ANDERS HAUGEN

Born October 24, 1888 in Oslo, Norway and died April 17, 1984.

1908  Came to America from Telemark, Norway. Called Dillon, CO his home. Anders and his brother Lars were America’s first outstanding ski jumpers. Anders won the US Championship in 1910, 1920, 1923, and 1926.

1920  Jumped 214 feet at Dillon, CO. This was a US record that stood until 1932.

1924  Captain of the first US Olympic Ski Team and won the first US Olympic Ski medal, a bronze in Chamonix, France. The medal was awarded to him 50 years later at the age of 86 because of a scoring mistake that had been discovered.

He had placed fourth in the special jumping event at the 1924 Winter Olympics behind Norway’s Thorleif Haug, who was credited with 18,000 points to Haugen’s 17.916. A sports historian discovered that Haug actually had only 17.821 points. Notified of the error, the International Olympic Committee scheduled a special ceremony in Oslo, Norway on September 17, 1974 and Anders Haugen was given his medal by Thorleif Haug’s daughter.

1929  Anders and his brother Lars moved to California where he was instrumental in organizing the developing California’s Lake Tahoe Ski Club as well as coaching ski programs. He was still directing junior skiing programs well into his 70’s. It has been said that his ability “surpassed that of many younger men.”