

September 2016

Fall Newsletter



Welcome to the first edition of the Alyeska Ski Club's newsletter for the 2016/17 season. Unfortunately our fabulous Alaska summer can't last forever. But for skiing enthusiasts that's not such a bad thing. To get everyone excited and ready for the ski season, here's a look back and celebration of a few summer activities and more details on upcoming events and other ski club news.

We realize this is A LOT of information to digest all at once! For further reference, this newsletter is also available on our website alyeskaskiclub.com on the Home Page Quick Links.

CLUB HIGHLIGHTS



Note from ASC Board | Shane Langland, President

Happy Fall Alyeska Ski Club families!

What an amazing summer we have had. Lets hope our winter will be full of wonderful snow and great skiing. We have been busy this summer preparing for another great season for your Alyeska Ski Club.

There are a lot of opportunities to get involved with your club and we welcome and need your participation. There is a wealth of information on our website explaining how we operate as a club and what our needs are for volunteers. Without your time, commitment and support we can not continue to be successful. You, our members, are the reason we thrive as a ski club and have such a bright future. Thank you!

Looking forward to seeing you on the mountain this winter!

ASC NEWS | Staff Announcements

In July we announced to the membership the hiring of Alpine Director, [Scott Zahn](#), and Office Manager/Bookkeeper, [Mary Thomas](#). Scott is currently wrapping up his personal and professional obligations as the Program/Technical Director for the Nakiska Alpine Ski Association in Calgary and will be joining ASC on October 1. Mary joined ASC on August 15.

Additionally, we'd like to announce the hiring of [Peggy Finnegan](#) as our Devos Program Director. Peggy has been involved with the Alyeska Ski Club for 12 years as a parent and for the past 7 years as a coach for Devos. She has been working for 30+ years with youth in outdoor environmental education and early childhood education. Peggy is extremely passionate about the Devos program and is going to bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the position.

Look for more staff announcements, bios and contact information for both new and returning coaches as the website gets updated this month.

SKI CLUB PRO | On-line Program Registration

On-line registration for Mighty Mites, Devos, Freeskiing and Juniors will be live through Ski Club Pro on [October 1, 2016](#).

Registration for Masters will be available on [October 15, 2016](#).

Program offerings, supplemental guides and calendars are currently being updated on the website. Look for detailed announcements on the registration process coming out this month via email as well.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT | [Kierin Ramstad, Graphic Designer](#)

Most everyone knows ASC Volunteer, [Kierin Ramstad](#), as the Mighty Mite Coach with the funny nickname, "Banana". But did you know that Kierin is also the design force behind multiple club logos, websites, advertising and apparel? We have been the fortunate recipient of Kierin's philanthropic passion and commitment to all things skiing for over 20 years and we are very proud to be recognizing her in our very first Volunteer Highlight of this newsletter!



How many **years** have you been involved with ASC?

I started Mighty Mites at the age of 5 and continued racing through the Juniors program, until I graduated from high school in 1991. My Dad, Phil Ramstad, was the head coach of the Mighty Mite program, so every Christmas break through college, I volunteered as a substitute Mighty Mite coach. In 1996, I moved back to Alaska and my Dad recruited me to be a full time volunteer Mighty Mite coach for the 96-97 season. It was pouring rain the first day that season. I wore an ankle length yellow Helly Hansen rain jacket and have been called "Banana" ever since. I've also coached every year since that first day, making this my 20th season as a full time volunteer Mighty Mite coach... although it's hard to believe it's really been *that* long.

Ways you've volunteered with ASC?

I've volunteered as a Mighty Mite Coach and Board Member; race crew and gatekeeper for big race events (i.e. US Nationals); website design + development for [Mighty Mites](#), [ASC](#) and [AKskiswap.com](#); advertising and promotional design for ASC (and events), Mighty Mites and the ski swap; tee shirt design (i.e. annual Might Mite tees); and logo design for the Alaska Division. I also have volunteered as a youth soccer coach at the recreational, competitive and high school levels.



What's your philosophy about volunteering?

Growing up competing in youth sports like alpine skiing and soccer, helped to strengthen principles instilled in me by my parents: mostly perseverance, resiliency and the importance of relationships and community. Coaching and volunteering for youth athletics is, for me, a way to contribute back to the community in which I was raised to help ensure kids get the same great opportunities I received when I was a child and to promote the longevity of the program. Volunteering is not about material gain, rather it's about intrinsic reward.



COMING SOON

Custom ASC Race Suits from Borah Teamwear

Ever dreamed of wearing the same race suit as a World Cup athlete? Well, now is your chance. New for this season, ASC will be offering alpine race suits from [Borah Teamwear](#), the custom apparel supplier designing a suit for ASC alumni and World Cup athlete, [Kieffer Christianson](#). You'll be able to purchase the same race suit from this premium custom apparel supplier based out of Wisconsin that designs and manufactures all its product in their own USA factory. [Watch their latest factory video.](#)

The club design will be released later this month and you'll have the ability to order from an online team store with a variety of styles and colors. Additionally, Borah will be donating a portion of the team store proceeds to benefit [Kieffer Christianson](#) as he pursues his racing career!

ASC FALL EVENTS



SkiAk's Race Fit Weekend | September 17 - 18, 10a - 6p

Be sure to visit SkiAk for Race Fit Weekend, **September 17-18**. There will be reps and race department personnel from **Volkl, Atomic, Marker, Head, Rossignol, POC, LEKI, Dynastar/Lange and Oakley.**

First Tracks Membership Social | October 2, 5 - 7p

Fun for the whole family! This is a great opportunity to visit with your ski club friends, meet the coaches and learn about the club's program offerings for the upcoming season!

You're Invited

to celebrate Octoberfest with the



First Tracks Membership Social

October 2, 5-7pm
Hilltop Ski Chalet



Tickets will be \$18 per person and can be purchased online
click here for tickets

Catered by Sal's New York Grill & Catering
Live Music by Vinyl Floors
Meet the Coaches at 5:30pm

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Powder Hound's Race Fit Weekend | October 15 - 16, 12 - 6p

Another great opportunity to get ready for the season with Alaska's Certified Boot Fitters and Reps from **Marker/Volkl/Dalbello, Technica/Blizzard, Nordica, Shred, Atomic, Lange/Dynastar, LEKI and Descent**. More details will be sent to the membership in the coming weeks.

Junior Program Gear Exchange

October 15, 2015, 10am - 2pm | Race Training Center

Have some gently used race gear you'd like to sell? Or looking for specific gear from Junior Program athletes? Come out and join your friends during our annual gear exchange at the Race Training Center.

PREVIEW OF NOVEMBER EVENTS



2016 Winter Gear and Sports Swap

November 4 - 6 | UAA Alaska Airlines Center

It's never too early to start digging through your closets for winter gear and skis you'd like to sell. The UAA Ski Team & Alyeska Ski Club will be hosting the Winter Gear and Ski Swap again this year. This event is a fundraiser and all proceeds benefit the athletes from both programs. More details coming soon on AKskiswap.com!



Warren Miller's *Here, There & Everywhere* at the Bear Tooth Theatre Pub

November 10 - 13 | All shows begin at 5:30pm

Purchase tickets in advance [online](#) and at the Bear Tooth box office starting **October 11 at 10:30am**.

Proceeds from the sale of tickets benefits all ASC programs!

SUPPORTING OUR PARTNERS

***Ruin and Rose* Matchstick Productions** October 13 | Wendy Williamson Auditorium

Get excited for the new ski season with Matchstick Productions latest film *Ruin and Rose* directed by acclaimed filmmaker Ben Sturgulewski, who grew up in Alaska. You can watch the [Official Preview](#). There will be an array of raffle prizes and giveaways. The proceeds from the evening will support the [Alaska Avalanche School](#) and the [Chugach National Forest Avalanche Information Center](#).

Support our partners in the skiing community and [purchase your tickets now!](#)



THE DOWNHILL RACER RETURNS

TO

ARCTIC VALLEY SKI AREA

2:00PM - 8:00PM SEPTEMBER 24TH 2016

**Gates Open
2:00pm**

**T-Bar
Challenge
Mt. Climb
3:00pm**

**BBQ Starts
4:00pm**

**T-Bar
Challenge
Awards
5:30pm**

**Hillberg Ski
Club
Pie Auction
6:15pm**



Take on the T-bar Challenge!

This is an all ages event, Kids are encouraged to race!
Bottom to top 1/2 mile mountain run/climb with a 900ft vertical rise! This is a great event to introduce kids and new comers to Arctic Valley & Mountain Running!

Race entry is only \$15.00 & that includes the BBQ!

BBQ Tickets \$10.00 & Race Registration
@ signmeup.com (search T-bar)

This is a fundraiser for the Anchorage Ski Club to improve grooming and mountain infrastructure in support of Alpine Ski Racing at Arctic Valley.



ARCTIC VALLEY IS RUN ENTIRELY BY VOLUNTEERS FROM THE ANCHORAGE SKI CLUB, A 501(C)3 NON-PROFIT DEDICATED TO SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA'S ALPINE COMMUNITY!

Registration is open. [Purchase your tickets here.](#)

All proceeds go to the Anchorage Ski Club to improve grooming and mountain infrastructure for alpine ski racing at Arctic Valley.



SUMMER CAMP PHOTO GALLERY

Photo highlights from the Junior Program's Hood and France Camps this summer...





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