

Candidate Name: Jan Guenther

Address: Long Lake MN 55356

Are you an ABSF Member: Y

Years of Membership in the ABSF: lots

Occupation: Small Business Ski/Run/Bike Retail owner

Signature of Candidate: _____

ABSF BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATE PROFILE :

Hi, I am running for the board position again because I am passionate about helping oversee the changes and opportunities open to the Birkie organization with the purchase of the Telemark land. As a small business owner for 31 years in MN and 7 years outside Chicago, I understand running a business the size of the Birkie and the challenges of growing that business. These are important attributes needed in at least a couple of the board members so we can offer sound, experienced business advice.

Additionally, my skiing background definitely helps me provide input in many aspects of the Birkie organization. 1) I have been a board member for 9 years 2) I have been in the ski business for 38 years 3) I have been a competitive ski racer and have completed 36 (I think) birkies and several barke-birkes 😊 4) I have a family who has participated in the barnebirke thru the junior birke 5) I own a small log cabin near 00 and have a reasonable feeling of the environment of Hayward/ Telemark / Cable. 6) I hear my customers in Minnesota express opinions about the Birke and therefore I provide an out- of- Hayward perspective, useful when making Birkie race and growth decisions. 7) I own Gear West, a ski retail store just west of Mpls and we have been a Birkie sponsor for years. We support the Birkie and the Birkie Trail runs, we offer wax service at the Birkie, we sponsor Birke athletes, I race the Fat Birke, I work with Riverbrook to run the 17th annual Women/Wine & Chocolate ski training weekend....I am just super active in all things Birke.

My 9-year involvement on the board includes focus on Birke sponsors, on the Birke retail store, and on pushing the idea of snowmaking forward. I sit on the Birke Grant committee, the Finance committee, and the Telemark Capital Campaign committee. At times I speak my mind instead of following the easier flow of agreement. I feel presenting alternative views, especially those representing skiers outside Hayward, provide useful and necessary input to keep a board healthy and fully representative of the organization they serve.

I am applying to serve another term on the Birkie board because I am extremely interested in helping achieve success in Telemark 2.0 . The foundation has expanded their scope of operations with goals that are exciting and admirable. The Birke organization will need a strong, supportive board to assist in the completion of this Telemark World Cup project and I am excited to continue to be a part of it, if elected.

Thank you for your support.

Jan