

60 YEARS



Celebrating Our 60th Anniversary 1958-2018

nisei ski club

NSC

nstc

60th ANNIVERSARY

nisei ski club



Established in 1958

**Nisei Ski Club
Celebrates Sixty Years of Skiing,
Friendship and Fun
1958 - 2018**

China Stix

2110 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95050

Saturday, September 8, 2018

NSC 60th Anniversary Dinner President's Greeting

Good evening and welcome to the Nisei Ski Club 60th Anniversary Dinner.

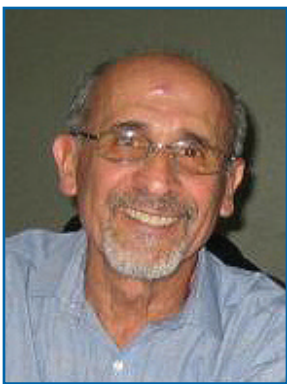
Tonight, is a special evening as we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Nisei Ski Club. This is a milestone for NSC and there aren't very many ski clubs across the nation that has this distinction.

In 1958 Hi Fujii, Tats Sumida and a few others had an idea to form a ski club for Japanese-Americans that later became the Nisei Ski Club. Sixty years later, the club is not just for Japanese-Americans but welcomes all those that have a strong interest in skiing/snowboarding, meeting new people, and visiting small-to-large ski resorts. Thanks go to those founding fathers for creating the Nisei Ski Club and the legacy they created.

In addition to ski trips, NSC has participated in Nikkei Matsuri, a major fund-raising event for the club, as well as volunteering at the annual Mountain View Obon festivals. In addition, NSC holds the yearly membership picnics, bocce ball events, hiking and biking events. NSC is also a member of the Bay Area Sports Council (BAC) and the Far West Ski Association (FWSA). Members of NSC are eligible to go on any BAC-sponsored ski trips and the FWSA-sponsored domestic and international trips.

The success of any organization relies on a governing board that provides guidance, planning, sound decision-making and fiscal responsibility. These characteristics are what the NSC Board subscribes to and this is why NSC has been successful for 60 years. The NSC Board consists of a cast of volunteer members that dedicate their time and effort; I would like to thank the past and current board members for their dedication and contributions.

As we are gathered here for this anniversary dinner, please enjoy an evening of dining, socializing with past and current members, telling stories of ski adventures, races, week-long trips and sharing friendships gained through the club's activities.



Armand Gutierrez
Nisei Ski Club President
(2005-2006, 2012-2019)

NSC 60th ANNIVERSARY

DINNER MENU

Barbeque Platter

Seafood Bean Curd Soup

Kabocha Squash with Spicy Pork Spareribs

Fried Rice Wrapped with Lotus Leaf

Peking Duck

Honey Pecan Prawns

Braised Beef Short Ribs

Seafood Combo with Vegetables

Mixed Mushroom with Chinese Greens

Hong Style Combination Chow Mein

Mango Flan

Nisei Ski Club 60th Anniversary Cake

EVENING PROGRAM

5:30pm – 6:30 pm Cocktail Hour *Members*

6:30pm Welcome *Armand Gutierrez*

Introduction of 2018-2019 Officers and Board Members *Armand Gutierrez*

Introduction of NSC Past Presidents *Curtis Otaguro*

60th NSC Champagne Toast *Curtis Otaguro*

6:30pm-10:00pm Group Picture and Dinner

Raffle Drawing *Karen Soo*

2018-2019 NSC Officers and Board Members

Congratulations to Our Incoming Nisei Ski Club Officers and Board Members

OFFICERS

President Armand Gutierrez
Treasurer Frank Chang
Trip Director Karen Soo
Membership Tina Woo
Newsletter Editor Judy Bracken
Ex- Officio Armand Gutierrez

BOARD MEMBERS

Brian Hess Sandy Kiyomura David Schultz
Allen Hu Hoyt Nelson Greg Wong
Rick Dumlao Curtis Otaguro



NSC 60th Anniversary Past Presidents

Our thanks to all our NSC Presidents for their guidance and dedication!

1966-67	Hi Fujii	1993-94	David Tom**
1967-68	Don Lang	1994-95	Pam Yoshida
1968-69	Yosh Morimoto	1995-96	Gordon Koo
1969-70	Jim Tanaka	1996-97	Annie Tsui
1970-71	Ernie Handa	1997-98	Annie Tsui-Ogata
1971-72	Ed Asato	1998-99	Ida Koo**
1972-73	Stan Kakinami	1999-00	Doug Higashi**
1973-74	Jim Shiro**	2000-01	Paul Lum
1974-75	George Ogawa	2001-02	Morgan Hua
1975-76	April Shiro**	2002-03	Ryan Nagahori
1976-77	Gene Lim	2003-04	Judy Hom**
1977-78	David Yamada	2004-05	Angela Fong
1978-79	Russell Obana	2005-06	Armand Gutierrez**
1979-80	Ruby Izumi	2006-07	David Jensen
1980-81	Gail Uyehara	2007-08	Curtis Otaguro
1981-82	Executive Board	2008-09	Joel Hayashida**
1982-83	Jeanne Nakamura	2009-10	Joel Hayashida
1983-84	Steve Yakuma	2010-11	Morgan Hua
1984-85	Carl Yanari	2011-12	Morgan Hua
1985-86	Alice Higuchi-Kawaguchi	2012-13	Armand Gutierrez
1986-87	Jeanne Katsuro**	2013-14	Armand Gutierrez
1987-88	Gary Yee	2014-15	Armand Gutierrez
1988-89	Curtis Otaguro**	2015-16	Armand Gutierrez
1989-90	John Nakatani	2016-17	Armand Gutierrez
1990-91	Don Akiyama	2017-18	Armand Gutierrez
1991-92	Randy Hirai**	2018-19	Armand Gutierrez
1992-93	Scott Asakawa		

** Present at tonight's dinner

Nisei Ski Club Weeklong Destinations

1966	Sun Valley, ID	1994	Banff, AB
1967	Aspen, CO	1995	Telluride, CO
1968	Sun Valley, ID	1996	Vail, CO
1969	Sun Valley, ID	1997	Sun Valley, ID
1970	Aspen, CO	1998	Banff, AB
1971	Banff, AB	1999	Whistler, BC
1972	Utah	2000	Aspen, CO
1973	Sun Valley, ID	2001	Jackson Hole, WY
1974	Banff, AB	2002	Big Sky, MT
1975	Sun Valley, ID & Utah	2003	Vail, CO
1976	Vail, CO & Whistler, BC	2004	Big White, AB
1977	Aspen, CO	2005	Steamboat Springs, CO
1978	Sun Valley, ID	2006	Snowmass, CO
1979	Vail, CO & Banff, AB	2007	Panorama, AB
1980	Aspen, CO	2008	Vail, CO
1981	Utah	2009	Telluride, CO
1982	Banff, AB & Sun Valley, ID	2010	Whistler, BC
1983	Whistler, BC	2011	Keystone, CO
1984	Vail, CO	2012	Sun Valley, ID
1985	Banff, AB	2013	Steamboat Springs, CO
1986	Sun Valley, ID	2014	Sun Peaks, BC
1987	Breckenridge, CO	2015	Jackson Hole, WY
1988	Utah	2016	Park City, UT
1989	Whistler, BC	2017	Snowmass, CO
1990	Vail, CO	2018	Vail, CO
1991	Steamboat Springs, CO	2019	Big Sky, MT
1992	Whistler, BC	2020	Whistler/Blackcomb, BC
1993	Jackson Hole, WY		

NSC 60th Anniversary - the Past 60 Years

The Nisei Ski Club evolved from an organized weekend ski trip through the San Francisco JACL (Japanese American Citizen's League) during the 1950's. During this time, there were very few organizations for Asian Americans of any type and interest in skiing quickly grew. Skiing was a new and enthusiasm for the sport quickly grew. The ski trips became so popular that it was soon decided to become independent from San Francisco JACL.

The trips, organized by Tats Sumida, were planned every other weekend to the Sierras. Accommodations were typically at Nevada Lodge with bus departures leaving San Jose and San Francisco early Saturday mornings. Weeklong ski trips were quickly added to the program to supplement the winter ski schedule. Two and three bus trips were typical during these years.

The following is a brief history of some of the highlights and milestones of the Nisei Ski Club and of some of the people responsible for them; based on past archived NSC records and oral histories.

- 1966-1967** After several years of existence, Hi Fujii is the first elected President of the Nisei Ski Club.
- 1967-1968** With the initiative of President Don Lang, the movement begins to make the Nisei Ski Club a year round club with non skiing events throughout the non-winter months. The summer of 1968 is known as "Summer Madness" with an event each month, such as a canoe trip down the Russian River, water skiing at Lake Berryessa and a picnic at Mitchell Park.
- 1968-1969** The Nisei Ski Club is officially incorporated with the State of California on November 22, 1968. Tats Sumida, Donald H. Lang, Hayami (Hi) Fujii and Yoshinobu (Yosh) Morimoto are the four who signed the Articles of Incorporation as Directors.
- The Annual Pre-Season Dance cost \$1(members), \$2 (Non-members) and 'girls' were admitted free!
- 1969-1970** April 5, 1970, the first NSC slalom ski race is held at Squaw Valley. There are 93 racers for his three bus trip.
- 1970-1971** The Club sports a new logo and issues membership cards for the first time.
- 1971-1972** There were nine weekend ski trips planned that year. Six trips are three bus trips and three trips have two buses.
- 1972-1973** This is a banner year for ski racing. The Second Annual "Snoopy Race" on March 4 is held at Northstar. The Third Annual President's Cup Fun Race is held at the NASTAR course at Bear Valley on March 18. The Fourth Annual NSC Race is held on April 8 at Squaw Valley.
- 1973-1974** Second Annual Bike Tour to Brentwood chaired by Haruko Nagaishi and Jeanette Shinsako. Other activities include a luau and dance, water skiing, miniature golf and square dancing with a dinner, tennis tournament and a sailing beach party.
- 1974-1975** A year of expansion. At the suggestion of Tamiji Kanegawa, the board votes to publicize NSC on TV-Channel 20. In August, a policy is made to offer membership prices to all Chi Ski members for NSC non-skiing events.

- 1975-1976** In the tradition of the seventies, April Shiro is the first woman President elected to lead the NSC Board of Directors. All her officers are women: Karen Shiraki (VP), Carol Otsuki (S) and Carol Nakao (T)
The first NSC Recipe Book is initiated that year by Haruko Nagaishi.
- 1976-1977** NSC participates in San Jose's Japanese American Community Bicentennial Celebration by sponsoring a Chinese Chicken Salad booth in San Jose Japantown. This incredible operation is led by George Ogawa, producing 3,000 servings of chicken salad by a cast of over 100 volunteers. They sell out at 4:30 pm and net \$400 for the project.
The second NSC recipe book, "EAT IT" is produced this year by Arlene Ono.
- 1977-1978** Members vote at the General meeting on November 12, to revise the NSC Constitution to include two new officer positions. Trip Director and Editor are added to the NSC Board of Directors.
- 1978-1979** The ski club remains active in BAC activities.
- 1979-1980** Nisei Ski Team in the BAC (Bay Area Council) continues to do well in the Open League Ski Racing. David Yamada is the captain of this team.
Tri-Asian Ski Club Ski Event is hosted by Chi Ski Club that year.
Tats Sumida receives lifetime membership to Nisei Ski Club as founder of the organization.
- 1980-1981** August 2 & 3, NSC participates in the San Francisco Nihonmachi Street Fair, selling Chicken Curry for \$2/plate.
- 1981-1982** In lieu of a President, an executive board of Ken Masunaga, Ed Hom and Gail Uyehara leads NSC. Ken also serves as Vice-president, Ed is trip director and Gail is the ex-officio officer.
- 1982-1983** June 4, 1983, the NSC 25th Anniversary is celebrated at the Holiday Inn in San Francisco on Columbus Avenue.
- 1983-1984** Tony Choy chairs NSC food booth at the San Francisco Nihonmachi Street Fair. They sell teriyaki squid and Calistoga water. The infamous "Wild and Woolly Western Halloween Barbeque and Dance" at the Palo Alto Buddhist Church gym chaired by Ron Kaida. Over 250 people attend this event.
- 1984-1985** Bentos sold at the Nihonmachi Street Fair in August. Chaired by Fred Kawamoto and Corwin Fong.
- 1985-1986** Three day President's Weekend trip almost turns into a week long trip! Warm winter rains cause mudslides that leaves the highways impassable for a busload of NSC skiers until the road is cleared on Wednesday.
- 1986-1987** New changes for the ski season by Trip Director Ron Kaida. A different bus line, Sierra Valley is used and accommodations are at the Sundowner Hotel and Casino in Reno. A pick-up stop in Sacramento begins for the first time on a trial basis.
- 1987-1988** "30th Extravaganza", the 30th Anniversary of Nisei Ski Club is held at the Miyako Hotel in San Francisco on May 7, 1988. This event is dedicated to the memory of Past President, Don Lang.

- 1988-1989** Jeanne Katsuro becomes the first Equipment Coordinator for NSC. Until this time, club equipment and \ supplies were rotated from the home of each event chairperson.
- 1989-1990** First NSC Board Retreat held. Initiated by President John Nakatani and Vice-President Pam Yoshida, the first retreat is a camping weekend at Lake Del Valle in Livermore and is designed to give incoming Board Members the opportunity to discuss goals for the upcoming year, review the Constitution and conduct workshops on chairing events in an informal environment. This first retreat turns into a full weekend camping trip for those 'who didn't want to go home'.
Constitution is revised to add Membership Chairperson to the NSC slate of officers and to raise dues from \$15 to \$20. First elected Membership Chairperson is Kyle Fujimoto.
NSC participates in Nikkei Matsuri with the sale of barbecued chicken wings and freshly squeezed lemonade chaired by Pam Yoshida.
- 1990-1991** Tats Sumida 'retires' as the Weekend Ski Trip Coordinator for NSC, after holding this position for nearly 33 years. He is replaced by Curtis Otaguro for the upcoming ski season.
- 1991-1992** Kathie Snyder becomes Weekend Ski Trip Coordinator.
NSC members begin a tradition of providing volunteers at Mountain View Obon Bazaar. David Tom chairs this event.
NSC prepares to participate in Nikkei Matsuri. Festival is cancelled the day before the festival due to rioting in Southern California.
- 1992-1993** Due to the cancellation of Nikkei Matsuri that year, NSC participates in the West Valley JAACL Daruma Festival for the first time with a somen salad and lemonade food booth chaired by Pam Yoshida
Minnie Gee chairs NSC food booth at Nikkei Matsuri with Beef Teriyaki sticks and canned soft drinks.
- 1993-1994** NSC participates in the West Valley JAACL Daruma Festival with a teriyaki burger and lemonade booth chaired by Karen Kimura and Mike Mizota.
- 1994-1995** NSC first participation at JASEB Bingo nights. Chaired by Don Akiyama, these bingo nights are important fund raisers to help subsidize our ski trips.
Stan Hada chairs NSC food booth at the Daruma Festival. We sold nachos and lemonade.
- 1995-1996** 122 members travel to Vail, Colorado on what is believed to be the largest NSC Weeklong trip.
- 1996-1997** Race weekend is cancelled due to rain.
- 1997-1998** Past President, Annie Ogata agrees to serve as 'acting' president for NSC this year.
David Tshako was elected president, but declines.

- 1998-1999** "Evolution", the 40th Anniversary of Nisei Ski Club is held at the Westin Hotel in Santa Clara on May 16, 1998. This event is dedicated to Tats Sumida, the founder of Nisei Ski Club.
Judy Hom introduces the 40th Anniversary NSC Recipe book.
Roland Kutaka becomes first Snowboarder to join NSC
- 1999-2000** Gordon Koo becomes the New Weekend Trip Coordinator. Steve Nara becomes new Supply Coordinator.
- 2000-2001** Karen Soo joins NSC. The club has never been the same again.
Wendall Wenjen leads NSC on a kayaking excursion down Elkhorn Slough in Moss Landing.
- 2001-2002** NSC sell out chicken salad by 12:00pm at Nikkei Matsuri
Given the events of September 11 and the events thereafter, NSC weeklong trip to Chamonix, France switches to Big Sky, Montana.
Annual Potluck luncheon moved to the evening due to blizzard conditions at Alpine Meadows.
- 2002-2003** Nisei Ski Club sells beer at the San Francisco Cherry Blossom Festival. Members sign up for multiple shifts.
Nisei Ski Club sells Okinawan donuts at the Nihonmachi Street Fair in San Francisco.
Tim Yonemura clicks off a 16 second run, 2 seconds faster than the pacesetter on race weekend.
- 2003-2004** "Through the Test of Time", the 45th Anniversary of Nisei Ski Club is held at the Holiday Inn in Chinatown, San Francisco. Members enjoy a 10-course dinner and dance to the music of Big City Revue.
Membership dues increase from \$25.00 to \$30.00.
Secretary Judy Hom steps up to the presidency after President John Kobayashi relocates to Japan.
Hi Fujii awarded NSC Lifetime Membership.
- 2004-2005** Judy Hom hosts record attendance for the Holiday Dessert and Wine Party in Alameda.
Record snowfall for first trip of the season to Heavenly. NSC members spend the evening digging the bus out.
NSC members receive skiing tips from Olympian Billy Kidd at Steamboat Springs, CO.
NSC offers PDF of the Newsletter

- 2005-2006** NSC Grand Slam IV Fishing Charter – 30 NSC members limit out with 60 salmon.
Bring-A-Friend program introduces 35 new members to NSC.
NSC potluck dinner / race weekend introduces HOT entrees at Circus-Circus.
NSC Challenge Race cancelled due to the overabundance of snow at Homewood.
Longest recorded bus ride from San Jose to the Sands Hotel in Reno- 12 hours. Members rewarded with nearly 2 feet of fresh powder at NorthStar.
NSC breaks sale record at Nikkei Matsuri, selling over 1,100 bowls of Chicken Salad and raising over \$2800.00 for the club.
Hoyt Nelson starts the popular NSC Stairway Hikes.
- 2006-2007** NSC participates in the Bay Area Ski and Snowboard show at the San Jose Convention Center.
Armand Gutierrez leads NSC members on week trip to Panorama, BC. Ten NSC members, including Hi Fujii, join Armand for a day of heliskiing.
- 2007-2008** Karen Soo breaks NSC record with salmon weighing in at 33 pounds on NSC Grand Slam VI Fishing Charter.
Sandie McGregor introduces the dice game of BUNCO to NSC members.
NSC celebrates 50th Anniversary Weeklong Trip at Vail / Beaver Creek, Colorado.
- 2008-2009** NSC Starts putting puzzles and trivia into the newsletter.
NSC launched a new website that is more modern and easier to maintain.
NSC builds a stronger presence on the internet. Facebook and Twitter accounts were created.
NSC registers as a “California Seller of Travel” with a pledge to protect the consumer.
Thirteen Monterey Ski Club members joins our NSC weekend bus trips.

2010-2011

Five-hours monthly board meetings are eliminated at Palo Alto Buddhist Temple.

Board members host meetings at their homes. Meeting last only 2 hours.

NSC implements getting your newsletter on-line.

NSC Newsletter introduces 1st segment "SPOTLIGHT ON" NSC Board Member Allen Hu.

NSC goes to Keystone Ski Resort for the first time. For \$1225.00 per person.

Potluck weekend was held on a Saturday night at the Sands hotel in 4 separate rooms - Mike Ryall, 1st winner of the Left Right Center Gam (\$90.00). Security was called to the room due to excitement and screaming by Amy Tsuhako.

NSC Sells 909 bowls of Chicken salad and 199 bottles of water at the Nikkei Matsuri and makes a Net profit of \$2000.00.

SF Giants wins the first of three World Series.

2011-2012

NSC stops printing hard copies of the newsletter and puts it on the web.

Karen Soo steps in as NSC Trip director and currently holds the title.

Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows merges under one ownership.

NSC hold races at Sun Valley Weeklong trip, winning 9 NASTAR medals.

NSC goes to Mammoth for \$670.00 per person. Last Mammoth trip was 2009 and cost was only \$650.00.

Maia and Alex Shibutani earn silver medal at the 2012 Figure Skating Nationals. 1st year at the senior level.

Worst snow season in Lake Tahoe cancels bus trips.

NSC Bus weekend ski trips narrows down to 1 trip per year.

2012-2013

Armand Gutierrez serves as NSC president, making him the longest reigning President.

NSC hangs up its aprons and ends making Chicken Salad at Nikkei Matsuri.

NSC drops the PDF version of the Newsletter and makes the newsletter on-line only.

NSC goes to Steamboat Springs for \$1200.00 package.

NSC plans their Annual Picnic at Las Palmas Park in Sunnyvale.

Pinnacles becomes the 59th National Park and NSC completes a 4-hour hike with Hoyt Nelson.

San Francisco Giants wins their 2nd World Series.

2013-2014

NSC goes to Sun Peaks BC for \$1475.00 pp.

NSC plans their Annual Picnic at Las Palmas Park in Sunnyvale – Amy Tshako wins \$66.00 at the Left, Right, Center Game.

NSC founding father Tats Sumida passed away at the age of 85.

2014-2015

NSC introduces the Code of Conduct which is applied to all NSC sponsored events.

<https://www.niseiskiclub.org/posts/nisei-ski-club-code-of-conduct/>

NSC goes to Jackson Hole for \$1475.00 per person. We were able to maintain the same price as the prior year. 75 people went on the trip. First NSC marriage proposal on slopes of Jackson Hole-- Wes Lum and Mariana Guerrero.

NSC plans their Annual Picnic at Las Palmas Park in Sunnyvale – Melissa Wong wins \$99.00 at the Left, Right, Center Game.

San Francisco Giants wins their 3rd World Series in 6 years.

2015- 2016

Judy Hom returns as NSC Newsletter Editor.

NSC plans their Annual Picnic at Las Palmas Park in Sunnyvale – Alex Kami wins \$75.00 at the Left, Right, Center Game.

NSC plans a Pizza Social at the Garret in Campbell - Armand Gutierrez.

NSC goes to Park City, UT for \$1375.00 per person.

NSC founding father and first president Hi Fujii passed away at the age of 84.

NSC introduces Ride sharing program, rideNSC on Yahoo groups.

Due to reduced membership, NSC starts carpooling weekend trips to Lake Tahoe area.

2016-2017

NSC plans their Annual Picnic at Las Palmas Park in Sunnyvale – Rick Dumlao wins \$99.00 at the Left, Right, Center Game.

NSC goes to Snowmass for \$1495.00 per person.

NSC plans a Long Weekend car trip to Mammoth.

NSC saves the environment and gives back to the community- Coastal Clean-up at Crown Beach, Alameda.

NSC former president 1970-71 Ernie Handa passed away November 18, 2016 at age 90.

2017- 2018 NSC goes to Vail for \$1495.00 pp.

Armand Gutierrez has been retired for five years so he can continue to be the President of Nisei Ski Club.

NSC plans their Annual Picnic at Las Palmas Park in Sunnyvale – Kathy Ito wins \$51.00 at the Left, Right, Center Game.

After 3 years as Membership Chairperson, Greg Wong is handing over the reins to Tina Woo.

After 3 years at Newsletter Editor, Judy Hom is handing over her typewriter to Judy Bracken. Judy Hom has been the NSC newsletter editor on and off for 11 years.

NSC does Gimmick Car Rallye – Hoyt Nelson.

Warren Miller – Iconic Ski and snowboard filmmaker passed away at the age of 93.

2018 -2019 NSC celebrates 60-year Anniversary dinner at China Stix with 80 participants.

NSC plans their Annual Picnic at Las Palmas Park in Sunnyvale – Patt Dumlao (Rick Dumlao's wife) wins \$99.00 at the Left, Right, Center Game.

NSC goes to Big Sky, Montana in 2019.

See you in 2028, Nisei Ski Club 70th Anniversary Celebration



Vail, Colorado 1996



Tonight, marks the 60th Anniversary of the Nisei Ski Club. It's been managed and organized by many hard working, dedicated officers and board members throughout the years. But they couldn't have done it without the countless NSC members who volunteered their time, effort, and passion in keeping NSC traditions alive and well for 60 years.

The Nisei Ski Club would like to thank you, the members, who volunteered to lend a helping hand to make the bus trips, week-long trips, hikes, bike rides, or whatever the occasion a fun and memorable event for everyone.

Special Thanks To:

Ida Koo and Ron Kishimura for the donation of 12 bottles of Roederer Estate Sparkling Wine.

Randy Hirai for the graphic design of this NSC booklet and the 60th Anniversary logo.

Bill Lee for continuously photographing all our events.

David Miura for the raffle prizes.

Karen Soo, Curtis Otaguro, Armand Gutierrez and Judy Hom for working on the NSC 60th Anniversary booklet.

<https://www.niseiskiclub.org/>



Vail, Colorado 2018



<https://www.niseiskiclub.org>

NSC 60th Anniversary booklet and Logo design
by Randy Hirai