

DEFENDERS OF WINTER

THE LOCAL

KEITH CARLSEN



A natural-born – and trained – journalist, Keith Carlsen became the editor of Powder Magazine in 1999 at the age of 24, after joining the magazine as an intern three years earlier. In 2001, he carried forward his adventurous enthusiasm to his next role as Director of Marketing, Communications and Visual Media at the renowned production company Mountain Sports International. From there he continued his success as a freelancer, building his own company, Keith Carlsen Productions. With the love of capturing real-life action and stories at their finest, Keith is known for bringing his “hell-yes!” attitude to whatever the job is, whether on a freezing mountain peak in remote Russia or a high-pressure celebrity shoot at the Sundance Film Festival.

Now 42 years old, Carlsen has spent the better part of the past 20 years centering his life around skiing as much powder snow as humanly possible. And he doesn't plan to slow down anytime soon. Although his love for surfing the waves of Malibu is catching up to his passion for skiing.

A new contributor to The Local, he's now based out of Los Angeles, California, where he's focusing on more commercial portrait and fashion work. He lives in DTLA with his charming wife Sarah and adorable decker rat terrier, Penney Fox Mulder.

An internationally published photographer, producer and writer, Keith Carlsen has the pleasure of working with clients such as Powder Magazine, Red Bull, Rolling Stone, Verizon, Bike Magazine, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and Brain Farm Cinema.

See all of Keith's work on his website, www.keithcarlsen.com

Night jump: Julian Carr sends it into the night under the lift at Brighton, Utah.



Portrait: A freeskiing World Champion, Frenchman Julien Lopez gets casual in Girdwood, Alaska.

B+W ski action: Cody Barnhill making the switch-pow-turn look easy in Snowbird, Utah.



Photographer Keith Carlsen



Sunrise action turn: Alex Taran slashing frozen ice crust into orange glitter atop Teton Pass, Wyoming.



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Most people who surf prefer a custom shaped surfboard. The process of working with a shaper to develop your perfect design is a satisfying part of the sport. Determining length, width and thickness helps your one of a kind stick ride well in your favorite conditions. Snappy and hollow Zuma or the long walls of Sequit Point or Surfrider all need a special touch in the rocker, tip and tail to maximize speed or stability. When we head to the mountains the majority of skiers are happy with a set of boards off the rack. Mass produced by factories in Austria, Switzerland or China, the dimensions and design may work well for some but do they really work well for you and your style of shredding? Fret no more fellow ski bums, there is such a thing as affordable, durable CUSTOM skis! Community Skis has been designing and building amazing sets of skis for the past 15 years right here in Mammoth Lakes.

They help determine what the best possible ski shape is for the client so they can keep developing, and keep pushing their abilities on the slopes.

Let Community know what you want your skis to do and they will send you a design based on their expertise and experience. You are welcome to tweak it, add more rocker, little less camber, tighten up the sidecut and once the design is finalized it's time to decide on graphics! A huge part of custom is the graphics and if you can imagine it we can design it to fit on your skis.

Being on the right ski, custom designed for you makes a huge difference than buying off the rack. You'll immediately feel more confidence, be able to ski at higher speeds with more control, and if you design your skis for specific performance criteria like bumps, heli skiing/deep powder, hard carving, etc., Community can tweak the design and lean the performance to your specifications.

They are a lot like a custom surfer board shaper- You tell your shaper what they need to know, they get back to their shop shape that board and glass it. It's like being in a super fun sports car, putting on a tailored suit, or riding a big wave on the right board.

Community's production capacity is about 10 sets of skis a week. Made by hand in the mobile production unit.

They also offer build your own ski workshops where you work side by side with the production team and build your dream skis by hand.

All they do is custom skis and have built over 2000 pairs unique to each individual.

Their most popular ski shapes are all mountain leaning towards powder. We range from 70mm underfoot all the way up to 140mm. Sidecut from 9meters to 28meters. Length 140cm to 212cm.

www.communityskis.com



PHOTO BY ELLA TAYLOR



KAI LIGHTNER SENDS BUTTERMILK PROBLEMS WITH EASE

BY ROB TAYLOR

16 year old **Kai Lightner** is the climbing world's latest phenom. Current national sport climbing champion, Kai has only recently begun to move from the gym to the great outdoors. This past Thanksgiving Kai and his mother went with our old pal John Long to Bishop Ca, one of the most iconic and well-traveled bouldering Meccas on earth. In short order, often on his first or second try (expert boulderers often spend weeks, even years on exacting boulder "problems") Kai ticked Buttermilker, Eviloution, and the legendary Mandala, one of the most sought-after short climbs in the world.



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