



**NOMINATION FORM**  
For  
**HONORED MEMBERSHIP**  
In The  
**U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD HALL OF FAME**

Candidate's Name: Jan Reynolds

Date & Place of Birth: April 30, 1956, Middlebury, Vermont \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the candidate still living? If not, provide date and place of death: alive \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominator information:**

Name: Kristen Ulmer \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

For what category are you nominating this candidate?

Athlete:  \_\_\_\_\_

Snowsports Builder: \_\_\_\_\_

Heritage: \_\_\_\_\_

(See appendix one at the end of this form for category definitions)

**An 8 x 10 photograph of the candidate must be supplied: X\_\_**



**State why the candidate merits election to the U.S. National Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame (limit this statement to 250 words)**

Author, mountaineer, biathlete, international record holder and business maverick Jan Reynolds impacted the winter action sports industry throughout the late 1970's and well into 1980's. Her pioneering accomplishments gave birth to corporate sponsorship for athletes and expeditions, as we know them today.

Jan ushered in a new era of sponsorship with fortune 500 and ski industry companies, in 1980 when she set the international high altitude skiing record for women. She was one of 3 people to set the record for altitude skiing from a summit, with fellow US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame members Ned Gillette, and Dick Dorworth, for National Geographic magazine.

Jan's became the first athlete to be hired as a professional by The North Face, as a skier and mountaineer. This not only shattered the glass ceiling, it set the stage for countless athletes for decades to come, and impacted the ski industry forever. Current extreme mountain skiers, male and female, stand on Jan's shoulders.

Jan's vision for skiing the unthinkable also changed the sport by taking metal edged, cross-country skis with a completely free heel, into the big mountains in 1979 when she and 3 other men, completed the first linked traverse of the New Zealand Alps. With 50-pound packs, facing big headwalls, the team succeeded in navigating high alpine terrain on light skis, which had never been done before. This expedition changed the game of ski mountaineering internationally, and raised the bar for light and fast travel.

This propelled her in 1981 to set several world records in the Himalaya. No one had used light cross-country skis in this terrain, nor had anyone climbed or skied the Everest Grand Circle expedition route before, or done the summits and passes at these heights in the winter season when jet stream winds lower onto the tops of the peaks. Although Hall of Fame member Steve McKinney was on the team, Jan was the only one of two members to complete the entire circle.

In the mid 80's Jan lit the fuse for the backcountry skiing explosion we see today, when she turned her sights to solo skiing, and crossed the Himalaya over 20,000' Nangpa La on light free heeled skis, for National Geographic, to write and photograph an article on the ancient Tibetan salt trade, before the Chinese completely shut it down.

This solo expedition sparked Jan's creativity, as she shifted from large, expensive expeditions, to leading very small teams of two, moving light and fast to complete more objectives, while she wrote and photographed these events for magazines.

Jan turned to setting speed records, with a different teammate each time. The first on was a one-day ascent and descent of Mount Ararat. (Article in Snow Country) Then another ascent and descent of 21,000' Himalayan Mera peak on skating skis, a first, and a another speed record. (Article in Backcountry) And she continued with ascents and descents on Toubkal in North Africa, Otgon Tenger in Mongolia, and more, (Powder, Ski, Outside magazines).

Jan demonstrated to the public and to the outdoor sports industry via her articles, that light skis and fast travel was possible in big mountains and made mountain travel safer, by getting in and out before conditions changed. This paved the way for the backcountry movement, the fastest growing segment of the ski industry today.

Record setting demanded hard training, which led Jan to become the top U.S. biathlete selected for the first FIS World Cup championship races in Chamonix, 1984, and a top competitor in the new sport of winter triathlons; winning easily in the women's category, scoring among the top men. Esquire Magazine selected Jan as "Athlete of the Decade" ahead of women in all sports.

Jan is enshrined in the University of Vermont's Athletic Hall of Fame, Vermont's Ski and Snowboard Hall Of Fame, and was voted a member of the prestigious, international Explorers Club. She has been interviewed on: ABC's Good Morning America, NBC's Today Show, National Public Radio, New York Times, talk shows Merv Griffin, Hour Magazine, and has appeared in adventure films around the world. She has been featured in numerous articles, print ads, on magazine covers, and interviewed widely as a pioneer in the action sports world and has authored 20 books.

What has been said...

“Jan Reynolds’ adventures are the stuff of pulp novels and James Bond movies”

Ski Magazine

“Indiana Jan – There’s no Temple of Doom for this relentlessly positive, constantly restless, extraordinary endurance athlete....one of the finest endurance athletes this country has produced.”

“Super fitness, for Jan Reynolds, is a way of life.” “The circle required staying power of the highest order in an environment that treads the border between will-power and insanity.”

“Jan is the rare phenomena coaches call a natural competitor- but she does not strive to be better than anyone. The focus of her challenges is Jan.”

Ultrasport Magazine

“The first thing you remark on when you see her ski is her power.”

“Reynolds is a remarkable, gifted athlete who almost unfailingly does what she sets out to do...She also learned she could be more than just one of the boys,”

Esquire Magazine

**In chronological order by year, list the candidate’s achievements:**

-1978 University of Vermont Bachelor’s Degree/ teaching certification

Men’s and Women’s teams combined for NCAA Championships, UVM wins/ Jan Reynolds is top cross country skier for UVM women’s team in all events

-1979 Southern Cross Expedition, First free heel ski and climbing traverse of the Southern Alps, New Zealand, with Ned Gillette (Hall of Fame member). Light, metal edged, cross country ski gear used for all ascents and descents

-1980 First westerners with John Fry and Ski Magazine to ski and coach in Manchuria, China. 2 part article in Ski Magazine. Ned Gillette and Jan Reynolds supplied the photographs, and Jan coached the young junior champions

-1980 Friendship Expedition, Highest ski descent from a mountain summit 24, 757’ Mustagata Peak, Pamirs, with Ned Gillette, Galen Rowell, (Hall of Fame member Dick Dorworth participated) sponsored by National Geographic. Jan set the women’s high altitude skiing record for women which stood for 8 years, Article: National Geographic February 1981, American Skiers Find Adventure in Western China) (Powder 1981)

-1981/82 Co-leader of Everest Grand Circle Expedition, climbing and skiing at elevations from 20,000'-24,000' circling Everest for 4 months, first winter ascent in Himalaya on Pumori. Several first descents in Tibet. (Powder 1982)

-1982 the North Face announces Jan Reynolds and Ned Gillette their first professional athletes. Other outdoor companies begin to follow The North Face's lead. A new aspect of professional sports is born in the U.S. for climbers and skiers. (Powder Feb 1983)

-1983/84/85 Winner of the Mountain Man triathlon. Ultimately placed 5<sup>th</sup> among the men; involving a 5000' ascent and descent of a peak, 12 miles on skis, followed by the same on snowshoes, finishing with 12 miles of speed skating, likened to the "Iron Man" of winter, Vail Colorado. (Outside Feb 1985)

-1983/84 Top member of the U.S. Biathlon Team, world cup championships, Chamonix, France. (Powder 1984) Jan is part of the birth of a new sport for women

- 1984 Athlete of the Decade: Esquire Magazine Special Edition "A Celebration of the New American Woman" recognized as: ski mountaineering multi-world record holder, champion biathlete, ice climber, rock climber, biker, kayaker, water skier, scuba diver, skydiver, swimmer

-1985 Moroccan Adventure, Highest Atlas peak, 14,000' Toubkal, on light, backcountry ski gear ( Powder Dec 1985, Rock and Ice Number Twelve, New Adventurers UK magazine, Japanese ski Magazine)

-1985 Beyond the Summit Expedition: 2 hot air balloons ascend to 28,000' attempting to fly over Everest, a world height record set and award winning film created, televised worldwide. Jan's knowledge of the Everest region, and climbing skills were essential for the pilots safety. (Rock and Ice magazine 1986)

-1985 Book: Everest Grand Circle published by Mountaineers in Seattle, co-authored Jan Reynolds, Ned Gillette/ Jan pitched and secured the book

-1980-85 Appearances on NBC's Today Show, and Good Morning America, interviews on several national talk shows: Mev Griffin, Hour Magazine etc. National Public Radio, New York Times, 3 adventure ski films concerning her contribution to moving the sport of ski mountaineering forward for all genders, and for opening up this sport to women

-1986 Nangpa La: article and sponsorship with National Geographic magazine, after co-leading expeditions, Jan solos over 20,000' Nangpa La from Nepal to Tibet on light, backcountry ski gear to cover the last of the yak trains, and ancient salt trade.

-1987 23,000' Mera peak on xc skate skis: Jan created and led the experimental ski expedition in one long day with a bivouac, that took the British team using heavy randonee gear before her, 4 days and 3 camps, proving timing and light gear was the wave of future expeditions. (Backcountry magazine)

-1989 Mount Ararat ski in one day: Jan climbed and skied the 14,000' vertical rise in one day, a first for all genders, an endurance ascent/descent, on light, backcountry ski gear. (Snow Country June 1989)

- 1990 Midnight Ski: Finland; reconnaissance in search of traditional Samis, reindeer herders for book project, in Pallas Ounas National Park (Cross Country Skier Feb/1991)
- 1990 University of Vermont Athletic Hall of Fame
- 1991 Vanishing Cultures global book series is born: Jan lived with the Tibetans in the Himalaya, and the Tuareg in the Sahara, skiing the peaks and sands of each environment, "Himalaya" and "Sahara" published with Harcourt Brace. New York Times Sunday Book Review, Publisher's weekly, AP wire and more (Ski Nov 1993)
- 1992 Books "Far North", "Down Under": living with the Sami reindeer herders in the arctic, and the Aboriginals in Australia, Harcourt Brace publisher, sand and snow skiing
- 1993 Books "Frozen Land" and "Amazon Basin": skiing in arctic with Inuit, Harcourt Brace publisher (Cross Country Skier Jan/February 1993)
- 1994 Book "Mongolia": living with Mongolians. The last book in this global series Vanishing Cultures, which includes an indigenous culture on each continent, Harcourt Brace publisher, supporting sustainability and cultural tolerance.
- 1994 Otgon Tenger of Hongai Range, Mongolia, 12, 000' climb and ski, light backcountry ski gear (Backcountry December 1994)
- 1995 Toubkal on snowboard (Back Country December 1995) while 6 months pregnant.
- 1996 Video Cultural Adventure, sponsored by Malden Mills. Video shot and edited by Jan about the ancient salt trade set in the Himalaya, while 8 months pregnant.
- 1997 Book Mother and Child: Visions of Parenting From Indigenous Cultures, published with Inner Traditions
- 1997-2003 Home births of 2 boys and being mother/homemaker
- 2003 Book Tuti's Play, Balinese culture, publisher Lee and Low
- 2004 Book Living in an Igloo, skiing with Inuit, publisher Lee and Low
- 2005 Book Leo and the Butterflies: Costa Rican butterfly farm, Publisher Lee and Low
- 2006 Book Celebrate: Connections Among Cultures, breakdown of celebrations for our human family, publisher Lee and Low
- 2008 Vermont Ski Museum Hall of Fame
- 2009-2011 Book Cycle of Rice, Cycle of Life: Indonesian Rice farming, clear description of sustainability, Book Only the Mountains Do not Move, a Maasai Story of Culture and Conservation, Lee and Low publisher
- 2011 Voted a member of the prestigious, international Explorers Club

-2013 Book The Glass Summit: One Woman's Epic Journey Breaking Through, Jan's expedition, and cultural stories about working with all men while setting records, touching on the difference in the way men and women think, speak, and behave.

-2014 Ski Magazine interview/ High Altitude Woman/and The Glass Summit

-2018 Backcountry Magazine, "Fearlessly Female: Jan Reynolds on life up high and advice for aspiring women ski mountaineers" interview

-2019 Bulgarian Backcountry: article by Jan "Where Wilderness is Church", skiing the peaks of Bulgaria on light backcountry ski gear and snowboard (Jan's back at it, at 63! With the young bucks...;-) (Backcountry Nov 2019)

-2020 Heliskiing the Himalaya, with Craig Calonica, article TBA

**On one page provide additional data, anecdotes, etc. that you feel are pertinent to this nomination:**

Covered in bio and list of achievements.

**Please list the names and addresses of those people who are supporting this nomination (Minimum of three - limit six):**

Barbara Ann Cochran, National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame member: 213 Brown Hill West, Starksboro, Vermont 05487

Happ Klopp, Co-founder and 20 year CEO of The North Face: 830 Mendocino Avenue, Berkeley, California 94707

Dan Egan, National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame member: PO Box 988, Campton, NH

John Caldwell, National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame member: 30 Leon Wood Road, Putney, Vermont 05346

Dr. Bob Arnot (Dr. Danger) TV correspondent NBC, CBS, journalist, author, athlete: Mountain Road, Stow, Vermont 05672

Kristen Ulmer, National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame member: 3437 Thousand Oaks Circle, Salt Lake City, Utah 84124

**Please provide a list of sources for visual material that can be used at the candidate's induction presentation:**

Many sources online/ interviews, magazine covers and articles, video, television, film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6DuV6xIpDhw> mix of many interviews on video on you tube, all available

<https://www.pinterest.com/leeandlow/jan-reynolds-author-study/> all of this media available

All video, magazine covers, and interviews used for the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame video created for induction

There is more print, video, film material than needed for an event. Easy way to see a sampling is to google "Jan Reynolds".

\_\_\_\_\_ Kristen Ulmer \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of nominator

Mail completed nomination form to: U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame, P.O. Box 191, Ishpeming, MI 49849 or email to: [administrator@skihall.com](mailto:administrator@skihall.com)



To Whom It May Concern:

Jan was a pioneer for both men and women in the big mountain ranges around the globe, setting word records while pushing the limits of light cross country equipment and skiing with a free heel in extreme terrain. She was early to seek sponsorship from corporations for ski mountaineering expeditions, changing the way things were done and bringing the sport up a level. She managed to make a professional career out of skiing by working with ski industry companies which also changed the opportunities for others in the field. Jan's creative accomplishments, chronicled in many of the national magazines, and on TV and film, should definitely put her in the National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Barbara Ann Cochran  
National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame member  
213 Brown Hill West, Starksboro, Vermont 05487



**To:** The US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame selection committee  
**From:** Dan Egan  
**Re:** Jan Reynolds recommendation letter  
**Date:** March 27, 2020

I'm writing on behalf of one of the difference makers in our industry Jan Reynolds. Her accomplishments are not only bold but have shaped the outdoor action sports world, as we know it. Reynolds pioneered corporate sponsorships in the 1980's with her expeditions to the highest mountains in the world. She created a platform, which became the standard for endorsements and exposure through televisions, films, articles and books. By being the first endorsed athlete by the North Face she paved the way for future professionals like myself and countless other Honored members of the US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

She is worthy of this honor. Her climbing partners and peers have been inducted people such as Dick Dorworth, Ned Gillette, and Steve McKinney.

However her accomplishments stand-alone as she set some amazing record setting ascents/descents. Set a new standard for climbing and skiing in extremely light equipment, which has impacted the industry to this date. As an endurance athlete and World Cup competitor she was among the first women to compete in Biathlon.

As a personality her story has been documented in countless ski and action sports magazines and is credited with inspiring the backcountry movement decades ago and as we know is one of the largest growing segments of the Outdoor Industry today.

Her feats are legendary, her ground breaking corporate sponsorship and endorsements created an industry that still thrives today.

Many if not all adventure, extreme and professional athletes have her to thank for the direction her impact forged in the industry. And when you add in her international records, plus her impact on the type of equipment used and developed by her experiences, the US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame is empty without her.

Yours in Snow,

Dan Egan  
Honored Member

To Whom it May Concern,

Jan Reynolds took cross-country skiing to new heights. Few, if any people I know have been so totally immersed in all phases of this sport, from humble beginnings as an xc racer, up through the ranks (including biathlon) and on to establishing herself as one of the world's prominent back country skiers. She raised the bar for all the adventurous souls in the sport. Jan deserves to join the ranks of the National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

John Caldwell: National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame member, U.S. Nordic Team Coach  
30 Leon Wood Rd  
Putney, VT 0534

To the Hall,

I'm eager to support Jan Reynolds' nomination for the National Ski and Snowboard Hall of fame. Jan was the first female athlete that The North Face sponsored and helped us create the format and criteria for all the other female athletes that The North Face chose to sponsor. As I thought about it, I was surprised she isn't already there alongside some of the male luminaries that she skied and climbed with that we also sponsored—Ned Gillette, Steve McKinney immediately come to mind. Jan's exploits around the globe were critical in helping build The North Face's female (and male) customer base and pioneered the era of outdoor women sponsored athletes. Jan is a skiing and outdoor legend in her own time—world records to her credit, numerous first ascents and descents, Olympic athlete, trendsetter for backcountry skiing, an inspiration for female participation in the outdoors. And, importantly for The North Face, she was one of our leading product testers and an active participant in helping us design our gear.

No one is more deserving of this award than Jan.

Hap Klopp  
Co-founder and 20 year CEO of The North Face  
830 Mendocino Ave.  
Berkeley, CA 94707

To Whom it May Concern,

"I've known Jan since she was training for the U.S. biathlon team, hooked up to my spirometer machine and running on my treadmill to measure her lung volume, it was world class in volume. Jan has used about every width of ski, including snowboards to ascent and descend summits around the world, and set new standards for light and fast travel in the mountains. Jan continued to explore the sport of skiing around the world in different ranges, using a variety of gear, her creativity written up in her many articles for national magazines helped shape the backcountry inspiration we see today. Jan will be a great addition to the National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. And she has given back to the community in spades. Stowe's favorite kid's ski instructor! A GREAT nominee"

Bob Arnot MD, Mountain Road

Stowe, Vermont 05672

(Doctor Danger)

Emmy Winning Correspondent for CBS, NBC, author, Journalist, athlete

To Whom it May Concern:

Before Red Bull sponsors, branding with logos, supporting events, Jan got the ball rolling. In the late 70's she convinced the industry there were marketing opportunities to be found, by putting an athlete on the payroll.

She was first able to commandeer Kastle Skis to support her traverse of the New Zealand Alps on three pin xc skis, with 3 other men. That was just the beginning. It was a stretch and risk for the company, but the subsequent photos, articles, and records that were set, more than paid the company back.

Those of us that came after Jan, should tip our hats to her for doing the heavy lifting to start the wave of corporate sponsors, and athletes aligning with companies to enhance their brand. This changed everything, for us all.

Not only that, this initial trip started a new wave in the sport of skiing: light weight ski use in the big mountains.

-Kristen Ulmer, Hall of Fame Class of 2018  
3437 Thousand Oaks Circle,  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84124