

#174
Jimmie Heuga
Born: 1943

Jim Huega was on the 1964 United States Olympic Team, finishing just behind Bill Kidd to take the bronze medal at Innsbruck, Austria. This was Jimmie's "brightest hour" as he was only 19 years old, and although many other ski triumphs remained ahead, that bronze medal was his finest inspiration.

Jim Huega's credentials show he was a member of the 1962 F.I.S. Team from the United States in 1962 at Chamonix, France. He won a 5th place in the slalom-downhill combined, and took 12th place in the slalom and giant slalom. Jim retired from competition after the 1968 Olympics, and turned to coaching on a part-time basis. He coached the United States Alpine Ski Team for the 1973-1974 season, and both junior and senior racers on a part-time basis whenever he had the opportunity.

Jimmie Heuga's "brightest hour" came when he took the Olympic Slalom Bronze Medal at the Olympic Winter Games in Innsbruck, Austria.



He was a mere 19 years old and many other ski triumphs remained ahead, but that Bronze Medal of Jimmy's remains to this day among the finest inspirations for North America's ski-minded boys and girls. It's the major attraction of a United States Ski Team Display in the Western America Skisport Museum at Boreal Ridge in California, and around the Bronze Medal are many of the other awards won by Jimmie.

The Skisport Museum is a project of the Auburn Ski Club, with the U.S. Ski Team Display having the cooperation of Jimmie's Lake Tahoe Ski Club, the Squaw Valley Ski Club, the Reno Ski Club and other organizations affiliated with the Far West Ski Association and the United States Ski Association. Here are gathered pictures and records of all the United States Olympic Ski Teams from 1924 to this year. Memorabilia are displayed of all the Winter Olympics including historic skis, competitors' numbers, Olympic participation medals, and national championship medals. Perhaps nothing could be more inspiring.

Jimmy's red-and-white-ribboned Olympic Bronze glistens beneath plate glass, with complementing trophies from all around the ski world including the following:

- 1960 Slalom Championships of the U.S. National Junior and National Senior tourneys
- 1961 Junior Combined of Sel-am-see and the Alpine Combined of the

Harriman Cup

- 1962 Lauberhom and Wengen Medals; the Emile Allais Silver Disk
- 1963 Aurora Cup, 3rd place, Nationals, Alyeska, Alaska; NCAA Bronze
- 1964 Harriman Cup Gold Bowl for Downhill first; Arlberg Kandahar Gold Cup for Combined Championship; F.I.S. World Champions Bronze Snowflake
- 1965 Alpine Holiday Classic Gold in Slalom
- 1966 Slalom Gold First at Bariloche, Argentina; Vail Trophy Silver Bowl for Slalom first and Silver for Combined; Colorado Cup 1st place
- 1967 The Werner Cup, The Colorado Cup, the Roch Cup and the Giant Slalom 3rd Place World Cup award; the Australian Thredbo Cup for 1st in Combined, Slalom and Giant Slalom

A graduate of the University of Colorado, Jimmy retired following participation in the 1968 Olympic Winter Games. At 25 years of age, he could look back with satisfaction at his record with U.S. Ski Teams during two Olympics and two F.I.S. World Championships.

James "Jim" Huega was elected to the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame in 1967.

