



The Sitzmarke

June 2004



Member
Texas Ski
Council

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

www.spacecity.org

Vol. 38 No. 2



NOTE: There Will be No General Meeting In June, July or August
Next Meeting will be September 20. Stay Tuned for New Location

Happy Hour - Thursday, June 17 @ 5:30 p.m.

The Standard
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P.O. Box 22567
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Volunteer for these Appointed Positions

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SITZMARKE

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On the Cover

Bob Macken and Robert Knupp at Sun Peaks, Sicilian
coastline, Mike and Barbara Carr with Bear at Sun Peaks,
Private mountain at Sun Peaks.



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For the latest ski club info, membership
inquiries, and activities, visit the SPACE CITY
SKI CLUB WEB PAGE

<http://www.spacecity.org>

HEAD OF THE LIFTLINE

Christine March, President



Your new Executive Committee is now in place and our first meeting was held on May 10, 2004. A number of exciting events and changes are being planned. The **Texas Ski Council** has decided the locations and dates for their trips. Our new Vice President of Trips, **Lori Gilliland**, is putting together some great club ski trips. We

also have an excellent Summer Meltdown trip planned for this summer (2004): a cruise led by **Nancy Sarff**, with our own **Peggy Montgomery** serving as TSC Trip VP. Hawaii will be the location of the 2005 Summer Meltdown trip.

You can also look for a change in the general meeting location as our contract has lapsed with the Cadillac Bar and **Marc Fellows** is working on finding us a new meeting venue.

If you have any ideas on the meeting location or would like to volunteer to work with the search committee, please let him know.

Our website is going to be re-vamped by our new Director of Communications, **Bruce Lowther**. Our new Treasurer **Llona Doubet** is very experienced in financial matters and is working hard to keep us running in the black. Our Secretary, **Leyla Ozkardesh** is working on our record-keeping and master calendar.

All in all, you have some very talented and hard-working volunteers that work behind the scenes to make all the things that you enjoy happen.

If you have a chance, just let them know that you appreciate what they do and are doing. Your recognition of their efforts will go a long way.

POOL FUN

SCSC Volunteer Pool Party

Saturday, June 12

2 - 6:30 p.m.

Free for all on those volunteers listed on page 15 of May's Sitzmarke.

Volunteer to work on the planning committee and YOU, too, can attend!

**Secret Location with a great pool!
Look for your invitation via email.**

Rain Date: June 26

Contact Cindy Moore (713) 984-1060 Lucinda_moore@ev1.net for more information



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Donna Kidwell, CRS, CRB
Broker Associate

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June through September:

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event (Cost/Final Payment)	Coordinator	Phone	E-mail/Address
JUNE				
6/2	Ex-Com Meeting			
6/4-6	Beach Party and AIA Sandcastle Competition (FO) (\$20/May 17)	Ellen Eastham	(281) 989-9935	eeeastham@panhandleenergy.com
6/12	SCSC Volunteer Pool Party (invitation only)	Cindy Moore	(713) 984-1060	lucinda_moore@ev1.net
6/14	Board Meeting			
6/17	SCSC Happy Hour –The Standard		(832) 252-1400	2707 Fountainview
6/19	Wine Tasting (\$10/May 17)	Dawn Rodriguez	(281) 320-2040	dawncrodriguez@aol.com
6/24	YNM Mixer-Sam's Boat/Sam's Place		(713) 781-BOAT	5720 Richmond
6/28-29	Trip Budget Presentations			
JULY				
7/17	Balloon Ascension (assist as crew, no fee) Tandem Skydiving (\$169/July 8)	Dick Carter	(832) 215-5125	rcarter10@houston.rr.com
		Chip Stokes	(281) 485-5778	cstokesscsc@houston.rr.com
7/23-25	"On the Water Spectacular Weekend" (see ad for costs)	Cindy Moore	(713) 984-1060	lucinda_moore@ev1.net
AUGUST				
8/28	NASA Ballunar Festival* (crew for hot air balloons)	Dick Carter	(832) 215-5125	rcarter10@houston.rr.com
8/23-9/3	Ski Trip Mail-in Signup			

(FO) =Family Optional * Subject to Approval, date tentative

If you have an idea for an activity or would like to volunteer to be an AC or AAC, contact VP-Programs, Marv Fellows (281) 286-0503 mjfell@ev1.net. For more information or to pass on ideas about the happy hours Young & New Member Mixers (YNM Mixers), contact Cindy Moore (713) 984-1060 lucinda_moore@ev1.net.

★★NOTICE TO MEMBERS★★

**THERE WILL BE NO GENERAL MEETINGS
IN JUNE, JULY OR AUGUST**

**STAY TUNED FOR OUR NEW GENERAL
MEETING LOCATION**

**DON'T MISS OUT ON THE UPCOMING
HAPPY HOURS AND YNM MIXERS!**

Are You Getting Your SCSC Emails? No? Get on the List!

It's easy! Just send us an email using the address you want on our list. Send it to SCSC@SPACECITY.ORG. Put "Add Me" in the subject line. That's it!

Space City Ski Club sends out emails twice a month to provide members with timely information on ski club activities and notifications of late breaking ski club events. Member email addresses remain under the care of the officers of Space City Ski Club and are not sold, shared, or distributed to any other organizations.

YNM MIXER

Thursday, June 24

5:30 p.m.

Sam's Boat & Sam's Place

5720 Richmond Avenue

(713) 781-BOAT

Mixer Guidelines:

1. All SCSC members 45 years of age or younger are encouraged to attend and bring at least one prospective new member age 45 or under.
2. SCSC members over 45 welcome, as long as you bring two prospective members age 45 or under.
3. No one will be carded. If your guest can pass for 45 or younger...bring them on!

HAPPY HOUR

Thursday, June 17 @ 5:30 p.m.

The Standard

2707 Fountainview

(832) 252-1400

**Happy hour drink prices
and free appetizers**





In my May article I reminded you all to “give our skis a good summer wax job and store them away in a dry, safe place so they are ready to go for next season.” Well, DARN IT if I didn’t take my own dang advice!

The other day I was browsing through my closet and I noticed my wonderful Salomon Scream 8 Pilots leaning up against the wall...ahh, sweet little red skis that they are. I gave them a little hug and some sweet talk, you know, a little encouragement to help them make it through the dog days of summer. It was then that I noticed with horror that my edges already had a little rust on them! It had only been a few weeks since I had returned from the **TSC Final Showdown** trip to **Big Sky, Montana** (a killer trip led by **Hope Flynn** and **Pat Piech**). Well, my friends **Bruce Lowther** and **Bill Bomberger** assure me that a little steel wool will fix them right up. Nevertheless, I am really bummed out, I’m just beside myself!

So, Ski Friends, listen to me when I tell ya, when the season is over be sure you give your skis a proper summer wax job. You can do this yourself like the pros (Bruce, Bill and Bob), or you can get it done before you leave the resort on your final trip of the season. Or, check out **Sun & Ski Sports** or **Oshman’s** to see if their ski shop is still open.

Planning is in high gear for our **2004-2005 Ski Trips**. I am so excited to have an experienced team of DOTs & TCs to work with. I am sure they will teach me a thing or two or at least buy me a beer or two, and I’m sure there will be days I’ll need it. This is going to be a great ski year!

I’ve recruited **Marsha Lutz** and **Kayleen Kill** as my Directors of Trips (DOTs). Both Marsha and Kayleen have been prior SCSC officers and both have run many trips and activities over the years. Kayleen has also held numerous officer positions with the Texas Ski Council (TSC). Man, do I have an awesome team or what??

Don’t forget, Ski Friends, 2004-2005 is going to be the “YEAR OF THE SKIER!” My goal this year is to grow our skier numbers. I’m going to do my best to do my job in that effort by providing as many ski trips as possible so “no skier is left behind.” But, now I need each of you to help me by bringing at least ONE new skier or returning skier to join in on one of our ski trips. If we each bring one new SKIING MEMBER to our club, we would dramatically increase our skier numbers.

Spend Thanksgiving with us in **Winter Park, Colorado** for the **TSC Fall Roundup November 23-28, 2004**. We’re also going to MY favorite place, **Snowmass, Colorado** for the **TSC Traditional January 8-15, 2005**.

Visit Germany’s premiere winter sports center, **Garmisch, Germany** for the **TSC Winter Expedition January 28-February 5, 2005**. Join us at Summit County’s largest ski area, **Copper Mountain, Colorado** for the **TSC Winter Shootout February 12-19, 2005**.

Get your heart rate up with us at **Heavenly-Lake Tahoe** for the **TSC Final Showdown March 12-19, 2005**.

We’re also working out the details for club trips to Banff-Lake Louise, Park City and Vail, so stay tuned for more details. Same Ski time, same Ski channel!



Lori and Christine on Gondola



Pam, Lori and Marsha in Telluride



Space City Ski Club

2004-2005 Ski Trip Schedule

TENTATIVE

Dates	Nights/ Ski Days	Trip Destination	Final Payment	Trip Price	TC ATC (DOT)	Home Phone	E-mail Address
Nov 23-28, 2004 (Tues—Sun)	5/4	WINTER PARK * Colorado (TSC Fall Roundup)	TBA	TBA	Diane Baker TBA (KK)	713-690-1443	diane@rossbaker.com
Jan 8-15, 2005 (Sat—Sat)	7/6	SNOWMASS I Colorado (TSC Traditional)	TBA	TBA	Bill Bomberger TBA (ML)	281-495-8668	bbomberger@satake-usa.com
Jan 11-16, 2005 (Tues—Sun)	5/4	SNOWMASS II Colorado (TSC Traditional)	TBA	TBA	Dana Wardell (ATC)	281-497-8552	dwardell@stalkerenergy.com
Jan 28-Feb 5, 2005 (Fri—Sat)	7/6	GARMISCH Germany (TSC Expedition)	TBA	TBA	Carmen Mikhail David Eickhoff (KK)	713-664-7522 832-593-7620	mikhail@bcm.tmc.edu eickhoff@hal-pc.org
Feb 5-12, 2005 (Sat—Sat)	7/6	PARK CITY Utah	TBA	TBA	Jeanine Jiral Pat Piech (ML)	281-776-0424 281-531-7650	jeanine@ev1.net ppiech@ikon.com
Feb 12-19, 2005 (Sat—Sat)	7/6	COPPER MOUNTAIN I Colorado (TSC Winter Shootout)	TBA	TBA	Angie Westergren TBA (ML)	281-589-2884	angie-westergren@ mac-haik-ent.com
Feb 15-20, 2005 (Tues—Sun)	5/4	COPPER MOUNTAIN II Colorado (TSC Winter Shootout)	TBA	TBA	TBA		
Feb 26-Mar 5, 2005 (Sat—Sat)	7/6	VAIL Colorado	TBA	TBA	Kathy Young Arlen Isham (KK)	281-497-5339 713-455-4858	Snovixen@aol.com isham@ev1.net
Mar 12-19, 2005 (Sat—Sat)	7/6	HEAVENLY-LAKE TAHOE I * Nevada (TSC Final Showdown)	TBA	TBA	Barb Ehrlich TBA (ML)	713-868-2470	barbehrlich@houston.rr.com
Mar 15-20, 2005 (Tues—Sun)	5/4	HEAVENLY-LAKE TAHOE II * (TSC Final Showdown)	TBA	TBA	TBA		
TBA	7/6	TBA Canada	TBA	TBA	Steven Teoh TBA (KK)	832-298-2893	steventeoh@remax.net

** Family Optional*

Vice President of Trips

Lori Gilliland (LG)
(281) 493-3060
lcgilliland@att.net

All schedules subject to change

Director of Trips

Marsha Lutz (ML)
(281) 870-9724
marsha.lutz@erm.com

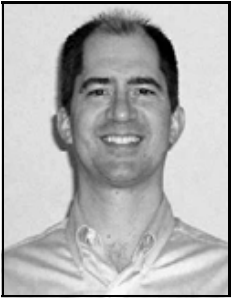
Director of Trips

Kayleen Kill (KK)
(281) 293-9533
Kayleen-kill@houston.rr.com

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS
EARLY MAIL IN SIGN-UP FOR
TRIPS BEGINS ON AUGUST 23
AND ENDS ON SEPTEMBER 3**

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Marc Fellows, VP of Programs



The new 2004-2005 season for SCSC began with the start of May. **Vicki Faulkner** wasted absolutely no time in starting off the season with her “**Cinco de Mayo**” party on **May 1**. There must have been something special in the margaritas...to describe the crowd as “festive” would be an understatement. I have never seen such spirited dancing coming from SCSC folks before.

Excellent food, fantastic band, great fun! Thanks Vicki!

The first of our trio of summer water activities is the **Beach Party Weekend/AIA Sandcastle Competition** from **June 4** through **6** in Galveston. Contact AC **Ellen Eastham** (281) 989-9935 for more information.

The following weekend on **June 12**, we hold our second water activity, our annual **Volunteer Pool Party** (invitation only) organized by AC is Cindy Moore (713) 984-1060. See the ad in this newsletter for more details.

The last and biggest of the water events will be the second annual “**On the Water Spectacular**” weekend in Clear Lake on **July 23** through **25**. We hold this event jointly with two other organizations. There will be sailing, motor boating, volleyball, and a pool party, all on beautiful waterside

locations! This was a big event last year, and it should be even bigger this year. Contact AC is **Cindy Moore** (713) 984-1060 or see ad for more details.

Also coming up in June is a **Wine Tasting Party** which will be hosted by **Dawn & Ron Rodriguez** on **June 19**. This has been quite the popular event in past years, so get your RSVPs in early.

If you are looking for excitement, drop-in at the **Tandem Sky Diving** event on **July 17**. The AC is **Chip Stokes** (281) 485-5778. More details can be found on the *Upcoming Events* page.

Prior to sky diving on the morning of July 17th, you can be a “crew member” in a **Hot Air Balloon Ascension**. If you aren’t able to be crew on this date, an additional opportunity to crew for a hot air balloon ascension will be on **August 28** at the **NASA Ballunar Festival**. Contact **Dick Carter** (832) 215-5125 to crew for the balloon ascension.

Last, but certainly not least we have a **June 17th Happy Hour** at **The Standard** and a **June 24th YNM Mixer** at **Sam’s Boat**.

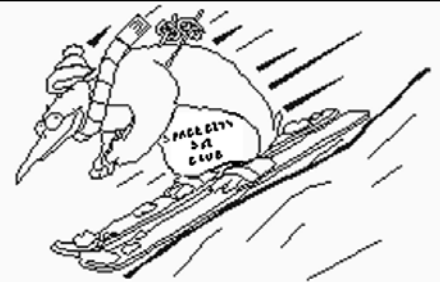
As always, contact me if you have an activity you would like to lead or if you have any other ideas or comments for activities at (281) 286-0503 or mjfreb@ev1.net.

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Remember all those promises we made in our pre-trip article about the abundance of snowfall, picturesque scenery, expert runs, friendly locals and historic charm? I think every one of our participants will tell you emphatically that we delivered on all those promises, and more. Each of us had a wonderful time skiing, partying and playing in the snow.

We had a smooth departure from IAH. Thankfully several of our crew packed lightly and **Carol** and I were able to check in the snacks for the bus. We really didn't want to strap the boxes to our heads, but we were prepared with rolls of duct tape, just in case. We later learned that the "meal" on the plane consisted of a "mini" sandwich, some old carrot sticks and a piece of candy. So, everyone was really hungry when we finally got settled in on the bus. As a result, there were few complaints when we passed out the trail mix, pretzel mix and granola bars and the food disappeared quickly.

Our group from Houston was joined by **Yasmin** and **Barry** from California, **David** and **Guri** from Colorado, **Lila** from Virginia and **Richard** from UK. Telluride attracted SCSC downhill skiers, boarders and cross-country enthusiasts from around the world. **Carol** and I had our work cut out for us—satisfying our diverse group. Gulp!

Ron started taking pictures at the airport and I don't think he stopped except for trips to the men's room. He could be seen camera in hand on the slopes, in the condos, at the dinners, on the plane, on the bus, in the air, on the ground (**Carol**, you've got to be more careful walking around in your nightie with him around.) He even recruited substitute camera personnel so he could race. There wasn't an event that was lost to this tireless crusade for the photographic arts. Some people just didn't appreciate his talent as much as others. (I can't wait to see that pic of **Carol** in her flannel shorts and furry ski boots—or the one...oops I'm not supposed to mention that one. Sorry, **Carol**).

As we drove to the condo, we could see the dark line of clouds promising snow. We had time to stock the condo with snacks and refreshments, and get settled in, before the snow flurries began. With the work out of the way it was time for fun! Some of us walked, and others rode the "Goose" to our Welcome Dinner location. But to our surprise, they were out of business. With the help of a local businessman, we relocated most of our group to another restaurant for much needed food. And **Carol** and I pulled a rabbit out of our hats and rescheduled the dinner for the next night. And WOW! Did we manage a miracle or what?! (Hey, we're just as surprised with our luck/talent as everyone else!) We had a rescheduled welcome dinner at the PowderHouse Mine. They had only been open 39 days and they served us one of the

best meals I've ever had. If you plan a trip to Telluride—be certain to stop in. The food, the service, the people are great!

Our first day on the slopes was met with some fresh powder and overcast skies but great times for all. Monday morning started out with an excellent breakfast served in **Carol's** condo. There was plenty of breakfast casserole, muffins and fruit for everyone that stopped by. Later a third of our group met at Cosmopolitan Restaurant's Tasting Cellar for a really tasty and relaxing meal. **Ron** orchestrated a group picture in front of my favorite background—wine cabinets filled with wonderful wines. (And yes, **Ron** and I totally rearranged the furniture to allow for this photo op, but we did not get thrown out, so all was good.) The second and third days were like picture postcards with clear, sparkling blue skies, freshly groomed slopes, cool temperatures and warm sunshine—absolutely beautiful. There goes **Ron** and his camera, again! I



Telluride Splendor

hope he didn't get any pictures of me falling over those tiny little moguls on that "easy" blue run—at least that's what he called it. Next year, I'll show you! I'll be able to ski those moguls if it kills me.

Then it was off to the Pub Crawl. Most of us were much too impatient to wait for the "Goose" so we walked (and it was COLD) from pub to pub. Unfortunately, the "drink" specials that were promised didn't really materialize. But, it was a "free" Pub Crawl, after all. It was unanimous—the Eagle's Nest was the best pub in Telluride.

The next day was Race Day, and what would you expect to

(Continued on page 9)

TELLURIDE (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 8)

happen on a ski trip? It snowed all day! It was great! We had some really fast skiers and—oh yes, ask **Marsha** and **Stan** who got a Silver Medal.

Lunch was mid-mountain at Goronno Ranch. Burgers were grilled outside on the covered part of the deck. That was convenient since it was snowing pretty hard by then. Lettuce and tomatoes were frozen, and so was the ketchup in the dispenser, but somehow the burgers stayed hot. The cook must have been praying continuously.

Almost everyone on the trip showed up to be included in the group picture—and they came out really good. (I think the photographer was related to **Ron**. He must have taken 40 different poses of our shivering group of skiers.) Thanks to Telluride Resorts for pulling this event together for us so nicely.

On Thursday evening we had our awards banquet in Mountain Village. We climbed aboard the gondola and were whisked away over the mountain at night, the lights below twinkling in the clear COLD night as we shivered beneath the blankets. La Piazza managed to find a room for our entire

group, tucked away in a corner of the restaurant. The food was good and the service was really terrific. (Although they did get a little annoyed when our entire group took over the bar and blocked the traffic pattern to the kitchen. I can't imagine why.)

Friday morning was a little sad. Each of us knew it would be our last day of spectacular skiing. The "die-hards" hit the slopes as soon as the lifts opened and didn't quit until the lifts closed for the day. I know **Bill Brown** managed to ski every single blue run on the mountain, but I'm sure he wasn't the only one to get in as much slope time as possible on our last day of skiing in Telluride.

We had absolutely fabulous weather for our return trip (it would have been a great day for skiing), and our trip home went smoothly—although most of us waited in the line to check bags for almost the full 2 hours we had allowed.

Carol and I want to thank all our trip participants. We made some wonderful new friends.

A toast to each of you! You were a great group! I hope to see all of you again next year.

BECOME A MEMBER OF SCSC TODAY!

Space City Ski Club Renewal or New Membership Information

Space City Ski Club has two levels of membership: \$35 per year for an Individual and \$55 per year for a Couple. Check out our trip rates and you will see how much money you can save on your next trip just by becoming a member. With your membership you will also receive the club newsletter, the SITZMARKE, and free entrance to our monthly General Meetings.

Membership is required to attend club trips.

Our membership period runs from May 1st to April 30th

**Download a membership application form
at www.spacecity.org or contact:**

**Penny Chancey
V.P. of Membership
(713) 686-4863**

vpennychancey@msn.com

Make checks payable to: Space City Ski Club

Mail to: P.O. Box 22567, Houston, TX 77227

Quick Form

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Phone 1: _____

Phone 2: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

Current Trip Interests: _____

Current Activity Interests: _____

Have you been a member before? ____

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES...DON'T MISS OUT ON THESE EVENTS



"A chance to see the world as you have never seen it! Experience the thrill of a LIFETIME!"

TANDEM SKYDIVING HOT AIR BALLOON ASCENSION **Saturday, July 17—Final Payment: July 8**

Cost for Skydiving \$169

- Arrive at Sunrise to participate as "crew member" in the Hot Air Balloon Ascension
- Arrive at 8:30 a.m. to attend Tandem Skydiving class, and then JUMP with an experienced instructor the same day

- Participate in both events or just come to watch

Join SCSC at SKYDIVE SPACELAND, located near Alvin

For skydiving/video information contact AC Chip Stokes (281) 485-5778 cstokes@houston.rr.com. For Balloon Ascension contact AC Dick Carter (832) 215-5125 rcarter10@houston.rr.com

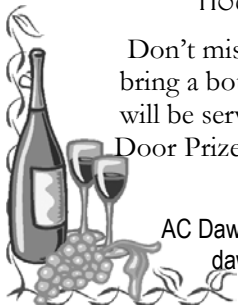
Wine Tasting

Saturday, June 19 at 7 p.m.

Cost \$10

Final Payment: May 17

To be held at Dawn and Ron's house
11402 Highlander Dr.
Houston 77070



Don't miss this popular event! Please bring a bottle of wine to share. Dinner will be served. There will also be some Door Prizes given away throughout the evening.

AC Dawn Rodriguez (281) 320-2040
dawncrodriguez@aol.com

"On the Water Spectacular Weekend" **July 23-25**

Cost before 7/15 \$15 for Saturday party, \$35 for party and sail

After 7/15 \$20 for Saturday party, \$40 for party and sail

Final Payment: July 9

Friday - Clear Lake Mixer

Saturday - Water Volleyball • Pool Party • BBQ at Portofino Marina • Sailing with TASS and other watercraft rides

Sunday - Lakeside brunch

Co-Sponsored by Space City Ski Club, Clear Lake Area Ski Club and Texas Association of Single Sailors

To volunteer watercrafts and for information contact
AC Cindy Moore (713) 984-1060
Lucinda_moore@ev1.net or check
www.spacecity.org



BEACH PARTY WEEKEND & AIA SANDCASTLE COMPETITION **Friday-Sunday, June 4-6**

Cost: \$20

Final Payment: May 17

Sandcastle building competition begins at 10 a.m. Awards at 4:30 p.m. Volunteer for a 5-hour shift or just come to watch for the day.

Optional activities include staying the entire weekend, dinners, and Sunday at Moody Gardens. Family optional.

Location: East Beach, Galveston

Check website information from 2003 competition at
www.aiasandcastle.com/2003/eventinfo.htm

AC Ellen Eastham (281) 989-9935 eeastham@panhandleenergy.com

A TASTE OF THE BAVARIAN ROCKIES

By David Eickhoff

The ambiance and setting could not have been more remarkable. An idyllic village with a Bavarian flavor tucked deep into the heart of the Canadian Rockies. Some majestic, snow covered peaks sprinkled with abandoned lead, zinc and coal mines. A sleepy little town with the distinction of having the world's largest standing cuckoo clock (which yodels, no less). All of this provided the backdrop for 2004's **TSC Winter Shootout**. For the first time, the council and club ventured up to **Kimberley** and **Fernie** in southeastern British Columbia for a week of excellent skiing and adventure.

After a flight to Calgary, 70 club members boarded a couple of buses for a 4 hour, but very picturesque, ride to Kimberley. The community of Banff treated the council skiers to a pizza and beer lunch along the way, putting everyone in a great mood. After some incredibly magnificent scenery through the Canadian Rockies, the group arrived at Kimberley and checked into the Marriott. The club kicked things off with a wine and cheese party, graciously prepared by **Peggy Montgomery** and held in her and **Jerry's** room (that's right, 70 people shoehorned into one room). Fifteen large bottles of wine quickly disappeared which set the tone for the kind of week it would be. The party spilled out into the hallway and got so loud that the hotel staff forced Jerry to move the festivity elsewhere.

On Sunday evening at the **TSC Welcome Reception**, the group was entertained by a live band and a bell-ringing accordion player. **Ray Villarreal**, the club's own dancer extraordinaire, warmed up the dance floor with **Cheryl Kenney**. Once the council festivities had concluded, a group of hard-core club revelers stayed very late and closed the reception down. The group then re-convened in the room occupied by four club members, **Mike Murphy**, **Brett Henderson**, **Davis Tucker** and new member **Greg Botard**. Their room, # 419, became the focal point of activity for the week and nightly parties were held there. 'Party in 419' became a rallying call. Regulars in these nightly endeavors included **Brenda Kuciemba**, **Donna Kidwell**, **Sandra McCunis**, **Mark Chambers**, **Roger Holzman**, **Robert Davis**, **Robert Porter**, **Robert Rexford**, **Maureen Irwin**,

Ray Villarreal, **Maria Tramontin**, **Larry Brodt** and **Peggy Schillinger**.

The club was treated to six excellent days of skiing and there were many memorable moments during the week. **Andy Cashio** ignored **Marti Turner's** warnings about following Nelson and exhibited his aerial skiing ability by performing a 360 degree twist and cartwheel. **Jack Sartin** was a bit over his head trying to keep up with **Kurt** and **Karen Schidlowski**. Or maybe it was his skis that ended up over his head. Fortunately, he had his own ski patrol in **Charlene** and **Mike Fleming** as they had to pluck him out of the snow a few times. **Mark Chambers** tried to lead a group of skiers down one run and ended up in a Kimberley parking lot. He practiced his navigational skills again at Fernie but the result was the same.

Mother Nature treated us to some fresh powder on Thursday and the group took advantage of it. **Roberta Rambin** led her group to tackle the black run under the Tamarack Lift. **Robert Vikortin** took Roger on some black diamond slopes. Roger had not fallen in three years but fell three times on the run, fell getting off the lift chair and to top it off, fell while getting on the lift chair. **Jan Cadik** tuned up for his first race by skiing on black mogul runs, leaving Adrienne to ski with Roger and **David Eickhoff**. **Brenda Kuciemba** was intent on learning left turns with her snowboard, but admittedly spent a bit too much time on her backside. **Meynard Nussbaum** got off the trail, went a bit 'over the edge' and ended up hiking in waist deep snow back to the lift. Just months after having major knee surgery, **Kayleen Kill** ended up back in the doctor's office, this time with a broken hip and on the same leg she had previously broken. **Ron Rambin** had the most fashionable ski outfit (equipped with a walkie-talkie) and was often mistaken for ski patrol. **Robert Knupp** and **Lou Klienman** spent the entire week chasing each other down the black diamond runs. Recently transferred **Tom Huzzey** couldn't decide if he wanted to race for Space City or his old club, the Midland Flatlanders. He ended up racing for us but since he did not medal, he was traded back to the Flatlanders for two skiers to be named later. **Jan Ferrell** had

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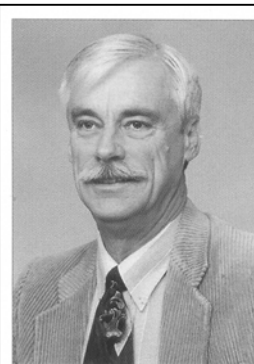


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no trouble with the ski runs but had lots of trouble hanging on to her skis, losing them not once, but twice. The first occurrence was after the club picture, and just to prove it was no fluke, she lost them again later while buying a lift ticket.

On Tuesday, the club boarded a bus and took a ninety-minute ride to Fernie, an old, historic coal-mining town. This community is home to the Fernie Alpine Resort, a world-class ski area known for outstanding bowls and extreme skiing. The locals like to brag about Fernie's mild temperatures and massive snowfalls. We were met at the mountain by friendly 'Fernieite' guides who gave us the red carpet treatment and spent a day showing us the breathtaking mountain.

After an exhausting day of skiing at Fernie, the entire club got together for a well deserved feast at the Old Brauernhaus, an historic German restaurant in downtown Kimberley. The restaurant is housed in a 300-year-old building, originally built in the Alps but dismantled and reassembled in Canada in the 1980's. The occasion was particularly special since we had a large contingent of Germans and east Europeans (Zengers, Schidlowskis, Heynes, Cadiks, Anneliese Unterharnscheidt, Casper Schmidhammer and Brigitte Litz). We were served plate after plate of appetizers and Bavarian specialties while a group of entertainers went around to the tables and employed club members in their act. Council President **Gary Butler** and his two brothers Charles and Johnny got in one act involving poles and hats. On the mouth-watering menu that night was maultaschen (German ravioli), geschnetzeltts (venison), baurenplatte (coldcuts and cheese), bundnerfleisch (beef) and jagergeschnetzelttes (strips of pork and free to anyone who could pronounce it correctly).



Wednesday was Nastar race day. **Marti** and **Nelson Turner**

did an excellent job as race directors and Council Race Director **Jeff Sarff** selected the club race order. We had 40 skiers race. Everyone did a fantastic job and, most importantly, had fun. Many of the non-racers showed up to cheer us on to the finish. The final medal count was 3 Gold, 11 Silver and 10 Bronze. There were 8 others who scored 25 points and 6 others with points. Congratulations to the medal winners:

GOLD – **Michael Murphy, Kurt Schidlowski, and Brigitte Litz.**

SILVER – **Karin Schidlowski, Jan Cadik** (on his first SCSC trip!), **Helmut Zenger, Kasper Schmidhammer, Nelson Turner, Andy Cashio, Calvin Doody, Ron Rambin, Bob Porter, Robert Davis, and Merlyn Harger.**

BRONZE – **Evan Lowe, Robert Viktorin, Gary Sequeira, Gunnar Heyne, Marti Turner, Leslie Cashio, Maria Tramontin, Sharon Sequeira, Cheryl Kenny and Martha Zenger.**

After a successful day of racing, the club headed into town for a Pub Crawl. The bus stopped off at six different watering holes where club members were able to drink, play pool and darts and hob nob with the locals. The last stop on the tour was the Ozone pub, an establishment equipped with a DJ and dance floor. **Bob Davis**, never shy about sharing his opinion, quickly let the DJ know that his rap music selection would not cut it with this group. After changing the format to classic rock, the club led by **Kim Kujawa, Lisa Thomas**, Maria and Brenda kept the dance floor full until closing time. The buses had long since left the Ozone so the group was forced to taxi back to the Marriott where the festivity continued in 419 (where else?) and lasted until the wee hours of the morning. Party animal **Greg Botard** probably had the most fun that night. He woke up the next morning (or was it the afternoon?) wearing some clothes of a woman he met the night before at the Ozone. When asked about it, he just muttered 'what happens in 419, stays in 419'.

Several club members preferred to soak up suds at the more tranquil Kelseys, a bar adjacent to the Marriott. **Steve Kenney, Jan, Tim O'Neil and Larry Hord** were seen daily sampling the fine Canadian beers and ales with the funny names such as Moosehead, Grizzley Bear, Rockhopper, Warthog and Kokanee.

The full (and free!) breakfast area in the Marriott provided a great locale every morning for swapping stories and reliving the previous days skiing and partying. The aroma of fresh waffles being prepared could be detected throughout the hotel, which tended to lure people to the site. **Rena Sartin** and **Christina Heyne** did not ski but spent the mornings in

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the area planning the day's activities. **Roger Straub, Johanna Kuang,** and the always-late rising **Nancy Sarff** also spent their mornings here enjoying conversation as well as the fine food.

The council awards party was held on Thursday and Space City was well represented. The club won Division 1 with 1758 points! In the individual races, we had seven skiers place. **Bridgette Litz** and **Kurt Schidlowski** were both 1st in the Super Seniors division. Bridgette was later heard commenting 'I enjoy being referred to as Super, but not as a Super Senior'. **Karen Schidlowski** was 2nd in Super Seniors, while both **Michael Murphy** and **Leslie Cashio** were 2nd in Seniors. Andy is working on a trophy case to hold Leslie's awards. Finally, **Helmut Zenger** was 3rd in Super Seniors and 'rookie' **Jan Cadick** was 3rd in the Senior division. Other club members who competed in the individuals were **Evan Lowe, Jeff Sarff, Andy Cashio,** and **Nelson** and **Marti Turner**. **Karen Geiger** was busy taking lots of photos at the party and caught Jerry red-handed a few times, stealing wine from Peggy. A country & western band provided live entertainment and **Jack Sartin** showed that he really could quit his day job. He got up on stage and took the microphone for a few songs, sounding just like a professional C&W vocalist.

There were several activities to choose from on Friday evening and the club split off into three different directions. The main ski run was lit up (which happens to be the longest illuminated run in Canada) so **Ray, Maria, David** and **Brenda** tried some night skiing. **Jerry** and **Peggy** led a group off to the Country Club restaurant. Enjoying the fine meal was **Ky** and **Rhonda Griffin** (who were always nicely garbed),

the Turners, the Sequeiras, the Rambins, the Cashios and **Maureen Irwin**. The highlight of the evening though was the hockey game. The mayor of Kimberley offered free tickets to council members provided they would root for the home team. A number of club members took advantage of this offer. **Larry Hord, Jan Ferrell, Carol** and **Robert Viktorin,** **Evan, Meynard, Sandra** and **Greg Botard** all enjoyed the match and rooted the local team on to a convincing victory over Crested Butte. Evan took the game a bit too seriously though, and was nearly thrown out for yelling at the referee and pounding the plexiglas.

After the evening's activities, the club gathered for one final 'let no beer go to waste' party in 419. By this time, the room had become Kimberley's biggest tourist attraction, stories from 419 were becoming legendary and skiers from other clubs were dropping in to join in the entertainment. **Jan Ferrill** and her infectious smile were in rare form administering 'truth serum' to those who listened.

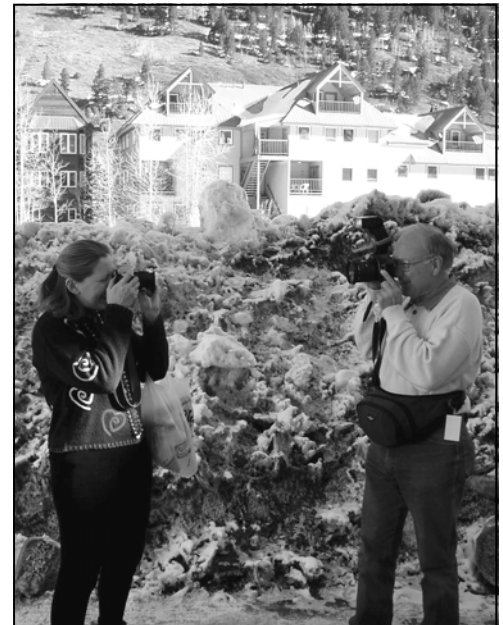
The ubiquitous **Bob Davis** was sharing his thoughts on the secrets of the universe. **Sandra McCunis,** proving that size does matter, was showing off the length of her ring finger to interested men. The always glamorous-looking **Donna Kidwell** took the role of a psychic matchmaker, pairing up available men and women based on zodiac signs and horoscopes.

The Kimberley/Fernie trip was a great success for the council and club. The weather could not have been better. The ski in/ski out Marriott facility provided great convenience and the amenities on the mountain were excellent. Recent upgrades at the two resorts put them in a class with many others in North America. There is no doubt the club will be back to sample Bavarian enchantment all over again.



Martin Bradley
keeping his head
warm "Doggie
Style" (Left)

Pam and Ron face
off in a photo duel
(Right)



On Saturday, January 24th, twenty-six adventurers, being led by TC **Ladye Freitag** and ATC **Leslie Caldwell**, journeyed to the quaint ski village of Sun Peaks in Canada. The journey began mid-morning, with all 28 adventurers gathering at IAH for the flight to Vancouver. Once we landed in Vancouver, we got our bags and checked through customs. We then boarded our bus for Sun Peaks. Pre-chosen catered lunches were passed out and gobbled up by all. Because it was going to be a long bus ride, movies had been planned, but due to technical difficulty, only one of the TVs was working. So, everyone made the best of it and started to get to know each other.

As we got closer to the mountains, the snow was falling around us. It was breathtaking how beautiful it was. Finally, after a full day of traveling, we arrived at Nancy Green's Cahilty Lodge. This is where we called home for the next week.

The next morning at the Continental breakfast in the TC's suite, lift tickets were handed out and skiing partners were paired up. It was pretty nippy, -18 degrees Celsius or around 0 degrees Fahrenheit. (Thanks to **Bob Simpson** for making a chart to convert Celsius to Fahrenheit.) The die-hard skiers layered and masked up for that first trip down the mountain. **Debbie McDonald** decided to take the first day easy and had a massage at the Sun Peaks Lodge Day Spa. **Pat Reinhardt** tried to follow the Big Boys (**Keith Kirkman**, **Bob Knupp**, **Don Macken**, and **Bruce Baird**), but kept falling down. But because he kept getting back up and going, Pat became known as the "Energizer Skier" - he keeps going and going and going.

Jack Sartin was nicknamed "Mr. Potato Head" with fake ears because how can anyone ski with just a cap on in -18 degrees Celsius weather? His ears had to be zippered into his head. Sunday night, there was a big reception held for all the guests at Sun Peaks with Nancy Greene, Canada's famous woman skier, leading the festivities.



On Monday, January 26th **Samantha Davidson** and **Cindy Moore** started out the day with lessons. **Melanie Raney**, a new member, likes to ski with the very short skis. This gave her an advantage of being able to control her skis and skiing down slopes that would be more difficult with longer skis. Melanie must have made a hit with **Keith Kirkman** and **Bob Knupp**, as they let her ski with them in the afternoon. That evening, we enjoyed a wine reception with Nancy Green and her husband, Al. Nancy was Canada's top ski racer through the 1960s, winning gold and silver medals at the 1968 Grenoble Olympics and overall World Cup titles in 1967 and 1968. Her total of 13 World Cup victories is still a Canadian record. She won 17 Canadian Championship titles in all. This was also a great "Kodak Moment" as many of us had our pictures taken with Nancy. Nancy graciously autographed her custom picture postcards depicting her skiing. Bob and **Mary Simpson** were our "Restaurant Critics." They sampled the cuisine from several establishments and reported back if they were good or not.

Tuesday, January 27th was Breakfast Taco morning. TC **Ladye Freitag**, **Janet McKenzie**, **Melanie Raney**, **Rena Sartin** and **Jackie Walne** were the Breakfast Taco Chefs. We were busy running around, cooking, filling, rolling and wrapping the various kinds of tacos. This was quite a task as the kitchen was very small. Because of all the hustle and bustle, it became a bit warm with all the commotion. **Janet McKenzie** thought it would be a good idea to cool the place down, so she opened the door to the suite. With the warmth of the cooking spilling out into the hallway, it didn't take long before the Smoke Alarm went off. Needless to say, no one missed the Breakfast Tacos that morning. With full stomachs, many headed out for another day of great skiing. Several of our skiers elected to ski with Al, Nancy Greene's husband, and Nancy on the mountain. **Melanie Morin** skied with Nancy a lot of days. **Mike Downs** tried to "kiss a tree," but ended up with a "hickey" on his face.

That evening was Casino Night, which was held at the main lodge at the base of the mountain. Each player was given \$2,500 (fake, of course) to play at the various stations. The Blackjack table was the most popular. At around 8:00 p.m. prizes were purchased by the highest "Bidder" with the money that was won. A number of our skiers attended this fun-filled event. Don and **Leslie Caldwell**, along with **Todd Larson**, opted for a quiet evening in the luxurious Delta Hotel bar/restaurant. At the Delta, this trio saw many gamblers returning from a night of excitement and prizes. **Samantha Davidson** and **Melanie Raney** were spotted getting free beer at Bottoms Bar and Grill.

Wednesday, January 28th - A BEAUTIFUL DAY! A

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SUN PEAKS, CANADA (CONTINUED)

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gorgeous blue cloudless sky! Everyone was out enjoying the day. It was too beautiful to stay inside and it was also a great day for picture taking. Many people made it up to the top of Crystal lift to see the Snow Ghosts. These are trees wrapped with snow and ice, which formed amazing shapes. It was breath taking! The group dinner was Wednesday night in Macker's Bar and Grill, located in our lodge. Before the dinner began, everyone serenaded **Janet McKenzie** in a round of "Happy Birthday" as she was given a Cappuccino Truffle with a little birthday candle to celebrate her day! It was a delicious and leisurely dinner. Everyone was so full that there was only a handful of people who went to MacDaddy's nightclub afterwards.

Thursday, January 29th - As the week went by, fewer people would show up for the Continental breakfast. One person that came every day in her comfortable blue robe was **Yvonne Guy**. She always had a smile on her face and a cup of coffee in her hand. **Barbara** and **Mike Carr** were seen window-shopping and walking around the village. **Rena Sartin** and **Jackie Walne** were our two non-skiers. Daily they would workout in the Lodge's spa and then meet their husbands, **Jack Sartin** and **Tom Walne** at Baggs Sweets for lunch. Irene, the chief cook and bottle washer at Baggs Sweets, invited **Rena** and **Jack Sartin**, **Jackie** and **Tom Walne**, **Leslie** and **Don Caldwell**, and **Todd Larson** to sample the Haggis and bag pipe procession honoring The Baird (Robert Burns) at Baggs Sweets sister restaurant, Baggio's, that evening. The invitation was wholeheartedly accepted. **Keith Kirkman** and **Bob Knupp** were also seen honoring this Scottish tradition. **Mitch Gaspard**, **Pat Reinhardt**, **Don Macken**, **Mike Downs**, **Yvonne Guy**, and **Debbie McDonald** were a few of the people headed up to the top of the mountain for the Torchlight Dinner. Because it was cold and snowing and windy, several people elected not to participate. **Jessica Halter** and **John Wilkerson** enjoyed the food, but especially enjoyed the skiing down after the dinner - they love fresh powder.

Friday, January 30th - **Mike** and **Barbara Carr** had forgotten that we were staying in hotel rooms (TC had a suite) and had brought some cookie and muffin mixes. So Friday morning, **Mike Carr** put on his chef hat and made muffins with makeshift tin foil muffin cups. Earlier in the week, the chocolate chip cookie mix had been made, but no crumbs were left as evidence. **Jessica Halter** and **John Wilkerson** decided that they needed a "Day at the Spa." Both were very relaxed by the end of the evening. **Debbie McDonald** decided to go back to the Spa and this time she got "Stoned" (massage). As mentioned earlier, **Pat Reinhardt** would fall, roll, and pop back up on his skis. However, today Pat did a backward somersault and his tips of his skis got caught in the snow. This would have been a great "Kodak Moment," but **Janet McKenzie** was laughing so hard, she couldn't stay still long enough to take a picture. A special request by **Mitch Gaspard** encouraged a number of our skiers to venture out to the only Japanese restaurant in the area. After a half-mile trek through deep snow and a few detours, they arrived at their destination. The adventurous souls that joined Mitch were **Bruce Baird**, **Leslie** and **Don Caldwell**, **Todd Larson**, **Melanie Morin**, **Debbie McDonald**, **Yvonne Guy**, **Janet McKenzie**, and **Pat Reinhardt**. After a delicious dinner the trip back to the Lodge was made easier by following the groomed ski trails.

Saturday, January 31st - Unfortunately, it was time to go home. Everyone had an early wake-up call because we needed to be on the road at 6:00 a.m. Because it had been snowing the last several days, some of the roads had been closed. Luckily, they were opened by the time we reached the areas of the highway that had been closed. We made the airport in plenty of time to make it through Customs and grab a bite to eat before heading back to Houston.

Many of us wanted to keep Sun Peaks a SECRET because there were no lift lines and the Sun Peaks village and folks gave us a very warm reception! Leslie and I would like to thank each one of you for making this adventuresome trip with us!




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