



The Unrecables

News

Disabled Sports USA • Los Angeles Chapter • The Unrecables • P.O. Box 24856, Los Angeles, CA 90024-0856

25th Anniversary Issue

The Official Publication of
The Unrecables

1980-2005



The Unrecables Celebrates 25 Successful Years!



1980's: The Unrecables on a monthly weekend ski trip at Mammoth Mountain.

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Ron Bass

Founder -- 1980-1985

I started working with the New Zealand Association for Disabled Skiers in the summer of 1980. When I got back the first year, I got the idea of starting an organization in Southern California which would teach snow skiing to all disabled persons. The only organization at the time that was doing anything similar was the National Handicapped Sports & Recreation Association (NHSRA) run by **Jim Thweatt** and they only taught amputees. NHSRA is now called Disabled Sports USA, but not after changing the name to National Handicapped Sports in the late 1980's.

I thought that there would be a lot of folks with disabilities missing out. So we started what soon became The Unrecables.

Before my third trip back to New Zealand, one member of The Unrecables asked me if there was any way I could take some of them to New Zealand for skiing and touring. I said if you guys can come up with the money, I will make it happen. I did not really expect eight Unrecables to come up with the cash but they did. **Michael Anthony, Tim Burton, Greg Evangelatos, Paul Douglas, Francis Durfee, Terry Aaronson, Nancy Ungar** and **Steve Lefkowitz** all arrived in Auckland on September 16, 1983.

Perhaps from the first moment we gathered at the airport in Auckland, I began to realize what a magical adventure was about to begin.

Our kiwi guides and van drivers were **Lyn Butterfield** and **Evan**. It was very good to have someone driving who was used to driving on the left.

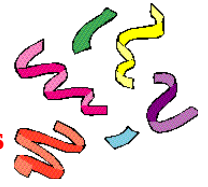
We had host families on several occasions. We were treated to a banquet by one Lions' club and treated to the local zoo by another group. The whole trip was an awesome display of kiwi hospitality.

At one stop at a sheep farm, two of the workmen went out and caught some huge trout for our dinner. They showed us how the sheep dogs worked the sheep into their pens and then slaughtered and barbecued a lamb to go with the trout. They demonstrated how to shear the lambs and then asked some of us to try it.

Our trip down under coincided with their National Championships at Mt. Hutt and a special ski training camp at Mt. Cheeseman. We were invited to participate at both events.

The kiwi hospitality shown to The Unrecables was unforgettable. I think the thing that stands out in my mind more than anything was the night before their National Championships at Mt. Hutt. There were only two countries represented: The Unrecables from the U.S. and the kiwis. Ordinarily, when two teams are competing against each other in a sport they don't hang out together before the event. What I saw the night before the race was not only kiwis and the Unrecables hanging out but the kiwis were giving their competitors information on the snow conditions, what waxes would be good to use and helping some of the U.S. team file the edges on their skis.

I have been involved with sports for a long time and have never seen this type of camaraderie before. This was a trip I will never forget. We cruised Maui for a week on the way back and the rest is history.



Fun on the Slopes

This is probably one of the funniest things that happened to me when I was still running things in the early 1980's.

I was taking a new skier up the easy chair at Mammoth. It was her first day on a sit-ski. Her condition was genetic which left her with no legs and little short stubs for arms. She mentioned to me at the bottom of the chair lift that she thought she never would join an organization like The Unrecables because she thought it would be "boring". I went through the usual safety talk with her at the bottom and then again on the chair lift. I emphasized with much gusto the importance of the safety strap being engaged at the bottom of the chair and than being released at the top before exiting the chair.

What happened was "I forgot" to do what I just told her and that was to disengage the safety straps at the top. So I went to push her out from the chair and she dropped about three feet when the safety strap engaged and she just hung there in the vertical position screaming her head off. The chair was still moving because the lift operator as we found out later was reading a Playboy and didn't see what was going on. He eventually heard her screaming and hit the stop button. A bunch of people came running over and we released the safety strap and got her down. She was very cool about the whole thing and said she wasn't mad at me. So, I felt OK when I said to her, "Remember what you said at the bottom?" She said "No". I said you felt joining The Unrecables would be "boring". We both laughed. We skied down and had a great time. ♦

Update: Ron plans to move to Thailand within the year to work with Autistic children.

Ron

Knock, Knock...or Not!
by Ron Bass

I remember one particular ski trip to Mammoth when **Steve Lefkowitz** joined us in the early 1980's. I shared a condo with him and a few other people. People kept getting mad at him because he was so slow in the mornings that he would cause us to be late getting to the ski area.

I asked him what the problem was and he said he couldn't get into the bathroom sometimes because other people took their time. I asked him why he didn't knock and let them know he was waiting.

He replied, "I can't knock."

"What do you mean you can't knock?" I asked him.

He said something I never thought of. He said the condition that he has made him so slow that he can't make his arm go fast enough to make a knocking sound when it hits the door.

Of course I had to try it myself and made my arm go super slow and when my knuckles touched the door lo and behold nary a sound! ♦

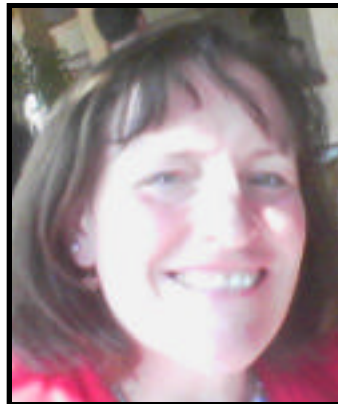
Congratulations
25 years of Unrecableness!



Ron and Bailey kayaking in the warm waters of Maui.

Sharon Smyth

Founder/President -- 1982-83, 1983-84



Best wishes to The Unrecables on their 25th Anniversary!! I served as the club's Founder/President in the early 1980's when we were meeting in an Inglewood community center and then at the Daniel Freeman Hospital Fitness Center. The major focus of the group was skiing, but along with that we promoted fitness. We hosted the National Handicapped Sports & Recreation Association (NHSRA--good thing they shortened that name) Fitness Day at the Fitness Center. It was a great success giving us ideas for making fitness, health, and nutrition a priority in

our lives. It was also during this time in the organization's history that we created structure to ensure the longevity of the organization.

Ron Bass was the Founder and it was his vision that helped to drive the early members. At Ron's side was his wonderfully supportive Mom, **Faye**. Although not a skier, she never missed a meeting.

The early years were sometimes difficult. Who wouldn't rather ski than talk about writing bylaws at **Andrew Turner's** house? I believe the bylaws committee included **Ron, Shelly Cohen, Mary & Bob Whitney, Tim Burton, Carreare, Dennis & Virginia Seauvengieu, Michael Anthony, Jacque Douglas, Wendy Unger, Dee Armstrong, Francis Durfee, Steve Lefkowitz, Carol & Leonard Del Real, Terry Aaronsen** and a few others. I truly hope we helped to provide a foundation upon which you have been able to build a strong organization.

We enjoyed the Mammoth trips, the snow, the condos, Ski Dazzle and most of all the friendships. If you would like to contact me, please e-mail me at Sharon@WestsideRC.org. I would love to hear from you!

Congratulations on enduring and may your future be bright. ♦

Sharon



1980's: The Unrecables Kelly Wong, Dee Armstrong, Linda Fryback, Onnolee Slaten, and John Wiley at a public relations/fundraising event selling "diet chili".

Dee Armstrong

President -- 1989-90, 1990-91, 1993-94, 1994-95



I remember going to my first Unrecables meeting at age 14. My Mom drove me to Daniel Freeman Hospital in Inglewood to learn more about adaptive snow skiing. My membership was sporadic for my first several years because of operations, school and scouts. In college, my swim teacher was the founder of the Pierce College adaptive ski program. I was encouraged to try skiing again. After having success using outriggers, I wanted to share the experience and reconnected with The Unrecables, learning to guide in the late 1980's.

In 1988 I went with The Unrecables to the Chapstick Challenge in Breckenridge, Colorado and attained my Level 1 4-track certification. This was only the

beginning. I served four terms as President from 1989-1991 and 1993-1995. During this time the Board was a bit stretched. At the time of the 1994 earthquake in Los Angeles, my mom dropped by and was entertained by my planning for the Mammoth trip scheduled two weeks afterward. In addition to President, I was also the Winter Trips Director that year.

In spite of the challenges of the Los Angeles freeway system, the trip would go on. I picked up **Onnolee Slaten** in the Valley and discovered we were a carpool. So I headed to the left side of the freeway to the makeshift carpool lane and we were off to Mammoth! At this time, the Trip Director not only signed people up, but arranged carpools and lodging. I remember being very busy, meeting many people and making new friends while being a member and serving on the Board of our club. In 1995, I left the Board but remained active in the club and went on trips and activities.

Thank you for making me a part of The Unrecables' history. ♦

Dee



THE UNRECABLES Founders and Past Presidents

1980-81*	Ron Bass, Founder
1981-82	Ron Bass**
1982-83	Sharon Smyth**
1983-84	Sharon Smyth**
1984-85	Daryl Walters
1985-86	Michael Luna
1986-87	Dan Baker
1987-88	Linda Fryback
1988-89	Linda Fryback
1989-90	Dee Armstrong
1990-91	Dee Armstrong
1991-92	Dick Martin
1992-93	Dick Martin
1993-94	Dee Armstrong
1994-95	Dee Armstrong
1995	Michael Zimmerman
1995-96	Sigrid Noack
1996-97	Sigrid Noack
1997-98	Gordon Cardona
1998-99	Jonna Krall
1999-2000	Jonna Krall
2000-01	Gordon Chan
2001-02	Sigrid Noack
2002-03	Barbara Miyamoto
2003-04	Barbara Miyamoto
2004-05	Inge Hobo-Scheinfarb
2005-06	Inge Hobo-Scheinfarb

*Additional Founders

Fay Bass
Shelly Cohen
Charlie & Mary Murphy
Rob Smice

**served in a Founder/President capacity during the early years of the organization. All were considered Founders of the organization. Sources report there were really no Presidents elect during the first few years of organization until the mid 1980's.



The Unrecables' 25th Anniversary

**Thank You
Past Presidents
for Your Support**



Jonna Krall

President -- 1998-99, 1999-2000



Gordon Chan

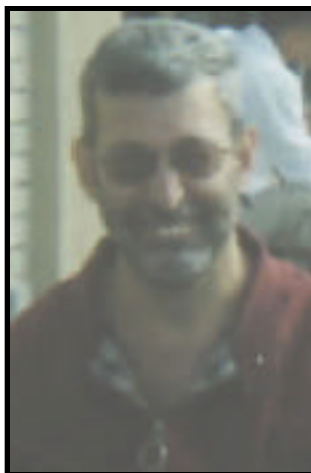
President -- 2000-01



Barbara Miyamoto

President -- 2002-03, 2003-04

Dick Martin
President -- 1991-92 & 1992-93



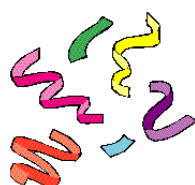
I became aware of The Unrecables when I was approached by **Phil Minderlein**. He was a former Unrecables able-bodied ski instructor who worked for the same company I did, Hughes Aircraft Company. Phil and I were attending a meeting at the corporate offices of Hughes in mid 1988. When the meeting concluded and people were headed back to their offices, Phil came up and asked me, "Are you CP?"

I thought he was referring to the Hughes group that I worked for. So, I replied, "No, I'm with TSSG (Training and Support Systems Group)." Phil chuckled and said, "I mean your disability. Do you have CP, Cerebral Palsy?"

Phil then told me about The Unrecables and I began attending club meetings which at that time were held in a conference room at Daniel Freeman Memorial Hospital in Inglewood. My first trip with The Unrecables was a white water river rafting trip in August.

That winter, I went on my first ski trip to Mammoth with The Unrecables. This was before the club had the bi-ski. People like me with poor balance and weak upper body strength used a sit-ski.

During my first or second time up the chair lift, when we were getting off at the top of chair 11, the instructor who was with me, **Randi Woodrow**, started pushing the sit-ski gently off the lift a little too soon. Instead of a smooth off-load, the front of the ski dug into the snow and the rear started coming up. To prevent the sit-ski from toppling over and me landing upside down on my head,



Randi spun the ski around while it was nose down perpendicular to the slope, and it landed right side up! No harm, no foul. In fact, it was pretty cool, like a pirouette! We had lots of laughs about it for a long time afterwards. I think Randi felt bad about what could have happened. However, after laughing myself silly every time someone brought the subject up, and me telling

her she couldn't have scripted anything better, she eventually got to where she would graciously bow and take the credit whenever it came up in conversation. At Randi's suggestion (or maybe urging), I joined the Board of Directors the following year and served as Treasurer. A couple years later I was elected President in 1991 and served in this capacity for two years.

I have been disabled all my life, but my experience with The Unrecables was the first I knew of organizations that offer these kinds of recreational opportunities for people with disabilities. What is most incredible is the able-bodied volunteers who make it all possible are just that – volunteers. They not only don't get paid for the work they do with The Unrecables, they actually pay their own transportation, lodging, and food on the ski trips and activities with the club. Thank you very much! ♦

Dick

Sigrid Noack

President -- 1995-96, 1996-97, 2001-02



Being elected President of The Unrecables was a great honor for me. I had only been a member for a short time, I had jumped right in and organized the Mammoth trips my first year. That was a great way to meet many of the members. Actually, I think being the Trip Director was my most enjoyable job, because I got to know so many of our members. As President, I did much more PR work, worked with L.A. Council, the other ski clubs, and the Far West Ski Association.

How did I even get involved with this group? I had been an active member of the Single Ski Club for about 15 years, and our club's booth was always across the aisle from The Unrecables at the Ski Dazzle. **John Wiley** talked with me about his club for many years, and finally he talked me into attending a meeting. I never left after that first meeting. The Unrecables became my new family.

My first presidential term was 1995-97. Then I became president again, when another elected president resigned. Some of the highlights of my years at the helm were getting to know the other Board members really well. We had such fun organizing events, getting donations for other ski clubs, visiting other club meetings, getting more involved in L.A. Council and getting more people involved with the FWSA Convention and the Ski Dazzle. My garage has been collecting equipment and clothing for The Unrecables since my first term as president. Ski clubs donate, I store in my garage! We have had several Garage Free-bees at my house, letting members drop by and try on and take home lots of beautiful ski clothing. In more recent years, I have just carried the donations to meetings, where members help themselves to the donated items.

The Unrecables have been my family for about 12 years, and many members have become my very dear friends. I love the group and hope to stay involved for many more years to come. ♦



Sigrid



In the 1980's and early 1990's, people with limited balance and dexterity skied with a sit-ski which was like a sled.



Remembering our Founders

Charlie Murphy

My wife **Mary Schuler Murphy** and I were members between the years 1980-81. The original founding members were **Ron Bass, Faye Bass** (Ron's mother and one great human), **Shelly Cohen, Rob Smice, Mary** and myself.

During the first years we skied at Mountain High, Mammoth, and Big Bear Mountain. We also practiced at Sandy's Ski Shop in Marina Del Rey. All of these places donated everything to the club. This included rentals, practice slope time, and lift passes. Sometimes we even stayed at the resorts for free or inexpensively.

Ron's mother always came to the practices at Sandy's. She was always helping with the little things especially moral. She was not a skier but a great asset to the club. She was known for her "unique" hats. In fact, one of them still hangs in our kitchen always reminding us of this great lady.

Two of the early members that I remember fondly are **Steve Lefkowitz** and **Terry Arronson**. We eventually merged with the Southern California Chapter of NHSRA. This brought along **Jim Thweat, Lanetta,** and **Kathy**. Kathy was trying out for and made the National Ski Team. Jim was their president. He was a physical therapist in the Southern California area last I heard.

The name of the club came from a lady by the name of Anne. It means *Unlimited Recreational Abilities*.

Our first meetings were held at an Inglewood recreation center; sometimes concluding at the Red Onion in Culver City over margaritas and tacos. I remember our first meeting. We were just 4 instructors and no one else. Eventually, it grew and grew.

Congratulations Unrecables on your 25th Anniversary! I'm happy to be a part of it! ♦

Memories from our Recent Years

Gordon Cardona President -- 1997-98



1999: Our group with Phil Mahre and his lovely wife at the FWSA Convention in L.A.



2001: We dined and danced at the Snow Gala.



2003: Some of our old-timers joined us at our Awards Bash during the summer.



I joined The Unrecables in early 1992 after **Phil Minderlein** came up to my family and me while we were in Mammoth and asked me: "Have you ever skied before?" I replied no, and he went on to tell us about the club. I started going to the club meetings at Shakey's Pizza in Culver City and met **Dee Armstrong, Onnolee Slaten, and Hal Ellis**. Hal really encouraged me to go on a ski trip. However, first my family had plans to go to Snowbird, Utah, for a week. I skied my first run there using a sit-ski with picks taped over my gloved hands. Later that season, I went on my first ski trip to Mammoth with my family. I never turned back!

In 1993, I was appointed Newsletter Editor (now called Communications Director) and held that position ever since. A few years later, the club built a web site for the general membership and the public. The Unrecables was one of the first clubs in L.A. Council to put up a web site, and later e-mailed out the newsletter.

I think the most challenging year was when I served as President. I was very busy with calling and following up with Board members, meeting preparations, assisting with trips and activities, attending L.A. Council meetings, and doing the newsletters. Later, I continued to contribute on the Board in various capacities.

One of my most proud moments with The Unrecables was when our club swept the honors for the L.A. Council Man and Woman of the Year in 2000. We then went on to compete for the same honors on the Far West Ski Association (FWSA) level at the Convention in Reno in 2001. This put The Unrecables on the map with L.A. Council and FWSA.

I remember my first river rafting trip along the American River around 1993. I had a blast shooting down the rapids. I haven't missed a year since.

However, it was the people who made the trip memorable: **Dee, Onnolee, John Wiley, Ken Sodoma**, his daughter **DeAnna, Michael Zimmerman**, and the DSUSA Northern California Chapter.

During my first several years in the club, my family and I went on almost every ski trip to Mammoth. The trips and camaraderie were great! I learned to ski with the club. Over the last few years, my Mom and I have been going on the L.A. Council ski weeks usually with a small group from The Unrecables. I think it's really fun and a different experience to ski various destinations. Of course, my family and I usually ski in Tahoe for a week every January.

It was this wonderful organization that gave me the opportunity to participate in sports and recreational activities both with and without the club. Thank you Unrecables, and congratulations on 25 successful years serving our community! ♦

Gordon

Inge Hobo-Scheinfarb

President -- 2004-05, 2005-06



On my birthday many, many years ago in the early 1990's, I went skiing alone at Mountain High in Wrightwood, California. During my solo lunch, I happened to sit at a table with some others who were discussing their upcoming trip to Mammoth. Being that Mammoth was really the place I learned to ski (my best friend's dad lived there and still works on the race department today) and since I thought I knew everything about Mammoth, I asked where they were staying, what runs they liked to ski, etc. During our conversation I learned that they were with this volunteer group called "The Unrecables" and they went to

Mammoth one weekend a month. I also learned that for the volunteers the lift tickets were included provided they assisted people to ski. Being a poor student, I immediately was interested! A way to ski at my favorite place for free? Just volunteering my time to help people to ski was required? What a deal! As the president of my University's ski club I was always stuck with helping teach people to ski at my own expense of a lift ticket. Now I could do it for nothing except for food, gas and inexpensive lodging. What a deal indeed!

The following weekend I found myself driving up to Mammoth with my newfound friend and Unrecables volunteer instructor Tino, and was quickly assigned to assist with the bi-ski and mono-ski students. These students are individuals who are unable to stand up to ski, and have wonderful inventions such as the bi-skis and mono-skis to allow them the freedom and all of the benefits of skiing.

I soon learned that my silly, selfish desire for a free ticket was immediately replaced with the feelings of gratitude, awe and inspiration. Gratitude for the ability to see individuals I used to think as "limited" able to partake in an excellent sport and be free to slide along the snow, feel the wind in their face, and enjoy the environment. Awe for the courage, eagerness and enthusiasm of these disabled people to "go outside of the box" and prove that their disability can not and will not prevent them from living life! And inspiration from the instructors in the club who give up their time and resources to spend a weekend with the students to help them gain confidence and a sense of pride while skiing in a fantastic place.

The Unrecables stands for Unlimited Recreational Abilities, and I can't think of a more fitting name. Most individuals think the students are the ones who benefit the most from such an organization, but the truth is that it is really individuals like me, the instructors, who benefit from being able to witness the awesome power of the human spirit in our students. We are the lucky ones. ♦

Inge

The Unrecables Remembers Our Loved Ones

Bob Farmer • Chris Hargreaves • Onnolee Slaten • Dennis Nakata

What's in a Name?

Disabled Sports USA was founded in 1967 by disabled Vietnam veterans. It was then called the National Amputee Skiers Association (NASA). In 1972, NASA was broadening its mission. No longer solely serving skiers, NASA needed a new name. They chose to call themselves the National Inconvenienced Sportsmen's Association. In 1976, NISA became the National Handicapped Sports and Recreation Association. The NHSRA name stuck until 1992 when the organization was renamed to National Handicapped Sports.

In October 1994, after polling the organization's 80+ chapters and affiliates, the National Board of Directors approved the most recent name change to Disabled Sports USA.

According to Executive Director **Kirk Bauer**, "Disabled Sports USA" was selected for the following reasons:

- The word "disabled" brought the organization in line with current language used by the federal government. "Disabled" has become more universally accepted than "handicapped."
- Disabled Sports USA has become an organization of global importance. Disabled Sports USA fields teams to compete in the World Championships for track and field, cycling, volleyball, and swimming. It is now necessary to use "USA" rather than "National" to reflect this change in scope.
- Almost all of the US Olympic Committee-member National Governing Bodies for able-body sports have "US" or "USA" within their name (such as USA Basketball, US Skiing, and USA Volleyball). Disabled Sports USA is a Disabled Sports Organization member of the U.S. Olympic Committee. ♦

Information taken from the Disabled Sports USA web site www.dsusa.org.

The Unrecables Awards & Winners

Jimmie Huega Humanantarin Award

The Jimmie Huega Award is given to the individual who, like Jimmie, has demonstrated courage and skill in three arenas—the ski slope, the human body, and the courageous heart.

2002 Gordon W. Cardona
1991 Linda Fryback



President's Award

The President's Award is given to the individual who the President of FWSA feels has done the most to advance the immediate goals of the Association during the previous year.

2003 Sigrid Noack

Outstanding Club Web Site

Class A

The Outstanding Club Web Site Award is given to the club whose web site is judged best based on layout, content, frequency of updates, usefulness, navigation, ease of use, and club size.

2003 -- 1st Place
Georgina Hackett
2002 -- 2nd Place
Georgina Hackett



Wentworth Outstanding Club Publication

Class A

The Wentworth Award is given to the club whose newsletters are judged best based on layout, content, and club size. This Award is named after Chapman "Chappie" Wentworth for his dedication to FWSA.

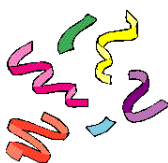
2004 – 2nd Place
Gordon W. Cardona

2002 – 3rd Place
Gordon W. Cardona

1997 – 5th Place
Gordon W. Cardona

(out of 14 club entries)*

*First year The Unrecables entered the competition.



The Unrecables: The Early Years

Deborah Weller-Walton

I joined The Unrecables around 1986 when **Ron Bass** was still involved. I also met **Phil Minderlein**. We went to a triad form of running the club. This consisted of 3 Board Directors for a couple years. We had our General Meetings from the early 1980's to the early 1990's at Daniel Freeman Memorial Hospital in Inglewood. We also met at Barrow's Pizza in Culver City briefly before deciding to hold our meetings at Shakey's Pizza for several years.

Linda Fryback was elected President in 1987 and served the next couple years. She lived in Redondo Beach for many years and moved to Hesperia, CA a few years ago. It was because of Linda that Stella, Dee, Richard, me, and others spent long hours at **Richard Wu's** house rewriting the by-laws. We wanted a rotation of blood regarding officers after a couple years of service.

I wore many hats, Vice President, Secretary, Membership, Ski School Director, and Newsletter Editor but I refused the President's position. I felt it more meaningful to let members with disabilities serve as the club's main exposure. It was honor to accompany and/or support these members while speaking to other clubs. Our members would come to the beach to watch L.A. Council volleyball, and walking in the sand is no easy task!!

The neatest thing I can remember is that **Phil Minderlein** and I worked hard to get The Unrecables noticed in the L.A. Council and Far West Ski Association (FWSA). Our first obstacle was getting ski clubs to know that we even existed. While this metamorphosis was taking place, **Mel Stazloff** from Beach Cities Ski Club wanted to nominate Linda for the *Jimmie Heuga Humanantarin Award*. I did lots of writing and editing for the nomination. I was honored to announce Linda's name at the FWSA Convention in Long Beach in 1991.

I also served as the Fundraising Director for many years since I got us involved with Entertainment Books. Phil had passed the idea along to me. It took me a few years but I did get the books and evidentially took over the project for about 8 years!! We usually made over \$1,000.00 each year.

I first met **Kathy Paisley** on a horseback and water-ski trip to Lake Lopez. **Steve Lefkowitz** and I rode together. **Erin Crowley, Gaby, Richard Wu**, his children, and many more attended. It was Kathy's first outing since her accident. She never took her eyes off the ground and she spoke in whispers. A few years later, we celebrated her 21st birthday at Diamond and Denim's in Santa Monica.

Linda and I put together The Unrecables' first ski trip out-of-state. We attended the Chapstick Challenge in Breckenridge, Colorado, in January 1989. Kathy joined us and she won over lots of men's hearts. ♦

The Unrecables Ski and Tour New Zealand

Steve Lefkowitz



In September of 1983, The Unrecables went on their first international trip going to New Zealand for an 18-day skiing and sight seeing vacation.

This feat would not be repeated again until we crossed the border into Canada and went to Whistler/Blackcomb in February of 2004 for another ski trip. In 1983, twelve hardy souls traveled to New Zealand in what was to be the beginning of an exchange program among disabled persons. The following year some of those same Kiwis that hosted us, came to the States and stayed in our homes.

Ron Bass, the founder of The Unrecables, acted as the advance guard for our little band of travelers. He flew to New Zealand before the rest of us to try to coordinate our activities. In exchange for him speaking at various philanthropic groups (New Zealand's versions of Rotary, Kiwanis Clubs, etc.) he was able to secure housing for our group, often at individual Kiwis private residences. This served several purposes. First of all, the price was right (free), then we got to interact with the natives, hear some of the local

lore, and eat the local foods. All good! Ron was also able to rent two vans and hire a local, who was a male nurse, to help out, drive one of the vans and generally act as our tour guide. He was a nice guy, who interacted very well with us and was a great asset to our troupe.

One of the goals of the group was to be the first disabled skiers to ski down the Tasmen Glacier, but alas, it didn't happen. We only had a small window of opportunity to make the attempt and it snowed every day for four days up on the Glacier (as much as 12 feet fell in one 24-hour period), so that the small plane that would take us up there couldn't fly. All was not lost however, as we drove and saw the sights the whole length of the North Island, took a ferry across the Cook Strait, and skied at several resorts on the South Island. The trip still was not over as on our return flight the airlines allowed us to stop over at certain destinations for free. One member of our group, **Dick Beman**, lived in Hawaii (on Maui) in a home which he had built himself entirely with hand tools, and invited all of us to stay over for some much needed R & R. We ended up staying for six days. It was a great way to warm up after a fabulous ski vacation in New Zealand!! ♦

Steve



1980's: Kathy Paisley in a fundraising event (possibly The Human Race).



1998: Celebrity Billy Kidd visits our Ski Dazzle booth at L.A. Convention Center.



2002: Kayaking Angel Island, San Francisco.

The Unrecables Man & Woman of the Year

1991	Onnolee Slaten Dick Martin
1992	
1993	Dee Armstrong John Wiley
1994	Deborah Weller-Walton Ken Sodoma
1995	Onnolee Slaten* Gordon W. Cardona
1996	Jonna Krall John Melville**
1997	Randi Woodrow Richard Wu
1998	Glenda Phillips Gordon Chan
1999	Dee Armstrong Craig Clifton
2000	Sigrid Noack*** Gordon W. Cardona***
2001	Barbara Miyamoto Scott Nakada
2002	Michelle Voss-McCarthy Kurt Rust
2003	Kathy Paisley Daniel Palacios
2004	Karen Finfer Steve Lefkowitz

*1st Runner-up

**A Runner-up

***LAC Man & Woman of the Year

No data on record for the club's Man & Woman honors for the 1980's.

The Unrecables Meet & Greet for 25 Years

1980-1982

Inglewood Community Center

1982-1989 or '90

Daniel Freeman Memorial
Hospital
Inglewood
Barrow's Pizza (alt)
Culver City

1989 or '90-Aug 1995

Shakey's Pizza Parlor
Culver City

Sept 1995-Dec 2004

V.A. Medical Center
West Los Angeles

Jan 2002-Jan 2005

Mrs. Garcia's Restaurant
Culver City

Feb 2005-Present

Mi Ranchito Restaurant
Culver City

*Thank You
for Hosting our Meetings
the Past 25 Years!*



1980's: The Unrecables' mono-ski expert John Wiley. He continues to rip it up today.

Farewell to Founding Member Ron Bass

Ron has recently moved to Mt. Shasta to dedicate his time to his new endeavor, Wilderness Wish. We wish him success with his new venture, and look forward to participating in the future. Hopefully, we can convince Ron to give us all the details on Wilderness Wish in an upcoming issue. We also look forward to seeing Ron at Mammoth this winter.

Article originally published in the August 1985 Unrecables Newsletter.

THE UNRECABLES 2005-06 Board of Directors

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Membership Director

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Thank You
**Mammoth
Mountain**
for your support
over the years!



2004: Hand-cycling at the DSUSA SummerFest in Long Beach.

THE UNRECABLES Newsletter Editors

(in order of service)

Gayle Winkler
Linda Fryback
Erin Crowley
Stephanie La Cour
Deborah Weller
Dee Armstrong
Bob Fuss
Kathy Paisley
Dee Armstrong
Gordon W. Cardona

*First Unrecables newsletter on record
was published in August 1985 (editor
unknown).*

The Unrecables News



1980's: River rafting with The Unrecables -- Wet and wild.



2000: Clubs like Tri Valley Ski Club generously support The Unrecables.

THE UNRECABLES MEETINGS

SOCIALS are held every second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Mi Ranchito Restaurant, 12223 W. Washington Bl., Culver City. Cross street: Grand View Bl. Take I-405 fwy, exit on Washington Bl. and turn West. It's just west of Grand View Bl. Parking available on the side and in the rear of the restaurant.

BOARD MEETINGS are held every second Tuesday monthly, following the monthly Social. Contact a Board member for a confirmation. All current members are invited to attend. ♦

The UNRECABLES

Unlimited Recreational Abilites
1980-2005

Special Thanks

Ron Bass
Gordon Cardona
Inge Hobo-Scheinfarb
Steve Lefkowitz

Dick Martin
Sigrid Noack
Sharon Smyth
Deborah Weller-Walton

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Change Service Requested

THE UNRECABLES

P.O. Box 24856
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Happy 25th Anniversary Unrecables!!