Winter Comes Exhibit Opens to Record Crowds

The Winter Comes: Oregon’s Nordic Ski History exhibit opened last month to a standing room only crowd at Deschutes Historical Museum. More than 175 donors and members celebrated the premiere of the exhibit that showcases 10,000 years of Nordic skiing.

Winter Comes: Oregon’s Nordic Ski History details the strong influence of the Scandinavian culture that pushed Central Oregon to the forefront of Nordic skiing in the early 1920s.

The exhibit is made possible through generous grants from the Bend Cultural Tourism Fund, the Oregon Cultural Trust, the Oregon Nordic Ski Foundation, and many local donors and businesses. The exhibit runs through November 2016.

Skyliners IPA Beer Premieres

The Deschutes Historical Museum has partnered with Silver Moon Brewing to develop our own special beer label called Skyliners IPA (Truth in advertising: It's actually Silver Moon’s Hop Nob).

The Deschutes Historical Museum (DHM) partnership will not only to help promote the Winter Comes Nordic Ski exhibit, but also raise additional funds for the museum. The beer made its debut at the exhibit opening last month. The Skyliners IPA and label is a tribute to the men and women of Bend’s first ski/mountaineering club. Founded in 1927, Skyliners introduced outdoor recreation to Central Oregon.

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The Charleston, hobo dance, hard time dance, old time dance or just plain waltz and foxtrot. If there is one type of entertainment that has stood the test of time in Bend over the years, it’s dancing.

With the railroad coming to Bend in 1911 and two of the largest sawmills in the United States opening up shop in 1915-1916, there was a growing demand for entertainment. Social functions were the glue that kept together the small, rural community of Bend. The many service clubs and organizations throughout the area had a need for get-togethers to keep the members entertained.

Bendites flocked to dance halls and gym floors to celebrate, be entertained and sometimes, just to forget the tough times.

You didn’t go “downtown” Bend in those years. “Uptown”

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THE PREMIERE OF WINTER COMES EXHIBIT IN PICTURES

Top: A selection of jump skis from 1930-1960. Among them, Bert Hagen’s odd skis and Frank Cammacks’ Norwegian Splitkein skis. Left to right, clockwise: Bob Woodward, Tim Gibbons and Gary Bonacker are enjoying stories about The Klamath. An early Skyliners jacket. Christine Jaccoud (visiting from Switzerland) and Joyce Northcraft enjoying the Skyliners’ photos and artifacts. 19th century mannequins Kristin and Håkon (handmade replica clothes by Lavender’s Green and Kay Demlow). Jarl Berg from Eugene (loaned us the 100 year old skis with sealskin) is reading about the Northland skis. Emil Teague’s beautiful wooden ski racks. Photos by Bodeene Amyot.
Putting On A Ski Exhibit: Behind the Scenes

Silver Moon Labeling Party – left to right: Volunteers: Chris Hice, Margaret Marshall, and Kathy Fish; and board members: Marsha Stout, Beau Eastes and Silver Moon marketing manager, Pam Balmuth. Kathy Fish and Marsha Stout is showing off the newly labeled bottles. Photos by Linda Orcelletto.

Skyliners’ Beer Premiere

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We are asking for a donation for $10 per 22 oz bottle, or $110 per case (that’s one free bottle per case!)

Many thanks to Paul Leighton, who designed the label. You’ll recognize the image is the same as the Skyliners poster. The poster is only $22.50 for members. A healthy portion of those sales go to the museum too.

Both are available at the museum.

But wait, there’s more!

Purchase a pint of Skyliners IPA on tap during the month of April and Silver Moon will donate $1 per pint to the Deschutes Historical Museum.

We are having a Skyliners’ IPA Bottle Launch party at Silver Moon, Tuesday, April 5 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m (or 5-8). There you can join in the fun for a good cause! We’ll have the 22 oz. bottles on hand, as well as other Skyliners’ items.

Cheers to Pam Balmuth and Alex Sarames with Silver Moon for making this happen. Here’s to a long lasting relationship!
Local News Items

Join Pine Tavern and the Historical Society for Martini Mondays

Join us for Martini Monday, for every special $5 martini, the Pine Tavern will donate a $1 to the Deschutes Historical Museum.

In celebration of the Pine Tavern’s 80th anniversary and Deschutes County is celebrating 100 years, Deschutes County Historical Society and Pine Tavern, the classic Bend restaurant is serving up special martinis every Monday afternoon.

Starting at 5 p.m. every Monday, the Pine Tavern bar mixologist shakes and stirs up delectable martinis that will make anyone swoon.

“We are proud to partner with the Deschutes County Historical Society in celebration of our mutual milestone birthdays, Deschutes County’s 100th Birthday and Pine Tavern’s 80th Birthday,” said Mike Poe, General Manager at Pine Tavern

The martini special changes every week – so come often to sample the tasty martinis. Don’t forget to check out Pine Tavern’s happy hour menu too.

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Oregon Folklife Network Seeks Eastern Oregon Artists

During April and May, the Oregon Folklife Network will be in eastern Oregon looking for excellent folk artists and culture keepers – traditional musicians, dancers, quilters, storytellers, cooks, saddle makers, fly-tiers, chain saw carvers, basket makers, and others.

To suggest someone they should meet, please send contact information to Riki Saltzman or Emily West or call 541.346.3820.

The mission of Oregon Folklife Network (OFN) is to make a meaningful difference in Oregon communities and Tribes by documenting, supporting, and celebrating our diverse cultural traditions and by empowering our tradition-bearers.

Welcome New Members

Barbara Etter
Carla Gullickson
Frank Roberson
Laurie Doherty
Robin Lawrence
Joe Emerson
Jeanine Bickett
Christopher Cassard
John Nelson

Our most precious memories are the physical photos from many moons ago. We treasure these gems! These photos represent our stories and who we are.

Scanning these photos is easy and necessary to keep the memories alive. Want to digitize your photo collection and share your family’s precious heritage with loved ones?

Are you nervous about shipping your photographs away to get quality scans and risk losing them? Get in touch with local, Oregon-based Prepixel today and schedule a session with a professional Digital Archives Specialist.

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e: prepixelpreservation@gmail.com
Entertainment in the 20s and 30s
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was the place to be and there were plenty of establishments that offered up a chance to dance.

Business professionals and mill workers could choose from dance halls such as the Hippodrome (where you’ll find the Deschutes Public Library nowadays), the high school gymnasium (today’s Boys & Girls Club), Sather Hall, or Downing Cafe. On occasion you could even dance below the stars at an open-air dance pavilion or in the middle of the street at an impromptu jitney dance.

The local dance halls offered both local and visiting dance bands. But it was the local bands that had the staying power. The Shevlin-Hixon mill orchestra, Paul Hosmer and his orchestra, Wilson George’s Orchestra and Halvorsen’s Orchestra headlined many of the dances during the “Roaring Twenties.”

As “Black Tuesday” came and went, and the country slipped into “the Great Depression,” cheap entertainment such as dancing became even more popular. The headliners of the day were Paul Black’s and Bud Russell’s orchestras that both played the local scene.

Bend never became mired in depression-era marathon dance contests, with the exception of the “Walkathon” that took place in May 1931 at the Hippodrome. The prize money was set at $100 to the winning couple still standing. The dance started on Saturday and ended in near-riot on Sunday.

After a couple was announced as winners, the promoter tried to skip town with the prize money in his pocket. The local police placed him in protective seclusion at his room at the Pilot Butte Inn. The winning “walkers” finally got their cash after a couple of days of legal wrangling.

Far more popular than the marathon dances were the “benefit dances” that took place in Bend during the Thirties. The entrance fees to the dance could be paid in cans of food that were later collected by the Red Cross and delivered to needy families in Bend.

While the Hippodrome is no longer, and it’s far and few between the dances at the old Bend High school gym, you can still stretch your legs and get into the groove at the many dance places in Bend.

The question is, would you be able to keep up with the teenagers or adults that jitterbugged or swing-danced the nights away in early day Bend?

– Tor Hanson

Mark Your Calendars

APRIL

5 SKYLINERS IPA LAUNCH PARTY
Silver Moon Brew Pub
24 NW Greenwood Avenue in Bend
5:00-7:00 p.m.

8 COLUMBIA RIVER HIGHWAY – 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY (Historic Lantern Slides)
Deschutes Historical Museum
FREE and open to the public. 6:00 p.m.

26 HISTORY PUB: BEND’S LEGENDARY LOCALS
Presented by Les Joslin
McMenamins Old St. Francis
Father Luke Room, 7 p.m., doors at 5:30 p.m

NO VOLUNTEER EVENTS THIS MONTH

JOIN US FOR MARTINI MONDAYS
APRIL, 4, 11 18, 25
Pine Tavern Restaurant