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FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

\$4.99



Wiley Miller in
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by Jeff Cricco.

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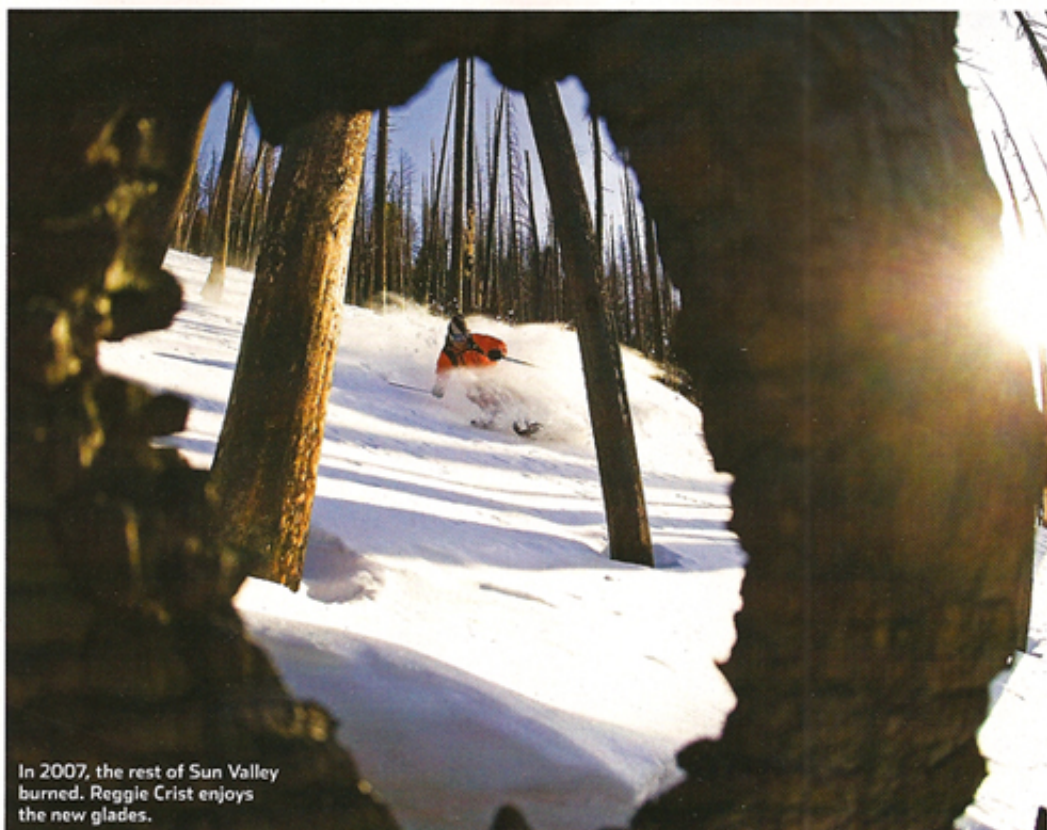
CATHARSIS

TRIAL BY FIRE

After burning to the ground, Sun Valley's legendary bar is back.

Sun Valley skiers can stop grieving and make friends with some new barstools: Ketchum, Idaho's iconic and best-known bar, Whiskey Jacques, has reopened. The bar, which was reduced to scorched earth by a September 2008 fire, had been an institution beloved by skiers and cowboys for 30 years. The owner, Karin Martin, wasn't about to let that slip away. "I heard from people around the country who wanted me to rebuild," she says. Plans for a new structure started while the rubble was still smoldering, and, with support from the community and hours of volunteer work from the Whiskey's staff, the bar started serving again this December. Says Martin, "I don't know how you have ski town without a nightclub."

—HEATHER HANSMAN



In 2007, the rest of Sun Valley burned. Reggie Crist enjoys the new glades.

FOUR MORE ICONIC SKI-TOWN BARS WE HOPE DON'T BURN DOWN

MINTURN SALOON

MINTURN, COLORADO

Margaritas at the Saloon are a mandatory part of the Minturn Mile, a sidecountry run that drops from Lost Boy in Vail's Game Creek Bowl. The hot spot of Minturn, Vail's Ritz-less little sister, the Saloon has been around since 1901. That's almost as long as Bruce, the bartender, has been growing his beard.

THE WOBBLY BARN

KILLINGTON, VERMONT

The Wobbly Barn's flammability isn't as much of a concern as its structural integrity. A group of fraternity brothers shoddily pieced it together in the '60s from the remains of several old barns. The original structure still stands today, and concerts at The Wobbly Barn define the Killington après scene. Just don't dance too hard.

SHOOTING STAR SALOON

HUNTSVILLE, UTAH

If Utah's oldest bar, the Shooting Star, were to go up in flames, an untold number of oddities would be lost. Located near the bottom of Snowbasin, this bar serves 3.2 PBR under the stuffed head of Buck, a 298-pound St. Bernard. If you're feeling really adventurous, ask about smelling the toilet seat.

MANGY MOOSE

JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING

Despite the kitschy gift shop and the constant influx of pseudo-cowboy Jackson tourists, the Mangy Moose has remained a true locals' hangout. Maybe because it's one of the few decent music venues in northern Wyoming. Or maybe it's just because it's so close to the mountain you can practically order beers from the tram line.