Campaign – A Tune Full of ‘Thanks’

If this article could sing, we'd have it present a joyous chorus of "Thank You" to the generous donors who supported the Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation during the annual Park City Community Foundation's Live PC Give PC web-based fund-raising campaign for Park City non-profits early last November.

We are delighted to report that the foundation had a record number of participants support the historic preservation efforts of the museum by donating a record amount of funds.

We're cranking up the volume: **THANK YOU!**

--The Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation Board of Directors



## BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ALF ENGEN SKI MUSEUM FOUNDATION

Help us preserve the history of snow sports in the Intermountain Region by supporting the Alf Engen Ski Museum. Become a member by completing the enclosed pledge envelope. Explore donor levels and benefits at [engenmuseum.org](http://engenmuseum.org) > Support > Membership.

|             |        |               |       |
|-------------|--------|---------------|-------|
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# JIM GADDIS: A UTAH SKI BOOSTER EXTRAORDINAIRE

By Alan K. Engen

Here is a question! For those who know Jim Gaddis, what would be an appropriate middle name to give him? Should you ask any number of knowledgeable ski enthusiasts, they will probably tell you Jim's middle name is "ubiquitous." To that I would certainly agree. Throughout the past six decades, for those who know Jim Gaddis, his record of achievements as a skiing legend and supporter/fund raiser for numerous ski related programs, puts him in a special category...namely one who excels everywhere he focuses his time and energy.

Although Jim is an all-around outstanding athlete, his "elite" status as an alpine skiing competitor qualified him for honorary membership in several prestigious institutions... namely, the Utah Sports Hall of Fame (1989); the U of U Crimson Club Hall of Fame (1989); and the Intermountain Ski Hall of Fame (2005). He was a three-time winner of the nationally recognized Alta Snow Cup (1962, 63, & 64), and was named "Intermountain Ski Racer of the Year" (1957, 58, 60, 62, & 63). In addition, Jim won the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Slalom and Combined title and the U.S. National Giant Slalom championships in 1962. In 2010, Jim was awarded the prestigious Utah Ski Archives S.J. Quinney Award for his years of skiing prowess as a two-time NCAA All American. In spite of all this, Jim experienced three untimely broken legs... which shortened his racing career and had an effect of keeping him out of possible Olympic participation.

**"Snow seems to invigorate Jim Gaddis. It has been that way for the last 60 years and it will be that way again when the upcoming ski season cranks up".**

~ Mike Korologos, a lifelong friend



*Jim Gaddis at the Alf Engen Ski Museum*

However, impressive as that is, it only tells part of his remarkable record of achievements. Respect-ed ski historian, Mike Korologos, highlights that, "as far back as 50 years ago, Gaddis' ubiquitousness showed as he enthusiastically encouraged young racers to excel." In 1965, following his competitive skiing career, he initiated a special program for youth ski racing, ages 10 to 16. He named it the Gaddis Training Organization (GTO), capitalizing on the country's hottest model automobile at that time which carried that namesake. Under Jim's coaching, this group of skiers became very competitive in Intermountain Ski Association's junior racing tournaments and several members such as Craig Gorder, Tom McGee, Roxanne Toly, Robbie Lynn Beck, and Ralph Petty, went on to distinguish themselves in national and/or Olympic competition. Eventually, the Gaddis Training Organization was merged into what became the Park City Racing Team, again initially coached by Jim Gaddis.

During the 1970s, Gaddis started the Utah Ski Racers Foundation to provide financial aid to young "up-and-coming" ski racers, coached the Intermountain Junior National Ski Team and was a guest coach at several U.S. Ski Team training camps, as well.

In June 2016, a groundbreaking ceremony was held to start construction of the Spence Eccles Ski Team Building at the University of Utah. The fundraising efforts to achieve this significant accomplishment were chaired by none other than Jim Gaddis. For Gaddis' efforts, the completed ski team facility board room carries his namesake.

At age 80 plus, Jim Gaddis is still active in a multitude of ski related activities, including being a donor and prolific fundraiser. He is a current and founding member of the Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation, which oversees the popular Alf Engen Ski Museum and the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles 2002 Olympic Museum at the Utah Olympic Park Joe Quinney Winter Sports Center. He also started the Youth Sports Alliance (YSA) organization which provides funding and scholarships for seven different sports...and established and raised 3 million dollars for the YSA -

Stein Eriksen Endowment. He is an honorary board member of the National Abilities Center; twice chair of the Heuga Express MS fundraiser; two-time chair of the U.S. Ski Team Intermountain Area Ski Ball; and has served on both the University of Utah and Park City hospital boards.

In 2021, Jim was specially recognized by receiving the Park City Rotary Club *Citizen Of The Year Award* and also honored by the Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation who awarded him the prestigious *Crystal Award*.

As Mike Korologos observed, "Snow seems to invigorate Jim Gaddis." It has been that way for the past 60 years and it will be that way again when the



Ski buddies Alan Engen (l) and Jim Gaddis at Alta c. 2001 credit: Alan Engen Collection

upcoming ski season cranks up. Don't be surprised to see Jim, and his group of friendly ski buffs, come up and invite you to join them...and all you have to do is support one of his many good causes. He has a lot of them to choose from! As a lifelong friend and former skiing teammate, I congratulate Jim on his storied years of skiing excellence and community service.

## TRIBUTE TO THE SKI AND SNOWBOARD INSTRUCTORS

By Kirstie Rosenfield, Executive Director, Intermountain Division

### The Professional Ski instructors of America - American Association of Snowboard Instructors

The Intermountain Hall of Fame is undergoing a transformation. We are excited to work with Unrivaled to update our wall this spring in keeping with their outstanding design in the rest of the museum. The new display will highlight PSIA-AASI's work in the professional development of snowsports instructors and our vision of creating lifelong adventures through education. You will still see drawings and biographies of instructors who have made significant contributions to the development of the Intermountain region and an updated display case of certification pins. In addition, Unrivaled is designing an interactive digital display with details of our history, mission and members who have played instrumental roles. A grand opening is planned for June 2022.

This exhibit is funded by PSIA-AASI.







**Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation**  
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