

HARRY J. DAVIS



Harry James Davis, Born in 1941, Current Member of Snowchasers Ski Club, BAC and FWSA.

As a father to two young men, we first skied at Badger Pass in Yosemite, which I thought was a huge and challenging area to ski. After friends invited us to ski at Tahoe resorts, I found much larger areas to ski. But that all happened before I became active in the community of skiing.

My school years in Oakland CA consisted of music (trumpet) and swimming endeavors. After high school, I considered an out of state scholarship for swimming but decided to stay near family and attended Oakland Jr College and San Francisco State through most of my college years. In my senior year I was drafted but unable to serve because of a medical issue (I was in the Army for one day!). Instead of finishing my degree, I looked for a job.

My working life began in 1966 at Olsen's Auto Repair in Dublin, a few other spots, and then with the Union at Universal Shipping at the Alameda shipyard. After joining the Automotive Industries union, I began working as a Ford mechanic in 1969 in Dublin and then moved to Don Young Ford in Lafayette. That dealership became Walnut Creek Ford where I became a diagnostics technician. I retired in 2007 but continued to do dealer trades until 2021 when COVID changed everything for everyone.

In 1967, I married and was blessed with two sons while living in Dublin. After a divorce in 1982, I joined Bota Baggers, a ski club in BAC, and also joined Singles League racing. Racing in both Singles League and Open League (after marrying again) was satisfying and exciting. I loved to go fast!!!

My commitment to skiing included being elected President of both Sno*Flakes and Snowchasers Ski Clubs for one term each, President for five years of BAC, and FWSA President 1996-2000. It was an honor to have received the FWSA Hans Georg award in 2001 and also the President's award in 1996. I am honored to have been a FWSA trustee and a Far West Ski Foundation trustee in years following my terms as FWSA President. As FWSA President, I was involved in the formation of the National Ski Council Federation and consider my part of that organization's beginning to be a major accomplishment.

Besides competitive swimming (including swimming at Nationals in Brisbane, Australia) with Walnut Creek Masters, my interests have been downhill skiing and racing and FWSA ski trips; cross country motorcycle trips on both two wheels and a loved trike for 20 years; go-karting with granddaughters; anything Ford Mustang and auto racing; and in my older age square dancing throughout the United States.

My most rewarding ski experiences involved racing and ski club social interactions where I met my wife Karen. We were among the founders of Sno*Flakes and moved to Snowchasers Ski Club in Concord near where we lived after marrying in 1987. We skied and raced together until I had both of my knees replaced in 2010 and I chose not to ski after that. Life itself remains a blessing!!!