

GARY STOFFER



Born 1938. Member of Single Ski Club, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs.

Gary Stouffer, born in 1938, was an Electrical Engineer, receiving his engineering degree from Purdue University. Early in his career he was employed by Lockheed, where he worked on Apollo 13's booster engines, that got the astronauts safely back to earth. He eventually branched out and formed his own company called Modumend, where they repaired power supplies for nuclear power plants and the utility industries.

He found his way to Single Ski Club of Los Angeles in the early 1970's, and absolutely loved everything about SSC, from the recreational league racing, to summer sports, to the Wailers' River Bashes and everything in between. He was the recipient of the SSC Outstanding New Member Award

for 1975-1976. He served on various committees and became an accomplished racer in the ROKKA League. Elected President of SSC for 1977-1978, he later served on its Board of Trustees. Gary was the SSC Alpine Racer of the Year for 1979-1980 and served as President of ROKKA League.

Here's a fun, and historic, story about Gary. The ROKKA League hosted a Beer Drinking competition starting back in the 1970's and Single Ski Club hosted the first club competition at the Blarney Castle Annex in 1972. In 1976 the art of the competition was enhanced by the world of electronics when Gary introduced the first timer capable of measuring within 1/1000th of a second, just how fast you could drink a 16 oz. glass of lukewarm beer. The electronic marvel was actually a converted ski racing timer donated by the ULLR League.

Gary continued being active in the club and received the Dave Tollakson President's Recognition Award for 1986-1987. He was chosen the SSC Man of the Year and then was named Man of the Year for the Los Angeles Council in 1986.

Gary met his lovely wife, Denice Van Gorden in 1977 at Single Ski Club, but they didn't marry until 20 years later. Their friends said, "*it wasn't about the length of time, but about the right time.*" Gary and Denice owned a lovely home in the hills of Newbury Park. They hosted parties for their friends and family in their fabulous backyard, full of trees, flowers and a beautiful pond filled with Koi fish. They enjoyed going to their backyard at 5:00 pm, to relax with a glass of wine to watch their automatic fish feeder feed their Koi fish.

Gary passed away on June 16, 2024, shortly after his 86th Birthday. He is remembered by his family and friends as fun loving, adventurous, with a great sense of humor. He was always willing to help with whatever was needed. A friend to all.