2014 Olympic/Paralympic Medal Winners, Wheaton
Headline Ski Affair
400 Expected at Marriott Library’s Nov. 5 Awards Banquet

Eight individuals from the Intermountain Area awash in national and international winter sports honors will receive more accolades Nov. 5 at the 24th annual Ski Affair, a fun-and nostalgia-filled fundraising dinner presented by the University of Utah’s J. Willard Marriott Library’s Ski Archives. The archives house the largest cache of skiing/snow sports history in the country.

Receiving History-Maker Awards from the library will be seven medal winners from the 2014 Olympic Winter Games that took place last February in Sochi, Russia. Bob Wheaton, president of Deer Valley, perennially ranked No. 1 among the nation’s ski resorts, will receive the library’s prestigious S.J. Quinney Award for his contributions to the industry.

Annually the library’s largest fundraising event, the Ski Affair is expected to attract more than 400 at the Little America Hotel in downtown Salt Lake City on Wednesday, Nov. 5. Activities will begin with a 6 p.m. reception and silent auction, followed by a buffet dinner, awards ceremony and vintage film footage.

Further spicing the event this year will be an “opportunity drawing” for a prize comprised of four Rossignol ski packages and four Park City Powder Cat excursions valued at over $9,000.

Quinney Award recipient Wheaton joined Deer Valley in 1981 and became its president in 1997. His extensive public service work and contributions to winter sports are aligned with the legacy of the award’s namesake, Joe Quinney, who founded Alta Ski Area in 1937 and is considered “the father of Utah’s ski industry.”

Putting its pedal to the medals, the library will present its History-Maker Awards to these 2014 U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Team medalists with roots in the Intermountain Area:

- **Joss Christensen**, Park City, gold medalist, slopeside skiing;
- **Kaitlyn Farrington**, Bellevue, Idaho, gold medalist, women’s halfpipe, snowboarding;
- **Sage Kotsenberg**, Park City, gold medalist, slopeside snowboarding;
- **Ted Ligety**, Park City, gold medalist, alpine skiing giant slalom;
- **Danelle and Rob Umstead**, Park City, bronze medalists, alpine super combined, Paralympics;
- **Keith Gabel**, Ogden, bronze medalist, snowboard cross, Paralympics.

Adding a healthy dose of history to the history-accented evening will be the recognition of two milestones occurring in the area’s winter sports scene this season: the 40th anniversary of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Assn. (USSA) establishing its headquarters in Park City and the 25th anniversary of the founding of The Utah Nordic Alliance (TUNA).

According to Barbara Yamada, chair of a 40-member all-volunteer advisory board that plans and stages the Ski Affair, the event is open to all and tickets cost $70. Tables of 10 may be reserved for $1,500. Reservations deadline is October 28th. -- Mike Korologos
Bob Wheaton to Receive U. Library’s Quinney Award

The University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library Ski Archives’ S. Joseph Quinney Award is named in honor of the late Utah lawyer, businessman, state legislator, ski visionary and founder of Alta Ski Area in 1938, who is referred to as “the father of Utah’s ski industry.” The library presents the award to an individual or organization that has exhibited the same public-spirited attributes and contributions to winter sports as its namesake.

2014 S. Joseph Quinney Award Honoree
Bob Wheaton

Bob Wheaton is president and general manager of Utah’s Deer Valley Resort, which annually is rated among the best in several categories in North America by skiers nationwide. He joined the resort in 1981 and became its president in 1997.

A native of Michigan and a graduate of Macomb College, Wheaton is extensively involved in community and industry-related organizations. He is past president of the board of directors of both the Park City Chamber and Visitor’s Bureau and the Intermountain Ski Areas Association.

Wheaton is recipient of the Outstanding Contribution Award from the Intermountain Ski Areas Association and has served on the Chamber of Commerce and the Utah Rotary Club’s Professional Citizen of the Year Award.

The honoree was inducted into the Utah Tourism Hall of Fame and worked closely with the organizing committee for the Olympic Winter Games of 2002, which had Deer Valley staging the moguls, dual moguls and aerial events. He also serves on the Utah Olympic Legacy Foundation’s board of directors. He lives in Woodland, Utah.

Previous S. J. Quinney Award recipients are: Alf Engen, Joe Quinney, Nick Badami, Charles “Chick” Morton, Earl Miller, Wilby Durham, M. Earl Miller, Junior Bounous, Spencer F. Eccles, Stein Eriksen, Corey Engen, Zane Doyle, Suzy Rytting, Janet Quinney Lawson, Edgar Stern, Karen Korfanta, Russ Harmer, Jim Gaddis, John W. Gallivan and Ted Johnson.
2014 HISTORY-MAKER AWARDS

The University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library Ski Archives History-Maker Award is presented to individuals or organizations from the Intermountain Region in recognition of their extraordinary accomplishments in winter sports.

HONOREE - Theodore S. “Ted” Ligety
Hometown, Park City, Utah. First-ever U.S. male Gold Medalist, Giant Slalom, 2014 Olympic Winter Games. Following a historic 2013 season where he won six of eight giant slalom World Cup races to solidify his position as a legend of his sport, Ted became the first American to win two Olympic Gold medals in alpine skiing by laying down phenomenal lines during the Sochi games. “To be able to throw down in an event that I had the most pressure in and I was the favorite in, to be able to do that is awesome,” he said of his latest Olympic victory. Skiing since the age of two and racing at 11, he won the Combined Gold Medal in the Torino, Italy, games in 2006 and is five-time World Cup Giant Slalom champion.

HONOREE - Sage Kotsenburg
Hometown, Park City, Utah. First-ever Gold Medalist, Slopestyle Snowboarding, Olympic Winter Games, Sochi, Russia. His now-storied trick he calls “the 1620 Holy Grail” was one he had never tried before and did not decide to try it until a few minutes before he dropped it. “I do random stuff all the time, never make up a plan,” he said of his feat that wowed the world. The “Holy Grail” is a move that makes it appear as if he’s spinning like a top as he rotates 4 1/2 times, grabbing the board behind his back in the process. Before his Olympic ride, he had spent most of his career on the sport’s second tier. When he won the final Olympic qualifying event just before the Olympic Games, it marked his first win since he was 11 years old. “I had a mega-drought,” he laugh.

HONOREE - Joss Christensen
Hometown, Park City, Utah. First-ever Gold Medalist, Men’s Slopeside Skiing, 2014 Olympic Winter Games. Skiing since the age of 3, he threw down two unbeatable runs in Olympic qualifiers and dominated the finals with two more unbeatable runs, capped by his grand finale, a switch triple 1260 Japan, a trick he learned earlier in the week. He led fellow Americans Gus Kenworthy and Nick Goepper in a podium sweep, marking only the third time in Olympic Winter Games history that the U.S. swept a medal event. Making his feat more satisfying is that he had a rough start in the 2013-14 Olympic qualifying season and made the team only when the coaches awarded him a coveted “discretionary spot” on the inaugural U.S. Olympic Slopestyle Skiing Team.

HONOREE - Kaitlyn Farrington
Hometown, Salt Lake City, Utah. Gold Medal, 2014 Olympic Winter Games, Women’s Snowboarding, Half-pipe. A native of Sun Valley, Idaho, she grew up riding horses, which her mother credits for her smooth snowboard style and good balance. She learned to snowboard while in the fifth grade and became the first woman rider to perform a backside 900. But her triumphs haven’t come easily – she has had five wrist surgeries and didn’t qualify for the U.S. team until she nailed her run in the final Olympic qualifier one month prior to the Games. She put all that aside at the Rosa Khutor Extreme Park at Sochi when she rode two solid, stylish runs to win the gold for the U.S.
HONOREES - Danelle and Rob Umstead
Hometown, Park City, Utah. Bronze Medal, 2014 Paralympics Super Combined. World Cup standings: first, overall, slalom, first for speed; World Cup, Panorama, bronze, downhill and super combined; World Cup, Tignes, France, Silver Medal, downhill 1st run; Silver Medal, 2nd run; Bronze Medal, super combined. World Cup, Copper Mountain, Silver Medal, 4th slalom run; Gold Medal, 6th giant slalom run; Silver Medal, 4th giant slalom run. NorAm, Aspen, first, downhill; NorAm, Winter Park, Silver Medal, giant slalom, Bronze Medal, slalom. U.S. National Championships, Gold Medal, downhill and super-G. Due to a genetic eye condition, Danelle has “spotted vision” and can only see about 8 feet head. During a race, her husband, Rob, skis a few feet ahead and constantly talks to Danelle, via motorcycle-style headsets in their helmets, informing her about the terrain she is about to ski.

HONOREE - Keith Gabel
Hometown, Ogden, Utah. Bronze Medal, Paralympics Snowboard Cross; 2014 U.S. Paralympics Snowboard Cross championships, Bronze Medal; World Cup, La Molina, 3rd run, Gold Medal, second run, Silver Medal; World Cup, Big White, 2nd run Gold Medal, 3rd run, Silver Medal. A self-proclaimed “adrenaline junky,” Keith had to have his left leg amputated below the knee after an industrial accident in June 2005. He returned to his snowboard three months later. He says he loves to help people and is one of two Paralympic athletes who serve as ambassadors for Team for Tomorrow, a humanitarian program operated the U.S. Olympic Committee in which athletes offer assistance and support to communities in need through volunteerism and advocacy.

INTERMOUNTAIN SKI HALL OF FAME
Induction ceremonies for the 2014 Intermountain Ski Hall of Fame, Sept. 25, at the USSA Center of Excellence in Park City attracted a record 230 attendees. The Alf Engen Museum Foundation chose four members for this, its 13th class. A committee of ski/snowsport enthusiasts extensively knowledgeable about the history of winter sports in the region makes the annual selection.

This year’s honorees are: John Aalberg (Competitor, Utah), Spencer F. Eccles (Ski Sport Innovator & Competitor – Utah), Wilby Durham (Ski Sport Innovator – Utah, deceased), and Harold Seeholzer (Ski Pioneer – Utah, deceased).

Eccles, a former member of the University of Utah and U.S. ski teams, helped organize the 2002 Olympic Winter Games hosted by Salt Lake City. His efforts on behalf of the 2002 Games were recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) which presented him with its highest honor, the Pierre de Coubertin Medal, named in honor of the founder of the Modern Olympic Games.

A native of Norway, Aalberg was a Nordic skier and a cross-country runner for the University of Utah, qualifying for the U.S. Olympic Nordic team for the 1992 and 1994 Winter Games. Aalberg was venue designer/director of the Soldier Hollow Nordic venue for the 2002 Games and for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver.

After learning how to ski on homemade skis, Harold Seeholzer (1902-1968) established Beaver Mountain in 1952, hooking up a cable to a drive train from a 1936 Buick to create a lift in the upper regions of Logan Canyon.

Wilby Durham (1913-2000) promoted ski tourism and created the Deseret News Ski School that introduced skiing to tens of thousands of youngsters in the region. He also helped to establish the Olympic Club, a forerunner of Ski Utah, the marketing arm of the state’s ski industry.
This summer the U.S. Ski Team celebrated its 40th anniversary in Park City. Today’s Olympic heritage is a far cry from the humble beginnings when the Team opened its first National Training Center at Park City Resort. Located in renovated old mine buildings on the flats near what is now the Bonanza lift, the National Training Center opened its doors on October 28, 1973. In the summer of 1974, the U.S. Ski Team moved its offices from Denver to the former Mount Air Market at 537 Main Street.

The Training Center was the brainchild of legendary U.S. Ski Team Coach Willy Schaeffler, along with Park City Resort owner Edgar Stern. The project was developed to use three old mining buildings – one of which, the 1896 vintage Silver King Boardinghouse, is the still-standing Mid Mountain Lodge (albeit in a new location today).

Much changed in those first years, when Nick Badami acquired Park City Ski Area and when the team’s training center was shuttered; however, the U.S. Ski Team office remained and grew over the years. Today, Park City remains the home of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association, with its national training and education facility, the Center of Excellence, a proud showcase for America’s best skiers and snowboarders.

The impact of that history in Park City has been immeasurable. In Sochi alone, three Park City homegrown skiers and snowboarders (Sage Kotsenburg, Joss Christensen and Ted Ligety) won Olympic gold – a feat unmatched by any other community.

2013 Ski Affair Pics by Roy Webb

In Memoriam
Friends of Ski Archives

Rush Spedden - 1916-2013
Cal McPhie - 1923-2014
Mel Dalebout - 1933-2014
Leland Dennis II - 1940-2014
Marie Melville Irvine - 1940-2014
Les Fuller - 1943-2014
Tony Hedgecock - 1950-2014
Henry Laughlin - 1960-2014
OFF TO RUN THE RAPIDS AFTER 33 YEARS

AT THE LIBRARY

By Roy Webb
Archivist, J. Willard Marriott Library

Dear Utah Ski Archives,

After 33 years in the J. Willard Marriott Library, I am in the process of retiring from the University of Utah. I started as a student at the U in 1975, and took my first job shelving books in the library in 1977. I was hired full-time in the Documents Division in 1981 and moved to Special Collections two years later. In 1994, I became the head archivist over Multimedia Archives.

Even though I live by “Roy’s Rule of Winter Sports” (Mass x Velocity + Cold = Pain), I’ve long been the token non-skier on the board of the Utah Ski Archives. I’ve been involved with the Ski Affair, developed relationships with donors, built collections and worked with my professional staff in Multimedia to ensure that the many contributions of photographs, films, and oral histories by Utah skiers are preserved and made available to the public almost since its inception in 1989. I value the many wonderful people who work so hard to make it the premier event at the start of Utah’s ski season every year.

With my retirement, my wife Becci and I will spend more time at our second home in Moab, Utah, where there is very little skiing, but miles of redrock roads to explore. Thanks to the many volunteers on the Utah Ski Archives board and the members who have made it into the most comprehensive and complete ski history archive in the entire United States!

In the days before World War II, if you wanted to go down a river you went in a wooden boat. By the late 1930s, the types of wooden boats used to run rivers had settled into a few major types; the light, flat-bottom skiff called the Galloway-style boat, and the slightly heavier but more stable “sadiron skiff” or cataract boat designed by Norman Nevills. Both styles could navigate the rapids of the Green and Colorado Rivers, but they had disadvantages: they could only carry two or three passengers, and if you hit a rock with them, they broke and required a skilled hand to make repairs.

During the war, the US military developed a variety of inflatable boats to be used for assault crossings, life rafts, and many other uses. After the war, these crafts became available for surplus sales, and the modern inflatable river running raft was born. By the 1960s, the supply of surplus military rafts had dried up, and with river running beginning to become a major recreational pastime, new designs were developed and new manufacturers stepped in to fill the demand.

Like so many innovations where things happen quickly, the many changes in boat design were being lost as people moved on or participants passed away. Herm Hoops, a retired National Park ranger and long-time river runner from Jensen, Utah, began to realize that unless he started collecting this history, it would be lost. Herm traveled around the country, seeking out the boat manufacturers who made the inflatable craft and tracked down the businesses that sprang to life to meet the needs of the recreation river running market. Herm sought out river outfitters in the West who had worked closely with the factories that designed and produced new types of boats. He conducted interviews with them and was able to copy their photographs and records.

As Herm’s archive grew, Dr. Gregory Thompson, Associate Dean for Special Collections, recognized that here was true, pure research in a field of history that was undocumented. Dr. Thompson assisted Herm with funds to travel for interviews and make copies of photographs. As a result, the Quinney Utah River Running Archives now contains the fruits of Herm’s detailed and comprehensive research.

OCCASIONAL SERIES ON THE S. J. QUINNEY
RECREATIONAL ARCHIVES
THE UTAH RIVER RUNNING ARCHIVES

By Roy Webb

When all that snow melts, where does it go? Down the river, of course. River runners and skiers have a long history together; the Quinney family, along with the late president of Alta, Fred Speyer, were avid river runners. The Utah River Running Archives is part of the S. Joseph Quinney Outdoor Recreation Archives along with the Rock Climbing Archives and the Utah Ski Archives.
The Utah Ski Archives, which now includes snowboarding and cross-country skiing, has one of the most comprehensive collections in the entire country for research on the history and development of Utah's prospering winter sports industry.

Donations this past year have seen a slower pace of acquisition for the Utah Ski Archives, allowing the archive staff to focus on processing existing collections.

To that end, in February 2014, Paige Allred, a student in the Department of Education, was hired to be our Ski Archives processor. Paige has made great strides in getting the Ski Archives collections in order and helping with Utah Ski Archives events!

New collections and addenda to older collections have been received this year. They may be fewer in number, but they make up in quality what they lack in quantity!

Jacob Entjes donated a CD of images he took of Craig Gorder while he was with the US Ski Team from 1973-1975.

Matz Jenssen, ski jumper and ski racer, gave the Ski Archives two CDs containing scans of clippings documenting his long career, starting in the early 1960s as a member of the University of Utah ski team.

Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort continued to add to their collection of slides, negatives, contact sheets and promotional materials.

Nancy Lauritzen, daughter of Harold and Luella Seeholzer, donated photographs, a Beaver Mountain patch, clippings and digital images related to her parents and Beaver Mountain.

Sanny Greenawalt contributed a large color photograph of himself as a member of the University of Utah ski team in 1983.

Barbie Patterson-Kallerud donated a digital image of a female skier at a competition.

Alan Miller donated a binder of photographs documenting the skiing careers of his family, Alan, Dale, and Ray Miller.

Spencer F. Eccles, long-time supporter of the Utah Ski Archives and past honoree, added a scrap book entitled “Skiing, Spencer Fox Eccles,” containing photographs, slides and news clippings.

John Durham, Utah Ski Archives board member, donated digital copies of images of his father, Wilby Durham.

2013 Ski Affair photographs were added by Neil and Connie Rossmiller and Roy Webb.

And finally, Alan K. Engen, founding member of the Utah Ski Archives and stalwart contributor to Utah's ski history, added a number of new items to his already vast and comprehensive collection.

These included news clippings from his time as a member of the University of Utah ski team, and a number of DVDs of films and video programs that document his family's long and varied history as skiers, instructors and legends of Utah skiing.
SKI AFFAIR OPPORTUNITY DRAWING

New this year is a fabulous Opportunity Drawing donated by Rossignol and Park City Powder Cats and Heli Ski.

For a suggested donation of $20/ticket, you may participate in a drawing for the opportunity to win the ski package, while also supporting the J. Willard Marriott Library’s Ski Archives program. No more than 1,000 tickets are available. Limit 20 tickets per person. Contact Judy,jarrow@utah.edu for tickets or call Judy at 801-581-3421. Online purchases can be made by logging into the secure website tinyurl.com/SKIAF14. Remaining tickets will be available at the Ski Affair. The drawing will take place during the evening’s program and the winner will be notified, if not present.
The J. Willard Marriott Library Heartily Thanks
The Ski Affair Volunteers and Supporters

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Zaniac
The Utah Nordic Alliance, TUNA, is a community and organization of volunteers dedicated to promoting cross-country skiing in Utah, with an emphasis on the Wasatch Front and Back. It is organized as a non-profit ski club that was formed in 1990 as an alliance between the Park City Nordic Club and the Utah Nordic Ski Association. Most people interact with TUNA when they ski at Mountain Dell but TUNA has a broad reach in the Intermountain region with its highly successful Junior Ski Team, and its hosting of the Junior National Super Qualifier held at Soldier Hollow in February. TUNA’s Board of Directors head committees to direct the recreational Learn to Ski programs at Mt. Dell, the backcountry Yurt on the North Fork of the Provo River, the nationally renowned Wasatch Citizens Series, in addition to community outreach programs for at risk people, and numerous social events for Nordic skiers.

The club also publishes a monthly, professional newsletter, TUNA News, with a distribution of over 2000, as well as a professional website that keeps people informed about the latest snow conditions throughout the region as well as races and upcoming events.

There are numerous locations that offer excellent opportunities for cross-country skiing within an hour’s drive of the Salt Lake Metro area. White Pine in Park City, Snowbasin and North Fork Park in Ogden, Solitude in Big Cottonwood Canyon, and Sundance in Provo Canyon each have Nordic centers with between 10 and 20 km of groomed trails. The US Forest Service grooms the upper 8 kilometers of the Mill Creek Canyon road at least once a week. Mountain Dell ski area, twenty minutes from downtown Salt Lake, is groomed almost daily by TUNA volunteers and has 10+ km of track. And TUNA is proud to have been grooming trails at Mt. Dell for 20 years giving people access to top quality skiing minutes from a major metropolitan area! Soldier Hollow, site of the 2002 Olympic Cross Country and Biathlon events, has over 20 km of groomed trails for skiers of all abilities. In addition to the trails groomed specifically for cross-country skiing at Nordic centers, several hundred kilometers of groomed snowmobile trails exist within a one-hour driving distance of Salt Lake City, giving the Wasatch Front and Back an almost unlimited array of Nordic skiing opportunities.

**SKIING HISTORY MAGAZINE FEATURES UTAH SKI ARCHIVES, SKI AFFAIR**

The Ski Archives at the J. Willard Marriott Library at the University of Utah are featured in the September-October 2014 issue of Skiing History, the journal of the International Skiing History Association, Ishpeming, MI. Written by Mike Korologos, past chairman and long-time member of the Ski Affair volunteer advisory board, the article and accompanying photos and sidebars will be available on the web in late October at [www.skiinghistory.org](http://www.skiinghistory.org).

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**Thanks to the 2014 Sponsors of the 24th Ski Affair Evening**

- Little America Hotel
- Rossignol Pure Mountain Company
Greetings from the Chair
Barbara Yamada

The kick off to the 2014 Ski Season started with the Intermountain Ski Hall of Fame Induction Dinner on September 25th at the beautiful Center of Excellence. Sandwiched in between this and our 2014 Ski Affair are the Winter Welcomes in Park City and Ogden and a variety of ski swaps.

We are looking forward to celebrating the accomplishments from the 2014 Sochi Olympic Winter and Paralympic Games of several of our U.S. Ski and Snowboard Team and Paralympic Team members from the Intermountain area and honoring Bob Wheaton, the President and General Manager of Deer Valley with the S. J. Quinney Award.

New this year is the Opportunity Drawing. Many thanks to the generosity of Rossignol and Park City Powdercats, four people will be on the latest equipment from Rossignol to spend a day of powder skiing in the Uinta Mountains. Wouldn’t I love to be one of those??

The Ski Affair is always a great time to renew acquaintances, have wonderful food and drink. We hope you will be able to join us on Wed., November 5 at Little America. Here’s wishing for a great winter snowfall!!!