



## Tahoe Donner Celebrates 50 Years of History and a Bright Future Ahead

*Since 1971, Tahoe Donner has been a vision-rich association in North Lake Tahoe making family memories as one of the area's most adventurous communities.*

Truckee, CA (Tuesday, Jan 12, 2021) - Tahoe Donner kicks off its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and will be celebrating this historical milestone throughout 2021. This year, Tahoe Donner will highlight some of the unique individuals whose vision helped create Tahoe Donner and explore some of the area's historical lore and novel events that support its motto of "*Where Traditions Begin.*"

In celebration, Tahoe Donner will offer special discounts, surprise giveaways at local amenities like Tahoe Donner Downhill Ski Resort and Cross Country Ski Center and other celebratory offers as COVID-19 safety restrictions allow throughout the year.

### **A RICH HISTORY**

In the late sixties, former Navy pilot and professional NFL football player Jack Kirby purchased 4,020 acres from a Christmas tree farmer in Truckee, California, in the heart of the Sierra Nevada mountain range. As an entrepreneur and real estate developer, Kirby saw the potential to create a family-friendly mountain community with endless recreational opportunities. After visiting the property and viewing an area badly burned by the Donner Ridge fire in 1960, Kirby believed the scorched area would be ideal for a downhill ski resort that appeals to beginners and intermediate skiers. The downhill ski resort became Tahoe Donner's first amenity.

In 1971, Tahoe Donner offered 1/3-acre lots starting at \$8,000. The community was an immediate success, exceeding \$20 million in homesite sales before the golf course or ski hill even opened. Truckee's convenient location on Interstate 80 made it accessible to visitors from Reno, Sacramento and the San Francisco Bay Area, and the wide range of accessible amenities inspired thousands of families to make Tahoe Donner their High Sierra home or home away from home.

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“Tahoe Donner was built on a vision for a vibrant and desirable mountain community for generations to enjoy,” said David Mickaelian, general manager of Tahoe Donner. “We are proud to celebrate 50 years of memorable history and the spirit and adventurous community that is Tahoe Donner today.”

### **PRESENT-DAY TAHOE DONNER**

Tahoe Donner is Northern California’s largest resort community and one of the largest homeowners associations in the United States. The community includes nearly 6,500 homes on 7,300 acres, with more than 25,000 member homeowners invested in its ongoing success. Members and guests today enjoy a recently renovated 18-hole championship golf course, world-class cross country ski center, family-friendly downhill ski area, beach club marina, tennis center, equestrian center, campground, 60-plus miles of a multi-use trail system, newly renovated recreation center and multiple year-round restaurants such as The Lodge Restaurant & Pub and Alder Creek Cafe.

Tahoe Donner boasts an award-winning forestry department recognized nationally for its work in fire safety and responsible forest management. These conservation and defensible space efforts in addition to stewardship strategies, sustainable project planning and environmentally conscious practices offer a glimpse into the all-encompassing green scheme Tahoe Donner holds to preserve and protect this unforgettable mountain community.

### **BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE**

Tahoe Donner continues to invest in capital projects and community amenity improvements. Recent examples include the new energy-efficient Alder Creek Adventure Center, completed in 2015, and the remodel of its Trout Creek Recreation Center, completed in early 2020. In honor of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Tahoe Donner completed exciting tee and fairway repairs as well as a greens replacement project at the Tahoe Donner Golf Course in summer and fall 2020. The golf course is scheduled to reopen in early summer 2021 for members and guests to enjoy.

In the fall of 2020, Tahoe Donner completed the recent construction on its Nature Loop Trail and the paving of the Bermgarten Trail parking lot. Looking forward, the association is in the planning phase of building a new downhill ski lodge and is adding snowmaking capabilities at its cross country ski center and Snowplay recreation area.

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Tahoe Donner staff would like to thank its members, guests, and the Truckee community for 50 years of support and great memories. The association looks forward to providing some of the best that North Lake Tahoe can offer for future generations to enjoy. Stay connected by visiting [tahoedonner.com](http://tahoedonner.com), picking up the monthly *Tahoe Donner News* magazine or by following Tahoe Donner on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

## TAHOE DONNER HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **1960:** For eight days the Donner Ridge Fire burned 44,812 acres, leaving the final lasting impression to the makeup of Tahoe Donner
- **1971:** Northwoods Clubhouse opens with the grand opening of Tahoe Donner Association
- **1972:** Downhill Ski Area and the Donner Christy Inn day lodge opens
- **1972:** Tahoe Donner Tennis Center opens
- **1975:** Tahoe Donner operates a variety of restaurants including Northwoods Restaurant, Golden Spike Saloon and Golf Course Roughhouse Restaurant
- **1980:** Tahoe Donner hosts PGA Tour at Tahoe Donner Golf Course
- **1993:** Trout Creek Recreation Center is built
- **2003:** Tahoe Donner purchases 200 acres in Euer Valley
- **2005:** The Lodge Restaurant & Pub opens
- **2011:** Tahoe Donner purchases additional 482-acres in Euer Valley
- **2015:** Grand opening of Alder Creek Adventure Center
- **2016:** The new Equestrian Center opens
- **2016:** Tahoe Donner purchases a 640-acre parcel including Crabtree Canyon
- **2018:** The new Snowbird Triple Chair is installed at Tahoe Donner Downhill Ski Resort
- **2020:** The renovation of the Trout Creek Recreation Center, Golf Course and Nature Loop Trail are completed

See the complete timeline at and more information at [tahoedonner.com/50years](http://tahoedonner.com/50years).

Pictures are available for [download at here](#) courtesy of Tahoe Donner.

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### **About Tahoe Donner:**

Tahoe Donner is one of California's largest resort communities, with nearly 6,500 properties and 25,000 members enjoying over 7,000 acres in the Sierra Nevada. Located 18 miles from Lake Tahoe in Truckee, California, Tahoe Donner operates a wide variety of recreational facilities, including an award-winning

championship golf course, a family-friendly downhill ski resort, and a renowned cross country ski center with a newly constructed, state-of-the-art base lodge —all of which are open to the public. In addition, Tahoe Donner operates several member-only facilities, such as a beach club marina, recreation center and pools. These amenities can be explored in detail at [tahoedonner.com](http://tahoedonner.com). For more information on Tahoe Donner and its recreational facilities and events, visit [tahoedonner.com](http://tahoedonner.com) or call (530) 587-9400.

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