



# THE UNRECABLES

NEWS

THE UNRECABLES • MEMBER CHAPTER OF MOVE UNITED

SPRING ISSUE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
THE UNRECABLES

APRIL-JUNE 2026

## HUGE FUNDRAISER AT MAMMOTH MARCH 28

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AMANDA DAVIS



Welcome to Spring ski season!

The ski season kicked off with a series of intense storm cycles; especially in February bringing about 90 inches to Mammoth. Our Unrecables group enjoyed incredible January and February trips with near perfect conditions as **Victor Chan** shares in his report. Now as we come into our March trip, the slopes will start out firm, but soften throughout the day with highs in the 50's. Hopefully, the conditions last long enough to take us into April this year. If you are interested in joining us, please reach out to Victor asap.

BIG NEWS coming up: Wailer's Ski-a-thon Fundraiser on March 28th with a portion being donated to The Unrecables! Fundraising closes midnight March 27. If you want to personally donate, please donate: <https://app.99pledges.com/fund/wailers202>

We are still a bit shy of our goal. But there is still time to get your donations in!

*continued -- p. 4*



January fun with Dr. Bob Darvish at Mammoth.

**WAILERS SKI CLUB**  
**2026 VERTICAL CHALLENGE**  
*benefitting The Unrecables*

Mammoth Mountain  
March 28, 2026

*All fundraising efforts online.*

[app.99pledges.com/fund/wailers202](https://app.99pledges.com/fund/wailers202)

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Richard Olmsted, Vice President
- Mammoth in January
- February Fun
- January & February Trips
- Fundraising & FWSA News
- Ski Safety
- Membership Matters
- Calendar of Events
- Boccia Tournament - April
- Beat the Heat Sports Camp - May
- FWSA SkiCon 2026 - June

## RICHARD OLMSTED, VICE PRESIDENT

Hello Unrecables! I am your current Vice President (thanks Michelle), returning to the Unrecables in 2024 after a decades long absence. I first joined The Unrecables in early 1980s after meeting founder Ron Bass and I think Sigrid at LA Ski



Dazzle several years after a traumatic injury from a motorcycle crash on the mean streets of the Valley resulting in below-knee amputation and several spinal fractures. Having been a decent skier prior to injury and missing the thrill of carving those long, fast giant slalom turns, Ron convinced me to come up to Mammoth and try some three-trak. I found it was actually pretty easy and you can't cross your tips on one ski! I was easily keeping up with my instructor and got an incredible confidence boost. Truly the 'If I can do this, I can do anything!' attitude. It convinced me to get my own outriggers, ditch my 185s and go with a nice Rossignol 210. Afterwards I continued going out and up with friends and family.

A little about my history and current life. I like to say I was made in Missouri, formed in Oklahoma and like fine wine, finished in California. Moved to Chatsworth in fall of 1973 with my folks and 3 siblings where we got to enjoy all the benefits of SoCal not available in Oklahoma City: beaches, mountains, DISNEYLAND! We got to camp the Sierra, fish the ocean and mountain streams, golf year-round. I got married in '82, in '83 bought a house in Simi Valley.

I had a daughter in 1984 and lived happily ever after working, camping, golfing and gardening for 37 years until 2019. That year in June, my life changed drastically when my wife Cathy passed away from a cardiac event related to chemo

therapy. Needless to say that changed the course of my life. Then 9 months later as you may recall, the COVID pandemic changed all our lives. That led to an opportunity to volunteer for the City of Los Angeles COVID testing program where I worked for CORE and LAFD at various test sites administering said tests. That turned out to be one of the most fulfilling and fortuitous experiences of my life, meeting and working alongside an amazing group of people, helping me recover my sanity after my wife's passing. During that time I also reconnected with a widowed acquaintance (Paula) who put me in touch with a grief counseling organization she had participated with when she lost her husband in 2011. We would occasionally get together to commiserate on our situations related to relationships, loneliness, pandemic difficulties, etc. ultimately leading to a great friendship and for better or worse we got married in May 2024. So now we are getting used to a new life together with 2 grandchildren and 2 step daughters in Oregon, my daughter in Texas, taking some time planning what we want to do for the future.

Ski on! 🎿

*Richard*

## MAMMOTH IN JANUARY



## FEBRUARY FUN



## JANUARY & FEBRUARY TRIPS VICTOR CHAN



In January we had a great time with **Dr Darvish**, and finally the weather cooperated with us for his trip! Blue skies and calm winds greeted us and he and **Jay** did an excellent job navigating through some busy runs. Saturday morning we fortunately got Dr. Bob situated in his bi-ski perfectly and he was balanced and in control. The addition of velcro to his helmet really kept the elastic band in place. **Julio, Jimmy** and I shadowed and helped with the lifting, pushing through the line, pulling and installing "the pin". Julio was in charge of adjusting Dr Bob's hands and a few mostly complimentary nicknames were conjured up for him. We were like a well oiled machine! When it came time to head in at the end of the Saturday session, we took St Anton run where I had trouble keeping up with Dr. Bob and Jay!

**Hannah** and **Bob** held volunteer clinics for the other volunteers who were not with Dr. Bob. They practiced with an empty bi-ski and on Sunday Julio was able to "bucket assist" on his snowboard.

**Lisa** helped Hannah at Saturday evening's dinner with her expertly crafted salad stole. My prayers to the broiler gods (there's photo evidence of me kneeling at the oven) worked and the garlic cheese bread came out just right (unless you're Jay). We watched the videos of Dr. Bob and enjoyed the evening.

Sunday morning we got in a few more runs with Dr. Bob and finished up a successful (and injury free) weekend. Pics and videos are at

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/3EGv-WoTh7aciwFPh8>

**Kenny Chan** and I were not able to go on the February trip, but **Hannah, Dave, Julio, Dominic, Jay, Amanda, Lance, Joel H, Matt, Glenn, Bob, and Dan** did an excellent job with students Sean S and new student **Scott Faulkenburg**. Recent significant snowfall resulted in great snow conditions and the weather cleared in time for the trip. With Sean's approval, Bob experimented with taking him to Eagle Lodge on Sunday for slightly steeper runs than off of Discovery chair and it was a success. Bob gave Sean tips and by the end of the session Sean skied as well as Bob had ever seen.

Julio and Dave were in the group that skied with Scott (below the knee amputee) and from the video evidence (thanks Dave!) Scott is a formidable skier, taking non-stop runs down Stump Alley and Mambo like a pro, with better form than some of our volunteers! He even managed to avoid a crash involving other riders. See for yourself at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/EFv-dUsYjKSXJiGqbA>

The March trip is shaping up to be a big one, with students on the waiting list. If they can't make it in March we should be able to host them in April. Take care and Think Snow! ♦

Victor



FUNDRAISING & FWSA NEWS  
SIGRID NOACK



**M**arch 28th is our huge Wailers/Unrecables Vertical Challenge fundraising event at Mammoth!

This is the second year, that our Wailers Ski Club friends have chosen us as the beneficiary of this wonderfully fun event. It's not too late to help out by donating to The Unrecables via one of our members, like **Gordon, Victor, Sigrid** or others, and you can also partake in our very important event on that day. If we have more volunteers on our trip, than are needed for our students, you may be able to join Wailers' members to rack up mileage on the mountain. Check it out at [Wailersskiclub.com](http://Wailersskiclub.com).

LAC has just selected its Volunteer of the Year, and it is our very own **BOB HAYES**. A huge congratulations to Bob! We are very proud of you. Bob will be interviewed at the FWSA convention in San Diego in June, along with honorees from other Councils. From this group of outstanding volunteers, one person will be awarded FWSA Volunteer of the Year. The prize is a trip the Canada's beautiful BIG

WHITE SKI RESORT, a 5-day ski/board package for 2, including lift tickets and rentals! Good luck, Bob! Several of us will be at convention, cheering you on.

The FWSA convention is only weeks away. It should be another fabulous event, this time with some serious changes! Several Unrecables members have already made reservations to be there on June 11-14 in San Diego at the beautiful Marriott Mission Valley. SkiCon 2026 will present similar events of previous conventions, but the Friday Silent Auction will be mostly online. You can bid on items at convention or from home! Wow! Could be amazing! Stay tuned for further explanations.

Hope to see you in San Diego in June. Our Unrecables delegates so far are **Dee Armstrong, Hannah Nishimoto, Sigrid Noack**, and our special honoree **Bob Hayes**. Join us for this interesting fun event. ♦



President's Message

continued -- p. 1

At the end of the day join us across the parking lot at the Mammoth Lodge as the Wailers award prizes and raffles along with some fun stories, laughs, and maybe a cocktail or two.

Big thanks to all of our volunteers and our students for being a part of this great club. Share the joy and let's see if we can increase the students we serve!

Have a great spring and THINK SNOW! ♦

Amanda

**SHORT SKIS: AGILITY. FUN. FREEDOM.**

**SKI BLADES SKISKATES SNOWBLADES** Range is 15 inches (38 cm) to 47 inch (120 cm) Traditional skis start at 59 inches.

<b>AGILE</b> Quick turns for moguls	<b>CLUMSY</b> Hard on light slopes
<b>COMPACT</b> EASY TO CARRY	<b>HARD HASSLE</b> Requires car rack
<b>EASY TO TRAVEL</b> Fits in backpack	<b>SAFETY FIRST</b>
<b>FAST</b> Beginners learn faster	<b>CONFIDENCE BOOTS</b> Easier learning curve

Sigrid

**Wear A Helmet**

**Wear goggles with sun shade**

**Wear sunscreen**

**Dress warmly and in layers**

**WHAT TO LOOK FOR:**

**1. HOW LONG? AGILITY vs. STABILITY**

**65 CM: MAX AGILITY**  
Quick Turns

**99 CM: ALL-MOUNTAIN BALANCE**  
Stability/Control

Use ski boots or just regular winter boots.

TRADITIONAL \$800+ SNOWFEET™ STARTING AT \$250  
9 LB WEIGHT SAVING

**CHOOSE FUN, FLEXIBILITY & FREEDOM!**

★★★★  
"EASILY ONE OF THE BEST PURCHASES I HAVE EVER MADE TO DATE"

\*Snowfeet's short skis redefine winter sports by eliminating hassle, reducing costs, and delivering unmatched agility on all terrains.\*

**MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**  
**JOHN GRAY**



**U**nrecables Family – It is not too late to show your support for The Unrecables this (2025-26) season. The Unrecables BOD works year-round to raise money to fund our operations and ensure that we can still offer free services to members with a disability and still be able to offer scholarships to those in financial need. Our mission:

*“To support and encourage people with disabilities to participate in snow sports, enjoy outdoor activities, and be more physically and socially active.”*

To renew your 2025-2026 membership, donate, or to become a member for the first time, please visit our website at [Unrecables.org](http://Unrecables.org). If you are unable to join us on the slopes this season, we would still appreciate your membership dues and support.

Please contact our Membership Director, **John Gray**, with any questions: [jcgraydpt@gmail.com](mailto:jcgraydpt@gmail.com). ♦

*John*

**BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP**

- Four issues of the club newsletter (quarterly)
- Priority on all trips and activities
- Members do not pay any trip fees for ski trips to Mammoth
- Assistant instructors can ski/snowboard 1.5 days, per trip, for FREE.
- Students: No fees for the lifts, ski equipment or professional instruction
- Exclusive invitations to our parties and special events
- Members are invited to attend our Board and Social Meetings
- Eligible to run for office
- May assist with organizing trips and activities
- Your dues help us to continue to offer these FREE services.
- Gives you that really good feeling that you are doing the right thing!

**We appreciate your Participation and Support**

Membership categories:

Individual (annual)	\$40
Individual (lifetime)	\$320
Family (annual)	\$60
Family (lifetime)	\$480
Corp/Organization	\$50/year or \$200/five years

**SUPPORT THE UNRECABLES AND SHOP RALPHS!**

**RE-REGISTER YOUR RALPHS CARD**

1. Go to [www.RALPHS.com](http://www.RALPHS.com)
2. Scroll to bottom of the Home page.
3. Click “Kroger Community Rewards” under Community Contribution.
4. Click Link your Shopper’s Card.
5. Fill in your info (NPO # WY343).
6. Watch your grocery shopping save YOU \$\$ and at the same time earn \$\$ for our club!

*Thank you for your support!*

**Contact Sigrid Noack**  
[sigski@gmail.com](mailto:sigski@gmail.com)



*Thank You*  
**Mammoth Mountain**

*for your support of our adaptive ski program.*

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**April**

- 11-12 Boccia tournament
- 14 Social on Zoom @ 6:30p
- 17-19 Mammoth trip

**May**

- 12 Social on Zoom @ 6:30p
- 15-17 Mammoth trip
- 28-30 Beat the Heat Sports Camp

**June**

- 5-7 Mammoth trip
- 9 Annual Meeting & Elections
- 11-14 FWSA Convention

**July**

- 14 Social on Zoom @ 6:30p

**August**

- 11 Social on Zoom @ 6:30p

**Let’s go Sailing with California Inclusive Sailing**

Newport Beach

[californiainclusivesailing.com](http://californiainclusivesailing.com)  
949-675-2211  
[Christianbuhl4@gmail.com](mailto:Christianbuhl4@gmail.com)

**The Unrecables Scholarships Available**

Eligible to current members for trips and events.  
One scholarship per member per season.

For details please contact  
**Amanda or Victor**



Tournament  
Registration  
\$40

USA Boccia  
Membership  
\$75

# BURBANK REGIONAL

## LEVEL 2 TOURNAMENT



OPEN TO ALL  
ABILITIES

Individuals with  
developmental and  
physical abilities, all  
levels of experience,  
are welcome to  
participate in this  
Paralympic sport!

APRIL 11-12, 2026



# BOCCIA TOURNAMENT

BURBANK HIGH SCHOOL

902 N Third St. Burbank, CA 91502





# BEAT THE HEAT

**SPORTS CAMP • MAY 28-30, 2026**  
LONG BEACH & GLENDORA

Our annual **Beat the Heat Sports Camp** introduces individuals over the age of 14 to the world of adaptive sports and recreation, serving as a gateway to get involved in Casa Colina's

expanded, year-round Outdoor Adventures and Wheelchair Sports program. Camp activities are designed to include people with a wide variety of abilities.

**MAY 28**  
THURSDAY

Sailing, Gondola  
& Outrigger Canoe

**UNITED STATES SAILING CENTER**

5489 E Ocean Blvd,  
Long Beach, CA 90803



**MAY 29**  
FRIDAY

Deep Sea Fishing

**PIERPOINT LANDING**

200 Aquarium Way,  
Long Beach, CA 90802



**MAY 30**  
SATURDAY


Adaptive and  
Wheelchair Sports

**CROWTHER TEEN & FAMILY CENTER**

241 W Dawson Ave,  
Glendora, CA 91740



**CONTACT US**

 909/596-7733, ext. 4161

 [casacolina.org/beattheheat](https://casacolina.org/beattheheat)

# SAN DIEGO



HOST  
COUNCIL



**11-14**  
**JUNE**  
**2026**

 **SAN DIEGO MARRIOTT  
MISSION VALLEY**



**SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO**



**SHERI PARSHALL**  
**SKICON CHAIR**  
**(503) 706-0522**  
**SKICONCHAIR@FWSA.ORG**

**JEAN MCCASEY**  
**HOST COUNCIL COORDINATOR**  
**(858) 560-8722**  
**SANDIEGO@FWSA.ORG**

**BARBARA RAZO**  
**AUCTION/TRADE SHOW COORDINATOR**  
**(714) 401-7341**  
**SILENTAUCTION@FWSA.ORG**

**GAIL BURNS**  
**SPONSORSHIPS/MARKETING**  
**(560) 255-7883**  
**VPMARKETING@FWSA.ORG**

**LET'S GET ELEVATED!**  
**FWSA.ORG**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### APRIL

1 Harlee Gruenberg  
7 Kim Gundlach  
11 Bob Hayes  
14 Bobbie Benson  
20 Bob Darvish  
23 Anne Schmitt  
26 Roy Choi  
26 Michael Zimmerman  
28 Chrissy Knee

### MAY

12 John Grey  
18 Lauren Kucma  
29 Jessica Downs  
29 Greg Smith  
31 James Oakley  
31 John Oakley

### JUNE

1 Bridget Morell  
2 Cathy Kinder  
3 Chris Stanley  
5 Marina Sallaway  
10 Karen Boyko  
11 Dave Blanchard  
11 Dina Garcia  
11 Marc Lafleur  
27 Michelle McCarthy  
29 Cindy Julian



## THE UNRECABLES ADVISORY BOARD

### Bob Darvish, M.D.

*Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation,  
V.A. Medical Center, West L.A.*

### Billy Kidd

*Olympic Silver Medalist  
Director of Skiing, Steamboat Ski Resort*

### Jon Halperin, MD

*Chief of Psychiatry  
Sharp Rees-Stealy in San Diego  
Ski Patrol Snow Valley*

## FWSA TRIPS

### International Ski Week 2026

Chamonix, France  
February 28-March 7, 2026  
Extension to Paris & Normandy  
March 7-13, 2026

### FWSA Dive Trip 2026

Cayman Brac  
September 26-October 3, 2026

### FWSA Annual Ski Week 2027

Big Sky, MT  
January 23-30, 2027

### FWSA Adventure Trip 2027

Galapagos Islands  
Fall 2027

*Check out details at [fwsa.org](http://fwsa.org).*

## FWSA SKI WEEK 2027

### Big Sky, Montana

*January 23-30, 2027*

**Contact: Nancy Ellis**  
530-414-8261  
[FWSAtravelnancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:FWSAtravelnancy@sbcglobal.net)



## THE UNRECABLES

### 2025-26 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Amanda Davis, President

[amanda@enablingprosperity.biz](mailto:amanda@enablingprosperity.biz)  
949-887-3690

#### Richard Olmsted, Vice President

[UnrecableRichard@gmail.com](mailto:UnrecableRichard@gmail.com)  
805-368-7977

#### Kenny Chan, Secretary

[kennytchan@hotmail.com](mailto:kennytchan@hotmail.com)  
858-382-8164

#### Will Chung, Treasurer

[will90254@yahoo.com](mailto:will90254@yahoo.com)  
310-562-5396

#### John Gray, Membership Director

[jcgraydpt@gmail.com](mailto:jcgraydpt@gmail.com)  
858-740-8017

### APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

#### Jay Davis, Interim Ski Director

[jdavis@enablingprosperity.biz](mailto:jdavis@enablingprosperity.biz)  
949-378-7895

#### Victor Chan, Winter Trips Director

[trips.unrecables@gmail.com](mailto:trips.unrecables@gmail.com)  
858-208-6088

#### Bob Hayes, Equipment Manager

[ayso34rc.bob@gmail.com](mailto:ayso34rc.bob@gmail.com)  
310-529-5217

#### Joslyn McCarthy,

*Public Relations Manager*  
[joslynrae27@gmail.com](mailto:joslynrae27@gmail.com)

310-948-4827

#### Sigrid Noack,

*Sunshine/LAC Representative*  
[skisig@gmail.com](mailto:skisig@gmail.com)

310-499-8181

#### Dee Armstrong, Webmaster

[skideemon@earthlink.net](mailto:skideemon@earthlink.net)  
323-605-3396

#### Michelle McCarthy, Past President

[mvdpt@yahoo.com](mailto:mvdpt@yahoo.com)  
310-795-5517

#### Gordon Cardona,

*Communications Director*  
[gwcardona68@gmail.com](mailto:gwcardona68@gmail.com)  
562-480-4398 (text)

## Sunshine

**Will Chung & Family**  
*beloved father on hospice*

# THE UNRECABLES NEWS

## NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: JUNE 8

Coming up in the next issue:

- Ski trips
- FWSA Convention review ... and much more

**THE UNRECABLES  
ON ZOOM  
SOCIAL 6:30PM  
BOARD MEETING 7PM**

**2ND TUESDAY  
MONTHLY**  
April 14  
May 12  
June 9 - Annual Meeting  
(alt dates TBA)

*Check your e-mail for  
Zoom meeting link,  
or e-mail  
gwcardona68@gmail.com.*

## SPECIAL THANKS

Victor Chan  
Amanda Davis  
John Gray  
Sigrid Noack  
Richard Olmsted

## Photos Courtesy

Victor Chan  
Sigrid Noack

The Unrecables News  
*published by*

**CARDONA COMMUNICATIONS**  
**Gordon W. Cardona**  
*Publisher*  
gwcardona68@gmail.com

## THE UNRECABLES MEETINGS

**SOCIALS:** Every second Tuesday monthly at 6:30pm on Zoom. Check your e-mail for the Zoom link.

**BOARD MEETINGS:** Every second Tuesday monthly, following the Social on Zoom.

**LA COUNCIL MEETINGS:** First Monday quarterly at 7:00pm on Zoom. E-mail our LA Council Representative for Zoom meeting link. Everyone is welcome.

## FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION SAFETY SLOGAN

SKI WITH PRIDE, LET IT RIDE, WATCH ALL SIDES.  
FIRST WITH SAFETY AWARENESS

## CONTACT THE UNRECABLES

Text: 562-480-4398

Like us on Facebook

E-mail: [info@unrecables.org](mailto:info@unrecables.org)

Instagram: @unrecables

Website: [unrecables.org](http://unrecables.org)



P.O. Box 24856  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90024-0856

**SPRING 2026**

