## SNO FOO AWARD

The Sno-Foo award is presented to an individual or group of individuals, for having committed or having been associated with an outstanding "blooper" during the year prior to the annual meeting.

To be considered for this award, the nominee must be a member in good standing of the Eastern Snow Conference.

This award is to be presented and accepted in a manner which is considered to be "in good taste." No one person or organization will be eligible to qualify for this award more than once. Nominations will be accepted by the ESC Equipment Committee. The decision of the committee is final.

### SNO FOO 1993—John Pomeroy

The Sno-Foo Award winner this year was exceptionally difficult to select because of the head-to-head competition with the El Farsante Award given by the Western Snow Conference. However, the Committee uncovered strong justification for presenting the Sno-Foo to John Pomeroy.

John has become an example of frugality in the face of opulence. He complained bitterly to the Executive Committee of the ESC regarding the price of drinks at the conference icebreaker, even to the point of rudely disrupting important conference business. John also was responsible for housing his snow survey crew in less than comfortable accommodations on assignment. In fact, the field crew had to become inebriated in order to sleep in the "flophouse-type" accommodation. There was no need for this insensitive treatment of personnel because John had an ample budget to take good care of his employees. John stood accused by his peers of not only providing inadequate housing, but inadequate transportation, when it was discovered that the barmaid had to drive the crew back to their "flophouse."

Shame on you, John! Let this award guide you in your search for excellence.

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## EL FARSANTE AWARD

Each year, the Western Snow Conference bestows upon one of its members an award for significant, but perhaps dubious, achievement during the past year. The embodiment of this award is El Farsante, a snow surveyor on skis from south of the border, the Fabulous Forecaster of Furnace Creek. Furnace Creek is a renowned tributary to Death Valley, California. El Farsante's forecast, verified season after season, has been as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| April–July Runoff | Zero |
| Peak Discharge | Zero |
| Date of Beginning of Salmon Run | Never |

The El Farsante Award was first instigated by early Sierra Nevada snow surveyor, George Lewis, in 1953, and who in a curious twist of fate, also became the first recipient that year in Boise, Idaho, "because he was foolish enough to design El Farsante and try to award it to someone else."

The essence of the El Farsante Award was summed up in the WSC Snow Surveyor's Forum. "Pappy" Lewis, who started the whole thing, has referred to El Farsante as "that bit of painted pottery presented annually to some poor cluck who goofed." Actually, it is this—but more—much more. El Farsante and its presentation is all things to all people; or at least all snow people. In a ridiculous, dignified, terrifying ceremony that usually involves a Hitchcock-type ending, El Farsante is presented to the best, or the worst, or the worst of the best of our organization. There is no defense, no recourse, no appeal. The recipient leaves the scene embarrassed and humbled—to treasure always the highest award the WSC bestows.

### EL FARSANTE 1993—Neil Berg

Neil Berg, General Chairperson of the WSC, received El Farsante this year at the Joint WSC-ESC Meeting in Quebec. The direct cause of this award stemmed from a list of transgressions related to setting up the Joint Meeting—a list too long and certainly too embarrassing to Neil to commit to print.

In spite of the apparent inept handling by Neil Berg, the Joint Meeting was a tremendous success, long to be remembered by all who attended.