

newsletter

# sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI & ADVENTURE CLUB

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APRIL 2014

this issue

- ❑ OFFICERS REPORTS 3
- ❑ ACTIVITIES & FEATURES 12
- ❑ TRIP CALENDAR 34
- ❑ CLUB CALENDAR 36

We  
Want  
You



**12** Volunteer: Houston Public Media

**13** AIA Sandcastle Competition

**14** Poverty Party

**15** Top Golf

**19** Park City Ski Trip Report

**24** Vail Ski Trip Report

## contents



### in every issue

- Launchpad **3**
- From Mission Control **4**
- Having a Blast **10**
- Countdown to Liftoff **7**
- Trip Calendar **34**
- Club Calendar **36**

### Features

- 12** Volunteer: Houston Public Media
- 13** AIA Sandcastle Competition
- 14** Poverty Party
- 15** Top Golf
- 19** Park City Ski Trip Report
- 24** Vail Ski Trip Report



### sponsors

- 6** Jackson Hole



launchpad

# about VOLUNTEERISM

After becoming a club member back in 2009, it just seemed fair to me to give back to the organization that was giving me so much fun. After serving in various roles, I've found the benefits of volunteering are numerous: making new friends, having a great time, earning a sense of accomplishment, and learning something new (volunteering is a great way to learn a new skill or hone an existing one).

SCSC also offers you opportunities to volunteer for public events that enrich our community and make Houston a more interesting place to live. This April, we're gathering volunteers to support Houston Public Media's KUHF88.7FM

membership drive. You'll receive a free club t-shirt for your efforts!

In the coming months, you'll be able to volunteer for the AIA Sandcastle Competition, and the Houston Grand Prix.

Volunteering to lead a club event or becoming an officer will give you back more than you put in, and it will help ensure SCSC continues to thrive.

Please consider volunteering for the 2014-15 year, and reap the benefits!

Volunteer contacts:  
Activities - [Gayle Dale](#)  
Trips - [Susan Blome](#)  
Membership - [Ali Pethick](#)  
Everything else - [Melinda Hughes](#)

**Lynda Meyer**

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Members are emailed a link to the Sitzmarke each month. Non-members may download the newsletter from our website in the About Us/Club Documents section on [www.spacecity.org](http://www.spacecity.org), or search for Sitzmarke on [magcloud.com](http://magcloud.com). Free digital versions for tablets are also available on our digital platform, [magcloud.com](http://magcloud.com), where you may also order a printed copy of any issue and have it mailed to you for just \$.20 per page (plus shipping).

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Congratulations and thank you! The slate of officers was approved in our Regular Meeting of the Membership in March. Congratulations on the vote of confidence that the membership has given you and thank you to the outgoing officers. The new slate includes:

President – Melinda Hughes  
 VP of Activities – Gayle Dale  
 VP of Trips – Susan Blome  
 VP of Membership – Ali Pethick  
 Secretary – Sandy Fowler  
 Treasurer – Marti Turner  
 VP of Marketing – vacant as of this writing

If you are interested in volunteering for the VP of

# from MISSION CONTROL

Marketing position, please contact me at [president@spacecity.org](mailto:president@spacecity.org). This position involves production of the Sitzmarke and exploring markets to expand our membership. Website maintenance is also the responsibility of this position, however, we are considering reinstituting the Director of Communications position for this work. If you are interested in

website design and maintenance, let me know. Jan Ferrell is the outgoing VP of Membership and has done a stellar job for the past 3 years. Lynda Meyer is the outgoing VP of Marketing and has set a new standard for our club website! She was instrumental in getting the current website up and running. I have enjoyed working with the entire group and look forward to a new year.

At the time of this writing, we are still preparing for the Bidfest and have an exciting slate of trips to choose from. I know that Susan has been querying the membership for their input regarding preferred places. Stay tuned!

In April, we look forward to Don Macken's presentation about



the Woodland's Hiking Club and all of the activities that they have to offer. If you're a hiker or a want-to-be, come learn about their local excursions.

It saddens me to wind down the ski season; however, I look forward to the new year's planning. Enjoy the spring!

## **Melinda Hughes**

*President*

[president@spacecity.org](mailto:president@spacecity.org)

## SOUTH AFRICA SEPTEMBER 2014



*contact melody@spacecity.org*

Refer to our website for current updates: [www.spacecity.org](http://www.spacecity.org)

'Like' us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/spacecityskiclub](https://www.facebook.com/spacecityskiclub)

Volunteer for KUHF phone bank – pg 12

Enter your favorite photo in our contest!



**JACKSON  
HOLE**.COM



FOLLOW US!



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**OUR GUESTS RANKED US NUMBER ONE  
OUR COMMUNITY MADE US WHO WE ARE.**

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It's April and, while it's hard to believe, our trips have all returned for the season! None of our trips could have happened without the dedicated TCs and ATCs that work hard to make each trip a success. So a **BIG SHOUT OUT** for all their hard work to Sean O'Brian (Ireland), Linda Kuper (Wine Country), Ann Rogers (Vail-Dec), Betty Donellan & Leslie Hajdo (Park City), Barbara Brescian & Sarah Granbery (Garmisch, Germany), Anne Thomas & Steve Ying (Jackson Hole), Jim Hodges & Arlen Isham (Vail-Feb), Sandra McCunis (Mammoth), John Burk (Keystone), Patti Finch (Breckenridge) and Cindy Moore & Candace TenBrink (Winter Park). Not to be forgotten is our TC for S. Africa, Melody Bohlmann, who continues to work diligently toward a successful trip in September.

When you are a trip leader, it is a great way to meet the members of the club and get involved. I speak from experience. I began as an ATC over 20 years ago and I have many friendships I treasure from my involvement with the club.

As I will be the VP of Trips for 2014-15, please consider running a trip this next season. I am looking for leaders on TSC and club trips! The TC/

# countdown to LIFTOFF

ATC Application is included in this Sitzmarke. If you are interested in running a trip, please submit this application ASAP. As you know, our team of DOTs, TCs and ATCs work throughout the year coordinating our club's fantastic ski and non-ski trips. Our DOTs, TCs & ATCs are a great group of volunteers and we appreciate their hard work!! Please let them know how much you enjoy the trip(s) you go on. We LOVE our trip volunteers!

As the season ends, it is also time to start thinking about 'where' the club will travel to in 2014-15. We'll start with the Texas Ski Council BidFest the weekend of April 4-6 at the Drury Plaza Hotel in San Antonio, TX. If you are new to our club, the Texas Ski Council is a non-profit, all volunteer organization consisting of 14 clubs throughout the State of Texas. At the BidFest, we will meet with the member clubs and hear presentations from various resorts and destinations to determine 'where' the TSC clubs will travel to in 2014-15. Once the TSC trips are decided, SCSC will then decide what additional club trips to add to our calendar.

While SCSC will have designated delegates at BidFest, SCSC encourages all our members to join

# countdown to LIFTOFF (continued)

us in hearing the presentations and participate in deciding what destinations SCSC prefers TSC to take. Once the presentations are completed, SCSC members will caucus on Saturday afternoon before we have dinner and a party Saturday night. Unfortunately, SCSC does not always get our 'first' choice of destinations; however, to me, it is an interesting process. Please let me know if you have any questions about BidFest.

Our next General Meeting is on Monday, April 14th. Unfortunately, I will not be at this meeting as I am attending the Mountain Travel Symposium in Breckenridge, CO and will be meeting with reps from resorts and other ski clubs. It will truly be an interesting experience for me and I will be writing more about it in future Sitz articles.

In the meantime, look forward to seeing you soon!

Take care & stay safe! Cheers!

**Susan Blome**

*VP of Trips*

[trips@spacecity.org](mailto:trips@spacecity.org)

**LAST  
CHANCE:  
REGISTER  
for  
BidFest**

**More info on the  
next page**





# TEXAS SKI COUNCIL

## Ski Bidfest



Questions:: Contact Susan Blome  
[sgblome1@gmail.com](mailto:sgblome1@gmail.com) / 713-791-3614

**Save the Date!**

**April 4-6, 2014**

### **DRURY PLAZA**

**105 S. Saint Mary's  
San Antonio, TX  
78205  
1-800-325-0720**



### **AGAIN THIS YEAR! REGISTER W/CREDIT CARD!**

Texas Ski Council Delegates, Texas Ski Club members, Ski Resort Representatives, Vendors and Guests from around the world, come join us for the 2014 Ski Bid Fest held by popular demand once again in Historic and fun filled San Antonio, Texas! The Historic Drury Plaza has been restored from the previous Alamo Bank Building. It features stunning architecture, comfortable rooms and suites, a rooftop pool and Drury's famous free extras, there's little missing from this hotel equation. Best of all, their riverside doors offer direct access to the beautiful San Antonio River Walk.

1. Go to [texas-ski.org](http://texas-ski.org)
2. On the left hand side, select 2014 Bid Meeting
3. You now have the opportunity to reserve a hotel room & register for the 2014 BidFest.
4. Note – for the Drury Plaza Hotel : our group number is **2168336**.
  - a. It will select the correct hotel but will have the dates listed as April 2 thru April 7.
  - b. Be sure to change it to just the dates you want or you will be reserving a room for 5 nights!
5. Also, register as a BidFest Guest which are club members that are not official voting members at BidFest



***Mark your calendars now and attend this fun filled event.***

**[Registration Link](#)**

# having a BLAST

Well, the end of our ski season is here but there are still lots of activities.

Do you cha-cha? Well, now is your chance to learn. Sign up for our 'Dancing with the Skiers'. Diane Morrow is the activity coordinator and the classes will be for four weeks in April.

Did you give all your money away to Uncle Sam this year? Then you won't want to miss Kay McKeough's Poverty Party on April 12<sup>th</sup>.



Our Happy Hour will be at the Refinery on April 24<sup>th</sup>. The refinery is a favorite among the oil and gas crowd and boasts over 30 different kinds of whiskey's along with award winning burgers.



CALLING ALL GOLFERS for our May activity. It will be at Top Golf, Houston's newest golfing venue. Three hours of play, food and unlimited soft drinks. Cash bar available.

You won't want to miss this activity as the place is very popular with all age groups. We still need 9 people to make this a go so please sign up. We promise you will love it.

May 31st will be the AIA Sand Castle Competition. We are looking for SCSC members to volunteer for this fun activity in Galveston. Derek Shooobridge is coordinating his activity.



We would like to get a group together to go to the Astros probably in June so we are looking for someone to coordinate this activity.



June 27 through the 29th is the Houston Grand Prix and we are looking for volunteers for this event also

along with an activity coordinator.

Mark your calendar on July 19th for our annual volunteer party, honoring all those that contributed to Space City Ski and Adventure Club throughout the year. This party is in the planning stages now and we will have more information in the coming months.

Thanks to Jo Barre for running the Pedal Party. If you didn't go you missed out on a great time, but there are more fun happenings in the coming months so please join your old and new friends in one of our activities.

## Gayle Dale

*VP of Activities*

[activities@spacecity.org](mailto:activities@spacecity.org)

# APRIL HAPPY HOUR



**WHAT:** APRIL HAPPY HOUR

**WHERE:** The Refinery  
Burgers & Whiskey  
702 W Dallas St

**MAP:** <http://binged.it/1ioL9em>

**WHEN:** Thursday, 4/24  
5:30pm - 9pm

The Refinery Burgers and Whiskey Bar is noted for more than 30 whiskey brands on hand and is a favorite among the oil and gas crowd. Choose from their famous Tex-Mex, High Octane or Wild Hog Burger while enjoying the view of the downtown Houston skyline. Free parking in their large lot, 50 cent discount on drinks and food during happy hour and happy hour prices extended till 9:00 for SCSC members.

# volunteer for HOUSTON PUBLIC MEDIA

## VOLUNTEER FOR HOUSTON PUBLIC MEDIA

### WHEN: (choose a shift)

Sat., Apr 5, 9a-12noon

Thurs, Apr 10, 6-9am

Thurs, Apr 10, 5-7pm

### MAPS:

To U of H:

<http://www.uh.edu/visit/directions/index.php>

UofH Campus Map:

[http://www.uh.edu/maps/buildings/?short\\_name=CPB](http://www.uh.edu/maps/buildings/?short_name=CPB)

Register online or email

Lynda Meyer, [marketing@spacecity.org](mailto:marketing@spacecity.org)

Do you wake up listening to Morning Edition? Like to get a world view with BBC News? Or maybe you like the humor on Car Talk, Wait! Wait! Don't Tell Me, or A Prairie Home Companion. Whatever your choice, your mind is engaged and enriched listening to Houston Public Radio.

Space City is partnering with Houston Public Radio (KUHF 88.7FM) to support their pledge drive this spring by staffing their phone banks. **Our club will be mentioned ON THE AIR if we have at least 5 volunteers staffing the phones during the same shift.**



Best of all, you'll get a free club t-shirt to wear during the membership drive!

Three shifts are available:

**Saturday, April 5th, 9am-12noon** (6-10 volunteers)

**Thursday, April 10th, 6am-9am** (up to 15 volunteers, this is the busiest time)

**Thursday, April 10th, 5-7pm** (up to 10 volunteers)

Remember, we must have a group of 5 volunteers to be considered a 'group' and have our name mentioned on the air. So get your friends to join you.

**Lynda Meyer**

*VP of Marketing*

[marketing@spacecity.org](mailto:marketing@spacecity.org)



**Houston  
Public Media**



aia

# SANDCASTLE COMPETITION



Hosted by the Houston Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, teams of architects, designers and engineers will take their tools to East Beach in Galveston to create one of the world's largest sandcastle competitions.

Looking for volunteers to help set up, monitor beach access, serve beer, assist with judging. Complimentary t-shirts, food, drinks and LOADS OF FUN

Volunteer for one or both shifts:

SHIFT A: 6-11am

SHIFT B: 11am-5pm

Register below or email Derek if you want to volunteer!

**WHAT:**

Volunteer at the AIA Sandcastle Competition  
[www.aiasandcastle.com](http://www.aiasandcastle.com)

**WHERE:**

East Beach  
1923 Boddeker  
Galveston, TX

**MAP:**

<http://goo.gl/maps/yZNdW>

**WHEN:**

Saturday, May 31st \*RAIN or SHINE\*  
6:00am - 5:00pm (shifts)

**FEE:**

this volunteer activity is free for members

**ACTIVITY COORDINATOR:**

[Derek Shoobridge](#)

# poverty PARTY

**A**pril 15th is around the corner!  
Commiserate with Club friends to banish the IRS blues! Making lemonade out of lemons is for kids; we're having a poor man's wine tasting. Sample reasonably priced, very drinkable wines. Indulge in defunct delights from pitiful pretzels and miserly munchies to privileged pate and sky-high canapé spreads. Kay's food and cocktail parties do not disappoint!  
Tax Trivia Pursuit and other fun planned. Maybe a prize for the most pitiful?  
Dress: Neither coat nor tie nor bling required.  
However rags are not permitted.



**WHAT:** Poverty Party

Wine tasting/cocktail party

**WHERE:** Kay McKeough's Home, 2807 Mid Lane #C

**MAP:** <http://binged.it/1h2F8il>

**WHEN:** Friday April 11th, 6-8:30pm

**FEE:** \$27 - only open to members. YOU MUST SIGN-IN ONLINE TO REGISTER

**ACTIVITY COORDINATOR:** [Kay McKeough](#)

**TAKE ME TO THE SIGN-IN SCREEN  
(then click on the register button for the event)**

# top GOLF

**G**et your clubs ready!!  
Top Golf is the country's premier golf entertainment complex. Just picture a 215-yard outfield with dartboard-like targets in the ground.

The closer to the center or 'bulls-eye' you get and the farther out you hit your microchipped balls, the more points you receive. You hit the golf balls from 'bays' which accommodate up to 6 players at one time. There are 20 shots in each game which players take in 5-shot rotations. Your points are accumulated during the game and shown on the kiosk screen at each bay.

Fees include 3 hours of play, unlimited soft drinks, and State Fair Food Package which includes 2 servings each of pulled pork sliders, mini corndogs, southwest chicken eggrolls and tater tots with chipotle aioli dipping sauce. Cash bar available. Bring your own clubs (driver, 3-wood, 7 iron & pitching wedge) or they will provide clubs. No golf shoes required. You will not be required to have a Personal Lifetime Membership Player Card as you will all get an event player card which will eliminate the \$5.00 fee the next time you want to go to Top Golf. Check out this website for more info: <http://videos.topgolf.com/1176033/player>



**WHAT:**  
Top Golf  
Golf Entertainment Complex

**WHERE:**  
Top Golf Houston West  
1030 Memorial Brook Blvd. (I10 and Highway 6)

**MAP:** <http://binged.it/1ioZzv3>

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 17th, 5-8pm

**FEE:**  
\$85 - members  
\$90 - non-members  
Final payment date April 17th

Sorry, no refunds

ACTIVITY COORDINATOR: [Dana Dale](#)



# Trip Coordinator (TC)/Assistant Trip Coordinator (ATC) 2014-2015 Application

Do you love to ski or snowboard? Do you enjoy working with people and making new friends? Are you good at planning and organizing? If your answer is YES to these questions, SCSC needs YOU to join the great team of Trip Coordinators and Assistants running fun ski trips to exciting destinations.

Please complete this form and return to **2014-2015 V.P. of Trips, Susan Blome, 5814 Weeping Willow, Houston, TX 77092** or email to **sgblome1@gmail.com**

Name:	Telephone-Home:
Address:	Telephone-Work:
	Telephone-Cell:
Preferred contact type: (circle all that apply) Telephone: Home Work Cell e-mail	E-Mail Address:
Occupation:	Year you joined SCSC (Approx):

Position you are applying for: \_\_\_\_\_TC \_\_\_\_\_ATC \_\_\_\_\_Either

(Note: In order to serve as an ATC, you must have taken at least one ski trip with SCSC. In order to server as a TC, you must have served as an ATC on at least one SCSC ski trip or an AC for a large activity or experience running trips with other organizations.)

What type of SCSC ski trip do you prefer to run?

\_\_\_\_\_TSC (Texas Ski Council) \_\_\_\_\_Club (SCSC) \_\_\_\_\_Either

What length of SCSC ski trip do you prefer to run?

\_\_\_\_\_Long (week long) \_\_\_\_\_Short (4 or 5 day) \_\_\_\_\_Either

Where would you like to run a trip (Destination/s)?

**Availability:** Dates that you are *Unavailable* to run a trip (If any):

*Preferred* dates (If any):

Are you available for monthly SCSC meetings usually the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month? (September-May)

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Are you available for monthly SCSC happy hours usually the 4th Thursday of the month?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Are you available to attend 2 to 3 training sessions?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

(Training sessions likely will be May, June or July 2014)

On what side of town do you live/work? \_\_\_\_\_



**Prior SCSC Volunteer Experience: TC/ATC/AC-Activity Coordinator /AAC-Assist. Activity Coordinator/Officer  
(Start with most recent)**

Year	Trip/Activity/Office	Year	Trip/Activity /Office

**SCSC-Ski Trips Taken**

**Non-SCSC Ski Trips Taken**

Year	Trip	Year	Trip	Year	Trip	Year	Trip

**Other Volunteer Experience: (Start with most recent)**

Year	Organization/Office	Year	Organization/Office

**Computer experience:**

\_\_\_\_\_Microsoft Word \_\_\_\_\_Microsoft Excel \_\_\_\_\_Other

Do you have access to a computer at home or work? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No

Do you have access to a fax machine at home or work? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No

Can you make & receive SCSC related phone calls at work? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No

Can you send & receive SCSC related e-mail at work? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No

What other experience/skills can you bring to the position of TC/ATC?

Why are you interested in running a SCSC ski trip?

# member SPOTLIGHT

**Hello Nolan! It was a pleasure to meet you at our last general meeting. You just returned to the club—thank you for coming back!**

Well, I just let my membership lapse and wanted to catch up with old friends.

**How long have you been a member of Space City?**

Since 1985, we had about 1400 members then. I made as many as 6 trips a year with the club. My friend, Jerry Montgomery, and I had a little challenge going on. He skied 48 resorts to my 42. I've served in just about all the executive positions in the club. I skied 5 years without missing a Texas Ski Council trip. I no longer ski but I remember going on council trips over the years and catching up with friends. We just picked up wherever we left off.

**How long have you lived in Houston?**

I moved to Houston in 1972 from Lafayette, LA. I was born and raised in New Iberia—still have the accent. When it comes to family, if you are a coonass, you have a lot of cousins running around.

**You are retired now—what did you do before?**

I had 2 careers-- one as an active reservist with the Air Force and a geologist. I worked for Phillips and Penzoil. While on active duty, I was a liaison with the NSA and the CIA.

**How did you get into skiing?**

Well, the first place I skied was Red River, NM back in the '70s. Some friends and I were traveling around and one of them said

'Let's go skiing!' Spent a lot of time on my butt.

**And your favorite place to ski throughout these years?**

Lake Tahoe and all its resorts.

**What do you like best about our club?**

I knew about 60% of the people at the last meeting so it was great to see them again. And I really like the fact that the club has expanded to a travel club.

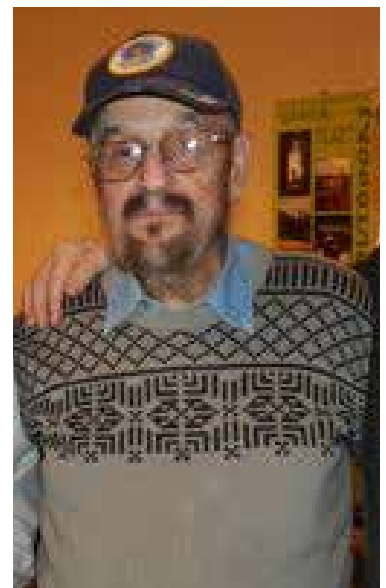
**Thank you for talking with me, Nolan. See you soon!**

**Member interviews by  
Jan Ferrell**

*VP of Membership*

[membership@spacecity.org](mailto:membership@spacecity.org)

Nolan  
Badeaux



## PARK CITY

## Trip Report, Jan 4-11, 2014

**W**e started our trip with all of the full package participants getting into Park City with no problems but most all land package skiers had their flights cancelled or diverted. While I had to hold down the fort all night, there was a steady group coming into my condo to pick up their credentials, enjoying a glass of wine and cheese. Everyone was there by Sunday with the exception of **Larry and Cindy Thomson** who chose to wait to fly until Monday. We had a great reception with several members enjoying the free tickets for the SnowCoaster. **Scott, Gayle, and Kimber** didn't even notice there were brakes on the coaster. While there were so many moving parts to this trip, i.e. T-shirts, sizes, how many days to ski PC, DV or the Canyons, it all got worked out by Sunday reception including **Mary Jo and Tony**. We had three new members from out of state who joined the group, **Scott Bradshaw** from Huntington Beach, CA, **Diane Macksoud** from Rhode Island, and **Zachary Duncan** who lives in MS. Lest I forget **Frank Adams**, CO, who joins the group whenever he can and skies the entire mountain with condo 'mother' **Janet McKenzie**. Speaking of Frank, known for going anywhere on the mountain, when 15 of us went to

Alta, he 'found' the ski patrol to help get him off a cliff! On Monday night, I scheduled a pizza party at my friend, **Bill Sillyman's** house in Park City where we were joined by the Park City Ski Club, and my friend, **Steve Wilson** from Balboa Ski Club in Newport Beach. They graciously picked us up and returned us back to our condos in their vehicles using their own gas. What a great group! Wednesday night, **Bob Donellan** hosted a pre-race meeting and **Betty** cooked a pasta dinner at our condo for **35**, followed by trivia night. There were many winners and **Cindy Thomson** took the grand prize. Other winners were **Gayle Dale, Marina Wang, Bill Volz, Shaun Wright, Marilyn Swanson**, and I apologize for anyone else I forgot. A great time was had by all! **Laduane and Derek, Gayle and boarder Dana, Jim and Marina, Ron and Roberta** all took advantage of their Epic passes and skied the Canyons. Thursday races found four of us winning bronze medals: **Betty, Ross, Ron and Les** but more importantly, **13 SCSC** racers finished and we won **FIRST PLACE** at the awards Friday night! **Gary Hercules** promises after he saw the course that he'll race next year! Thanks to **Marsha, Ross and Bob** for all their hard work before, during and after the race! And **Merlyn** should have won

# PARK CITY Trip Report, Jan 4-11, 2014

a medal for best dressed decked out in Russian

Red! **Newcomers Lauren and Greg Stern** enjoyed the snow and new member **Bil Cusack** hit it off with roomie, **Andy Smith**. **Robert Clements** and **Leaza Garza** hosted several members for a great dinner one night. Several of us enjoyed Robert Redford's Zoom and what trip to Deer Valley would be complete without lunch or happy hour at Stein Erickson's Lodge? Saturday, for those of us on the late flight, we had a very relaxing day either watching football or getting our first chance to visit the many Park City stores for our day of shopping. **Marsha** and I sure took advantage of it while **Craig** was on crutches trying to get to the museum. Great snow, great week, great trip! Ready to keep the skis out until there is no more snow!

**By Betty Donellan,**

*TC, Park City*





# PARK CITY

## Trip Report, Jan 4-11, 2014



# PARK CITY

## Trip Report, Jan 4-11, 2014



  
CANYONS  
PARK CITY, UTAH  
2013-14  
SEASON

# PARK CITY Trip Report, Jan 4-11, 2014





# VAIL

## February, 2014

**V**ail February was the second trip to Vail by the club during the 2013-2014 ski season. We arrived Vail on Feb 22 with a total of 41 participants (including one shadow).

Frank Adams, Keith Kirkman, Derek Shoobridge and LaDaune Ashley drove to Vail and easily arrived at the condo before the main group. .

On the way from the airport we made our usual Applejacks and grocery store stop. There was some question about the need to order a trailer to hook on the back of the bus, when Keith Koteras and Maria Mendez arrived at the bus with about 4 grocery carts of food. So much for buying light. They did say they were buying for 4 condos!

After the bus trip from the airport, our welcome pizza party was well received. It is amazing what great pizza, salad, wine and beer can do to get us ready for a trip. The TC and ATC condos were filled to capacity. Jim Hodges passed out the lift tickets and EpixMix cards. It is always good when the lift ticket distribution is done and we're ready for the slopes.

It was now time to prepare for skiing.

Weather conditions from Sunday to Thursday were typically a mixture of sunshine and occasional

clouds with temperature in the mid 20's deg F.

There were several large groups from the club skiing together plus several smaller groups. Ron Rambin led a group that included Roberta Rambin, Nancy DuFrane, Jana Rosenbaum, Marti Turner and Morris Colvin. They were joined by sometime ski buddies Tami Kawasugi, Arlen Isham, Maria Mendez, Keith Koteras, Leyla Ozkardesh & Dave Stotz (when on a ski bicycle). Ron's bright green ski pants were definitely easy to find on the mountain. Ron rewarded his ski crew one night after dinner by treating his 'family' to sorbet in Vail Village. Arlen Isham started the week leading a group including Maria Mendez, Keith Koteras, Nancy DuFrane, Jana Rosenbaum, Marina Wang, Rita Cardenas, Leyla Ozkardesh, Marti Turner, Roberta Rambin & Lara Isterzing that wanted to ski Bwana, Simba, Born Free and other cruisers. Arlen Isham wore his bright red tasseled hat borrowed from his son for a couple days before switching to a helmet, so he could be seen easily and found on the mountain. Lara Isterzing stayed with Arlen's group for a while then split off to do more greens.

Keith Kirkman (aka Trail Boss) led the group of regulars Jim Hodges, Barry Caspar, Ross & Diane

# VAIL February, 2014

Baker, Beverly Roberts, Dennis & Melinda Hughes, Frank Adams, Dave Stotz, Nelson Turner, Juel Hill, and Janine & Craig Belling. Others that joined at times were Morris Covin, Steve Ying, Davis Tucker, Derek Shoobridge, Charley Roberts and Arlen Isham. Elana & Nigel Taylor were on the mountain someplace skiing at their own pace. They were our Australian connection and it is reported they were able to understand the Colorado version of English. Charlie Roberts spent much of his ski vacation at the SureFoot Boot Shop but did make an occasional guest appearance with the Big Dogs.

Beverly Roberts had the unusual experience of having her ski boot break. She was on her way to happy hour when the boot failure occurred. She was going to ski down on one ski, but discretion to take a ride with a handsome ski patrol man was a better choice.

When Jim Hodges got separated from the Big Dog group, some of the group he was skiing were worried. Steve Ying was the least worried. Evidently Steve knows that in Colorado you are not really missing until 24 hours has elapsed.

Nelson Turner was teased about how his water broke while skiing with the Big Dogs- fortunately it

was just his H2O bottle!

Margaret McCord, Rita Cardenas and Jo Barrie had the good fortune to have a Vail Mountain host join them while skiing and give them a free ski lesson. Diane Stotz did not ski but spent a few days on snow shoes, one day snowmobiling and one morning snow-biking with Dave Stotz. When Diane had finished with the snow bike, instead of joining the club participants at mid-Vail for lunch she instead had lunch with six ski instructors! I think we can all agree it is difficult to get to mid Vail if you are not one of the Trail Bosses!

Wednesday morning eleven of the group went snowmobiling near Minturn with Nova Guides. Maria Mendez road with Keith Koteras. Jana Rosenbaum, Diane & David Stotz, Leslie Ward, Tami Kawasugi, Rita Cardenas, Leyla Ozkardesh, and Arlen Isham all drove their own snow mobile. The group were picked up at 8:30 and spent over two hours snowmobiling up the trailhead road to Half Moon Trailhead, which is the starting point to summit Mt. of the Holy Cross. The round trip was about 25 miles and our top speed was over 43 MPH. It made great fun bouncing over bumps and occasionally lifting up the front skies as we made turns at



# VAIL

## February, 2014

speed. Fortunately, none of us went off trail or ran into a tree. We had great views of the Vail back bowls. We stopped at a wilderness hut to have drinks before heading back. At an additional stop the group made snow angels, rolled snowballs down a hill to see how far they would go, and had a snow ball fight throwing snow balls at the guides.

Wednesday night the TC and ATC hosted a group lasagna dinner in their condos. It got a little rowdy particularly with lots of pictures with a scarf that was reported to have aphrodisiac qualities. Arlen passed out stickers that said, 'Vail 2014, to turn is to admit defeat'.

Thursday morning Dennis Hughes arranged a mogul lesson for himself, Derek Shoobridge, Juel Hill, Melinda Hughes, and Arlen Isham. Their instructor gave them 3 things to focus on. The one that seemed to fit everyone was to begin your next turn as soon as you crossed the fall line.

Friday was a POWDER DAY! Vail reported about 5 inches of snow overnight but there were areas in the bowls with much more snow than reported. There was a delay getting everyone up the mountain due to a large crowd wanting to be first to ski the powder and the Born Free Express chair lift breaking

down soon after the lifts opened. That created a long line at the Eagle Bahn Gondola lift. Fortunately none of the SCSC group was stuck on the broken chair lift.

The group had one last party on Friday night in the TC and ATC condos to try and finish off everyone's leftover food and drinks. There as a lot of beer leftover but fortunately Derek Shoobridge & LaDaune Ashley agreed to drive it back to Houston for the post trip party. Thanks to the TC and ATC condo mates Juel Hill, Tami Kawasugi, Marina Wang and Marti & Nelson Turner for assisting with all the parties and cleanup.

Our bus pickup for the trip back to Denver airport was planned for 5:30 AM Saturday morning. The bus arrived on time and was loaded and ready to go by 6 AM but by that time it was snowing heavily. We managed to get over Vail pass just before Colorado DOT closed Vail pass. We had another close call on the uphill approach to Eisenhower tunnel. The bus slowed to a standstill due to the snow packed road. . Shortly after we passed through the Eisenhower tunnel the Colorado DOT closed the tunnel approaches. The road conditions were bad all the way to Denver but we managed to arrive about one

# VAIL February, 2014

hour before our flight. As soon as the bus stopped, everyone contributed to getting the bus unloaded in a record time so we could get checked in for our flight (which of course was delayed).

Derek Shoobridge & LaDaune Ashley left the condo soon after the bus left and got over Vail Pass before it was closed. Keith Kirkman and Nelson Turner ended up staying in Vail to ski a half day before beginning their journey to several southern Colorado ski resorts. Frank Adams drove back to his home in Loveland, CO

Skier Awards, Friday night – No Duplicate awards, some were nominated for more than one award.

The awards were small US flags, various pin on buttons such as 'No Whining', 'No Pain', 'Aged to Perfection', and ski warming packs.

Best Snow Angel - Jana Rosenbaum (Also most desirable bachelorette)  
No Turns - Nancy DuFrane (Also most willing to buy snowmobile) (Most boot try-ons)  
Most Fashionable Outfit - Dennis Hughes (ski outfit)  
Yard Sale - Beverly Roberts  
Working on the trip - Steve Ying (Skied the whole mountain and no one saw him)  
Most Vertical Feet - Craig Belling (177,000)  
Broken Equipment - Davis Tucker (Also nominated for loudest snorer)  
Most Groceries- Keith Koteras  
Best house shoes- Rita Cardenas  
Best Singer- Charlie Roberts  
Most Desirable Bachelor- Barry Casper  
Most Happy Hours - Melinda Hughes  
First Fall- Marti Turner (Fell in Baggage Claim at

Denver airport)

Most Hot tub visits- Frank Adams  
Best newlywed- Maria Mendez (Also most groceries)  
No Falls- Roberta Rambin  
Best Après hat- Diane Stotz (Also last out of the liquor store)  
Last on the bus at Applejacks – Marina Wang  
Best Mountain ski bike- David Stotz (Also nominated for loudest snorer)  
Best dining guide- Margaret McCord  
Best Condo mates- Juel Hill (Also persistent) & Tami Kawasugi (Tami nominated for best photographer)  
Best person on trip to care for injury – Nelson Turner  
Best ski Boss- Keith Kirkman  
Trail Boss # 2- Ron Rambin  
Most Persistent- Janine Belling  
Most Sleepless- Leslie Ward 'What time did she get to bed?'  
Most Wine- Leyla Ozkardesh  
Most time since skied- Nigel Taylor  
Most Australian who did not win award - Elana Taylor  
Quietest- Chuck Britton  
Pathfinder (MIA)- Jim Hodges  
Hit on Mountain by skier- Arlen Isham  
Worked on term paper- Diane Baker  
Most club trips this season – Ross Baker  
First time skied 5 days in a row - Jo Barrie  
Best male earring- Derek Shoobridge  
Best alpha male of the Sisterhood of Vail – Morris Colvin (Also best photographer)

Being at Vail! - LaDaune Ashley

## **Arlen Isham and Jim Hodges**

*ATC and TC, Vail*

# VAIL

## February, 2014



# VAIL February, 2014





# VAIL

## February, 2014





# VAIL February, 2014



# VAIL

## February, 2014





# VAIL February, 2014



# trip CALENDAR

Destination	Dates	Prices	Final Pay- ment Date	Trip Coordinator	Assistant Trip Coordinator
		Full/Land Only (before cash discount)			
South Africa <i>TSC Summer Expedition</i>	Sept 19-30	\$5,130/\$2,938	TBD	Melody Bohlmann <a href="mailto:melody@spacecity.org">melody@spacecity.org</a> 210-410-7302	

*Information shown on this Trip Schedule is subject to change. Contact the Trip Coordinator (TC) or Assistant Trip Coordinator (ATC) for the most up-to-date information.*

PRICING: FULL packages include air, all transfers, and per person lodging based on double-occupancy. LAND packages do not include air. Ground transportation will be included and available on selected trips for land package participants if they can meet the group at the destination airport in time to meet the group. Ground transportation will not be delayed for land package participants arriving later than the group. Check with your Trip Coordinator for ground transportation arrangements if you are choosing a land package.

Published prices do not include baggage fees, equipment rentals or lift tickets, and are subject to change. All trip deposits can be made with PayPal; however, final payment must be made by check to receive the discounted rate. Trips frequently have optional activities, such as a group dinner, or offer pre- and post-trip segments that are not reflected in the price published above. The TC is your source of information as to what is included in the package price and the cost of available options. Each trip has a different final refund date -- that is the last date you can withdraw from the trip without a penalty. Refer to the club's Standing Rules 5.1-5.4 for the governing policies on trips, cancellations, refunds, etc.

DEPOSITS: All trips require a per person deposit to make a reservation.

## SOUTH AFRICA - TSC SUMMER EXPEDITION

SEPTEMBER 19-30, 2014

Melody Bohlmann

[melody@spacecity.org](mailto:melody@spacecity.org)

210-410-7302

- 'Bucket List' South Africa destination with a 3 night pre-trip option available for Victoria Falls and a post-trip to Kruger Park.
- This trip has something for everyone – the adventurer, nature lover, animal lover, wine taster, historian, photographer, and the shopper.

**WAIT-LIST ONLY**



Melody Bohlmann

# our LEADERSHIP 2013-14

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Visit our [website](#) for the most up-to-date information.



# club CALENDAR

## APRIL

4-6

TSC BidFest - San Antonio

5, 10

Volunteer for Houston Public Media

14

General Meeting

24

Happy Hour

## MAY

12

General Meeting

17

Top Golf

22

Happy Hour

31

Volunteer for AIA Sandcastle Competition

## JUNE

26

Happy Hour

27-29

Volunteer for Houston Grand Prix