

50 Year AFRC Reunion

Bend, Oregon

March 18-22, 2024

Well Folks, that was some shindig, don't you think? That was a great effort by Steve and Terry to put that all together with the Riverhouse on the Deschutes and the wonderful prices at Mt. Bachelor. Thank you Steve and Terry! And JOE! We would not be doing what we do without his negotiation skill set and willingness to do this year after year!

105 folks paid up and we had several others stop by for a hello and a photo op. Pretty sure we had 110 folks with some sort of AFRC affiliation take part in one way or another. Unfortunately, we also had a few last minute cancelations.

We had at least five AFRC folks who had not been to a reunion in many years and it was great to catch up with them; Larry Meyers, John 'Judy Blue Eyes' Bratlie, Rick 'Lightening' Lichtenhan, Yvonne Hilton, Katy Duggan. Forgive me if I missed you.

The skiing did appear to be wonderful and everyone had a great time on the hill. I thought the Wednesday lunch was great in having it at the main lodge so a bunch of non-skiers could hang with all of the skiers. Great day!

There are always lots of folks to thank for pitching in along the way. Randy Walter gave new life to the life size cutouts of Big Pete and the Bazzzz. Tim Ibey (with a new knee) put on a great Bier Slalom (Who needs snow?) along with his trusty sidekick, Steve Ahnmark (and others). How about all the great outfits and costumes? Just amazing to see the effort made year after year. It is a grand tradition.

Big thanks to Jim Panfill and his wife (They had to leave in a rush Monday night before we even got going) who donated 2 cases of his families wines, Echo Vineyards, to the cause.

Coach and Julie have volunteered to try to resurrect the Bazzzzz Roster. We will make that available once we get it finalized.

We thank everyone for the generous donations to the AFRC Fallen Raider Fund this year. We made several donations over the last year in honor of Bob Varik, Bernie Brown and to one of the victims of the Maui fires at the behest of Steve Foulger as well as Jim Wilson. Jim thanks everyone who was so helpful to the Go Fund Me account as well as the Fallen Raider Fund.

It was a pretty clear and concise decision to return to Whitefish, Montana for our 51 year reunion in 2024. We will try to get back to the Lodge at Whitefish Lake if they will have us! We will let you all know the dates as soon as we are able. You know, AMTRAK goes right to Whitefish for you Midwest and Northeast folks!