

# SkiMEISTER

SPRING 2021

Newsletter of the Alf Engen Ski Museum



**SKI LEGEND'S  
LEGACY LIVES  
HERE**

Visit Ted Ligety's *Hometown  
Heroes* Exhibit in the Museum



## **EVEN OUR MANNEQUINS ARE ANXIOUS TO SEE YOU!**

The Alf Engen Ski Museum and the Eccles 2002 Olympic Winter Games Museum are open and ready for your visit! Masks are required at all times inside the building and staff are continuously cleaning all high-touch surfaces, making your visit safe and keeping your experience fun and educational for the whole family. Come see us!



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# From the CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



Tom Kelly

As I walked through the museum recently, I was struck by how it's been just about a year since our world was changed with the pandemic. During the past year, we have learned a lot. And one thing that became very clear to us was that people value history and the experience offered by our Alf Engen Museum.

We're proud of how we responded, closing for several months to establish a plan and operating safely for visitors since last June. To the many thousands who have visited, thank you for your patience and your support.

In closing out my term as chairman, I look back with pride at what our museum has accomplished. This year we will complete the final installations of a \$1 million exhibit upgrade thanks to your support.

Our vision as the Alf Engen Ski Museum is to be a leader in the museum community. It was gratifying to see the joy on faces of visitors the past eight months amidst such turbulent times.

If you haven't been to the museum lately, please come by. We've created a safe and memorable experience for you as you walk through the history of our great sport.

# From the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Connie Nelson

*"To be the recognized world leader in ski history museums"*  
-- Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation's vision for our museum revised by the Executive Committee in October 2018. Little did this group know, two years later, our world would be at a stand-still due to a pandemic.

Through the dedication of our board of trustees, staff, grantors, and record donor membership contributions (34 percent increase), our museum was not only able to survive 2020, but to thrive. After a 10-week shutdown (March-May 2020), we saw a slow trickle of guests returning to our two museums. September 2020 through February 2021, our visitor numbers have nearly returned to the previous year's numbers, with some single day

visitations over 700 through the door!

With determination, our museum worked with local, state, and national arts and culture organizations and foundations seeking funding to support and adapt to the new 'normal.' These grants enabled us to keep our operations running and continue our path to the three-year goal of renovating the oldest part of our museum. Our exhibit designers, unrivaled, sharpened their pencils and modified exhibit concept plans, enabling us to keep on track with the 2021 exhibit installation, our biggest undertaking since opening in May 2002.

Chairman Emeritus, Scott Ulbrich announced his resignation after our Board meeting on February 3, 2021. We truly appreciate all that Scott has done for the Alf Engen Ski Museum during his 20 + year tenure. Scott saw our organization through some of the toughest financial times (2008-2009) keeping our Foundation on track and viable for the future. **THANK YOU, Scott!** We will miss your sound advice.

Cover Photo: Ted Ligety after he won gold in the giant slalom in the 2014 Sochi Olympic Winter Games. Courtesy U.S. Ski & Snowboard

## Weather Conditions Interactive

Take control of the weather variables that increase avalanche danger. Change the air temperature, wind, and precipitation amounts to see their impact on avalanche conditions in real-time.

## Avalanche Safety Exhibit

Learn about advancements in avalanche safety equipment and technology, along with life-saving tips for backcountry travel.

## Digital Photo Booth

Take fun and exciting photos and share them with others. A multitude of backdrops, scenes, and overlays provide for a unique memory of your museum visit.

# THREE YEARS OF FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

## New fun and interactive elements to be added to exhibit

By *Connie Nelson*

The Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation is excited to report we have put a deposit down with our exhibit design and build company, Unrivaled, to update seven key exhibits. All exhibits are located in the north side of the building, spanning almost half of the museum. The anchor for the new build will be the interactive touch table we have been working on for the past year.

Key updates will include revisions to the Wasatch Front topographical map, with updated ski resort information, Evolution of Skis exhibit (Alpine, Freestyle, & Cross Country), and all new additions with an Avalanche Interactive Story and hands-on game allowing visitors to adjust temperature, precipitation, and wind conditions to see how they can all affect avalanche conditions in real-time. A photo booth will provide visitors with the opportunity to choose from six different backgrounds to compile a short animation of their experience at the museum, then share it with others. A display case featuring the evolution of snowboarding will feature artifacts and key historical facts and photos.

The north side of the museum will be closed for construction from early September to the beginning of November 2021. A grand opening will be planned late 2021 or early 2022.



The original *Ski Like an Olympian* exhibit from 2002 on the north side of the Museum

**Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation** 3419 Olympic Parkway | PO Box 981087, Park City, UT 84098  
Connie Nelson, Executive Director | [cnelson@uolf.org](mailto:cnelson@uolf.org)



Ted Ligety racing at the 2015 Beaver Creek World Championships. Photo Courtesy Cody Downard



**Ted Ligety**  
Alpine Skiing  
Hometown: Park City, Utah

Ted Ligety is a Park City native and one of the greatest giant slalom racers of all time. Among others, his achievements on snow include four Olympic appearances (2006, 2010, 2014, 2018), two Olympic gold medals (2006, 2014) and five world championship titles. In 2013 he was also the first skier to earn three gold medals at a single world championship since Jean Claude Killy in 1968. Going into the 2018 PyeongChang Games, Ted had his sights set on his third Olympic gold medal. Unfortunately, it was not meant to be as Ted's best finish was 5th place in the alpine combined event. Regardless, Ted Ligety remains one of the hardest working skiers on the World Cup circuit and one of Park City's most beloved Hometown Heroes.

# HOMETOWN HERO RETIRES

## Ted Ligety, the *King of Giant Slalom*, retires from skiing after a successful 18-year career

By Chelsea Steinbach

Park City's own Ted Ligety had hopes of racing one last time in the giant slalom race at the Alpine World Championships in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy - but the ski gods had a different path in mind.

"Yesterday, I woke up to the worst sciatic pain of my life," Ted posted on his Instagram account. In 2017, Ted underwent back surgery. Unfortunately, just days before his final race in Cortina, an MRI revealed herniated discs, making skiing unsafe.

Ted grew up ski racing with the Park City Ski Team and became the hometown hero when he won gold in his first Olympic GS race during the 2006 Torino Olympic Winter Games.

Ted held an emotional press conference from Cortina where he acknowledged his Park City roots, "I'm definitely a product of growing up in Park City. Growing up there with the World Cup every single year, watching the best in the world ski down the hill that I trained on every day, was hugely inspirational. I couldn't have done it if I had grown up in any other town, that's for sure."

After retiring from ski racing, Ted will continue his involvement with his company, SHRED, and spend more time with his family. Ted and his wife, Mia, have three sons--Jax (3) and twins Will and Alec (8 months). He also plans to help bring the Olympics back to Salt Lake City.

"I would love to just see it there again. I would have loved to have raced there while I was still in my peak, but to be able to see it and have my kids experience an Olympics in their hometown would be pretty amazing," said Ted.

Ted is a four-time Olympian (2006, 2010, 2014, 2018), winning two Olympic gold medals (2006, 2014), and a five-time World Champion in multiple disciplines. At the 2013 World Championships in Schladming, Austria, Ted won three gold medals in Super G, GS, and the Combined - the first skier to do so since Jean-Claude Killy in 1968.

"I have given everything I had to this sport and I am grateful for everything ski racing has given to me in return," says Ted. "Now it's time to get my back healthy to support a lifetime of playing and skiing with my kids. Thank you everyone for your support."

Thank you, Ted, for giving Park City such an honorable Hometown Hero!

← Be sure to check out Ted's display, a part of our Hometown Heroes exhibit, at the Alf Engen Ski Museum located inside the Joe Quinney Winter Sports Center.

### TED LIGETY

**2X** OLYMPIC CHAMPION

**3X** WORLD GS CHAMPION

**5X** GS TITLEHOLDER

**336** WORLD CUP STARTS

**25** WORLD CUP VICTORIES

**52** WORLD CUP PODIUMS  
*across 5 disciplines*

# MORE THAN THE GREATEST SNOW ON EARTH

## Summertime in the Mountains

By Paul Marshall, Ski Utah



**SKI UTAH**  
THE GREATEST SNOW ON EARTH



Ziplining at Sundance Resort

Did you know that Utah ski resorts are some of the *Greatest* places to visit during the summer? Utah's 15 resorts offer outdoor summertime experiences that (some might argue) top *The Greatest Snow on Earth*. There are so many options for different experiences. Here are just a few:

For the visual learners: Many Utah resorts offer breathtaking vistas. Take a quick tram ride to the top of **Snowbird**, and don't forget to take a picture before you leave. Drive up to **Alta Ski Area** and walk among some of the most vibrant wildflowers in the country. If you're a night owl, visit one of the many designated Dark Sky Parks, like the one at North Fork Park near **Powder Mountain**.

For the kinesthetic learners: There are never-ending trails for hiking at all levels at every one of Utah's resorts. Park City alone has over 400 miles of them. After the hike, take a ride on **Park City Mountain's** alpine coaster. Experience the world-class mountain biking at **Deer Valley**. Head to **Sundance Mountain Resort** and go ziplining and fly fishing all in the same day.

For the auditory learners: With over 300 outdoor live entertainment events every summer, you can find outdoor music almost every night at Utah resorts. Check out **Snowbasin Resort's** Blues, Brews and BBQ, or listen to some fantastic live music throughout the summer at the base of **Solitude Mountain Resort** or **Brian Head**.

Lastly - and this is for everyone else - you can't forget the delicious on-mountain eateries. They pair well with some of Utah's own local breweries or our famous High West Whiskey.

Experience Utah resorts this summer. It's the *Greatest!*

Check out **skiutah.com** for more activities, including a complete resort concert list.



Mountain Biking at Deer Valley Resort



Wildflowers at Alta Ski Area

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Thank you to all our donors and members!

January - December 2020

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Quinney, David & Shari

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\*made multiple donations

## 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**.

<b>CORPORATE:</b>	\$5000	<b>CONTRIBUTING:</b>	\$100
<b>SUSTAINING:</b>	\$1000	<b>FAMILY:</b>	\$50
<b>ENRICHING:</b>	\$500	<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>	\$25



# IN MEMORIAM

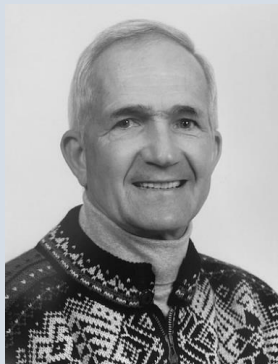


Mel Dutcher with her husband, John, and one of their dogs in training

## MELANIE DUTCHER (1953-2020)

It is with sadness we report the loss of one of our valued docents, Melanie Dutcher. We have been honored to have had Mel as a part of our docent family and a person we were all lucky enough to call a friend for over 12

years. We have lost a bright spark who gave herself freely, volunteering here at the museum and as a valued puppy raiser with the Canine Companions for Independence organization. Mel and her husband, John, also volunteered each year for one week at the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah. Mel was always willing to help, no matter what the chore (we learned a lot about cleaning products from her). She enjoyed raising puppies with John and gave many lucky souls a dog to help them through life.



## BILL SPENCER (1936-2020)

Bill was a champion biathlete as recognized with his many accomplishments, including Collegiate Biathlon All-American for the University of Utah, U.S. Olympic Biathlon Team, U.S. Biathlon Champion, and Canadian National Biathlon Champion. He served in the U.S. Army and retired as a

Photo courtesy The Salt Lake Tribune

Lieutenant Colonel. Bill went on to become the shooting coach and Team Leader for the U.S. Olympic Team, then became the coordinator of the National Guard Bureau Biathlon Program and U.S. Biathlon Association Coach/Development Coordinator. He served as technical delegate for the International Pentathlon and Biathlon Union (UIMB) during the 1998 Olympic Winter Games and served as Deputy Chief of Competition-Biathlon during the 2002 Olympic Winter Games.



The Joe Quinney Winter Sports Center is home to both the Alf Engen Ski Museum and the Eccles 2002 Olympic Winter Games Museum

# TWO WORLD CLASS SKI MUSEUMS

## A Story Steeped in History

By Mike Korologos

The Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation is the organization that runs the Alf Engen Ski Museum and the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles 2002 Olympic Winter Games Museum. The Foundation includes 18 board members, including six who have been at their posts since 1993 (see page 9).

This stalwart group consists of Alan Engen, David Quinney, Dr. Greg Thompson, Barbara Yamada, Mike Maughan and Mike Korologos. Each provides an exceptional amount of experience, expertise and knowledge of history and skiing in the region that affords the museums an inordinate foundation rarely found on any board.

The pied piper of this fortuitous collection of expertise is Alan K. Engen. In the early 1990s he made a few phone calls to friends asking them to help him “set up a little A-frame building someplace” to house the vast collection of trophies, awards and memorabilia belonging to his late father, storied ski legend Alf Engen, named “Athlete of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century” by the *Salt Lake Tribune*. Many of Alan’s friends answered his siren call and six have continued in their roles on the board, guiding the entity, which has morphed from “a little A-frame” dream into the \$11 million, 29,000 square foot S. J. Quinney Winter Sports Center at Utah Olympic Park, where it is an integral part of Utah’s Olympic legacy. In fact, the Eccles museum is the only Olympic Games museum in the West.

The Quinney center opened in 2002 after serving as a media sub-center during the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, thanks to its proximity to the Olympic sliding track and ski jumping hills. Today, Alan’s original board, teamed with 12 other members, give the group a synergy of unparalleled knowledge of skiing and its history in the region. (Read more on the original Charter Members on the next page.)



# Meet the Charter Members of 1993 to Present

Continued from page 8



**ALAN K. ENGEN** is the museum's founding chairman and current chairman emeritus; University of Utah NCAA ski racing All-American; member of the U.S. Ski Hall of Fame and Intermountain Ski Hall of Fame; junior, collegiate, senior ski racing circuit champion; ski instructor, ski school director, ski historian and author.

**MIKE KOROLOGOS** is the board vice chairman; member, Intermountain Ski Hall of Fame; award-winning ski writer; media director of the 2002 Bid and Organizing Committees for the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.



**DR. GREGORY THOMPSON** is a noted Western historian, author, founder of the nationally acclaimed Utah Ski Archives at the University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library and associate dean for Special Collections at that library; member Intermountain Ski Hall of Fame.

**DAVID QUINNEY** is a professional photographer and grandson of S.J. Quinney, whose S. J. Quinney Foundation provided a major portion of the funding for the building which bears his name.



**MICHAEL MAUGHAN** is the board treasurer; general manager of the Alta Ski Area, Utah's first ski area, which was founded in 1939 by S. J. (Joe) Quinney.



**BARBARA YAMADA** is the foundation's board secretary; former IBM employee; junior circuit, collegiate and Olympic official; chair; member, Intermountain Ski Hall of Fame.



## VISIT OUR 2002 OLYMPIC MUSEUM FOR A GOLD MEDAL FLASHBACK

*By Mike Korologos*

Young girl admires Olympic medals in the Eccles 2002 Olympic Winter Games Museum

Did you know the gold, silver and bronze medals from 2002 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games came from materials found in Utah mines?

Learn all about the making of the medals and more in the fascinating flashback on display at the Eccles 2002 Winter Olympic Games Museum inside the Joe Quinney Winter Sports Center at the Utah Olympic Park.

Here, visitors can compare the marked differences between ski jumping skis and alpine skis, hold the weight of a heavy curling stone in their hands, see the actual molds used to produce the 2002 Olympic and Paralympic Games gold, silver and bronze

medals made by Utah's own O. C. Tanner, and view spectacular footage from the opening and closing ceremonies that wowed millions worldwide.

While the 2002 Games are in the rearview mirror, the prospects of Salt Lake City hosting another Winter Olympic Games in 2030 or 2034 are very much at the forefront for Utah's winter sports aficionados.

Admission to the Eccles 2002 Winter Olympic Games Museum, along with its accompanying museum, the Alf Engen Ski Museum, is free!

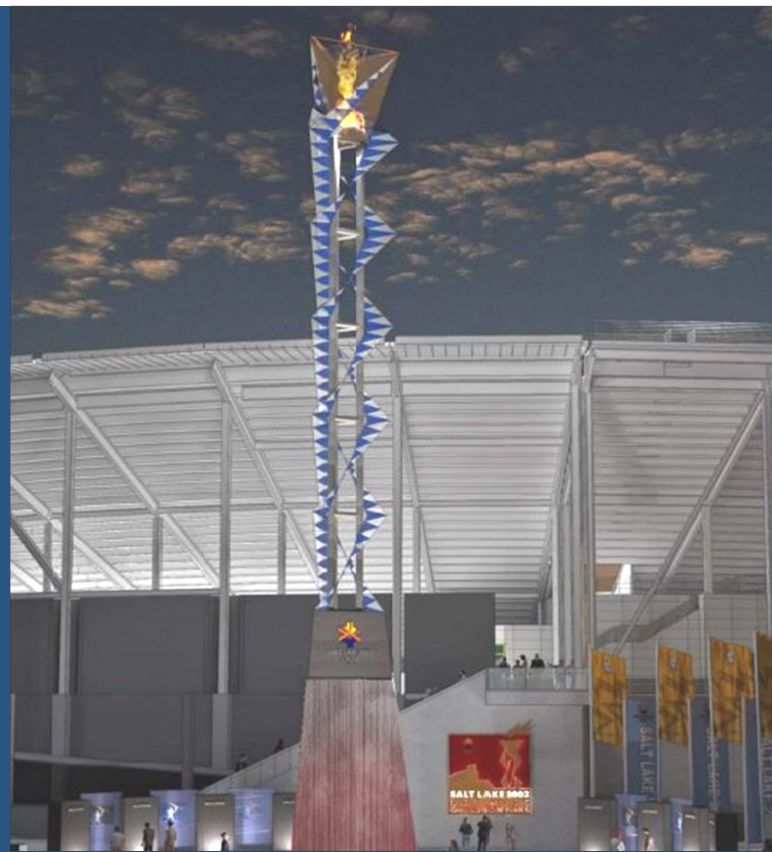
Let the 2002 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games flashback begin!

## The 2002 Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games cauldron returns to *Cauldron Legacy Plaza*

The 2002 Olympic cauldron recently returned to Rice-Eccles Stadium after undergoing a yearlong refurbishment to preserve the icon's lifespan. The new *Cauldron Legacy Plaza* is located in a more prominent location and more available for the public to enjoy.

Visit the Eccles 2002 Olympic Winter Games Museum for more historic items inside the Joe Quinney Winter Sports Center at the Utah Olympic Park (see story on page 8).

Photo courtesy University of Utah: Cauldron Legacy Plaza design





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 83 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 are made by a committee from the University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library Ski Archives.

*The 2020 Intermountain Ski Hall of Fame inductees are:*



**LARRY WARREN**  
(1950 - )

Larry masterfully conveyed stories during his 45-year writing career that elevated Utah's winter sports image. He earned a degree in journalism from the University of Utah in 1977, then became a reporter on Salt Lake City's KUTV-2 for 27 years, covering the lead-up and staging of the 2002 Winter Games. He later served as manager of Park City's KPCW radio and his by-lines appeared on freelance articles. His broadcast stories appeared on The Today Show, NBC Nightly News, CBS This Morning, CNN, The Weather Channel, and others. He narrated numerous film and video production, served as master of ceremonies at winter sports events, and in 1995, received Ski Utah's Excellence in Ski Journalism Award.



**RANDY MONTGOMERY**  
(1947 - 1999)

Randy was a master of winter sports promotion. A 1970 marketing major from the University of Utah, Randy set out to "work around what I love." That led to nine years as marketing director at Park City Resort and later a 17-year stint as VP of marketing at Snowbird. In 1991, his talents were put to work on a larger scale, serving as executive director of Ski Utah. In 1993 through 1999, Randy directed the Utah Sports Authority, overseeing construction of the 2002 Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games, followed by joining the Salt Lake Organizing Committee. He then became the director of the Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation. Randy was killed in a motorcycle accident in 1999.



**HOWARD PETERSON**  
(1951 - 2020)

Howard was an outspoken and influential contributor to the Intermountain Area's winter sports landscape. In 1986, he moved the headquarters of U.S. Ski & Snowboard to Utah, putting athletes close to major training and competitive venues. He helped heighten the profile of Park City's America's Opening World Cup race during the 80s, which put Utah on the map for the 2002 Olympic bid. His penchant for encouraging the development of sustainable competition sites led to Soldier Hollow, the biathlon and cross country venue in the games. Howard retired as the director of the Soldier Hollow Foundation in 2014.



**Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation**

PO Box 980187

Park City, UT 84098

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

## **ALF ENGEN SKI MUSEUM FOUNDATION**

*The Alf Engen Ski Museum Foundation was established in 1989 with a vision to be recognized as the world leader in ski history museums and a mission to preserve the rich history of skiing in the Intermountain Region. We strive to provide a world-class facility which highlights the many contributions made in ski area development, athletic competition, snow safety, ski innovation and ski teaching methods.*

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



## **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 for a fun,  
educational, and FREE experience!**

*Iliana, Alexander and Christina Martinez-Adame were visiting from Long Beach, CA and enjoyed a fun and safe ride on our Mountain Sport Simulator*

