



The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

NEW WEBSITE NAME
spacecityskiclub.org

September 2004



**Member
Texas Ski
Council**

Vol. 38 No. 5



General Meeting - New Location
Big Woodrow's, 3111 Chimney Rock
September 20 @ 6:30 p.m.

Happy Hour - New Time - Thursday, September 9 @ 5:30 p.m.
River Café - 3615 Montrose

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SITZMARKE

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visit the [SPACE CITY SKI CLUB WEB PAGE](http://www.spacecityskiclub.org)
<http://www.spacecityskiclub.org>



Inner Skiing

Several years ago, I took my first ski trip ever. As a matter of fact, it was my first time at a ski resort and my first time up in snowy mountains. It was a great trip and a really great time. I took lessons every day and dug deep to find resources to deal with the physical restraints of having lived my entire life in either the Great Plains or Houston,

both flat, and I dug deep to find the mental determination needed to keep getting back up and trying again. After a week of feeling like a failure, yes, I found success in both being able to make it down an actual blue run without falling, as well as that emotional sense of accomplishment.

That sense of accomplishment, however, went to my head a bit because I signed up for another ski trip a month later. Yes, I was a bit too cocky and way too inexperienced and after skiing hard I tore my ACL on the second day. Just to show you how nuts I was: I really did not know how badly I hurt my knee and I got a brace thinking it was just a sprain and skied on my poor knee for another full day. What sobered me was the fact that nearly a month later my knee was still hurting and not getting any better. An MRI showed the damage and my orthopedist scheduled me for a reconstruction. That, plus 12 weeks of rehab turned the tables big time on any hint of cockiness. I had the surgery in May and I scheduled to go on a trip to Taos that December.

It was hard enough strapping on some skis but going downhill on anything including the baby hill (which is a bit steep at Taos) was pretty frightening. I knew that it would be hard to deal with building the physical ability and muscle memory, but I was so cautious and my fellow skiers just interpreted that as plain fear. It was not plain fear. I did not have enough plain fear and that is how I got hurt in the first place.

Regardless, one of my friends turned me on to a book titled "Inner Skiing." This was a phenomenal book, part of a series of sports books; they also have one titled: "Inner Tennis." Anyway, to make a long story short, the premise of the book is that a modern coaching strategy for professional athletes and Olympians involves mentally going through all the sensations of an actual performance, visualizing the entire run or pole vault or pitch or whatever. In the process of visualizing your personal performance, you visualize that you are exceeding your prior performances. You experience each sensation that you would experience in life, in your mind's eye visualize the way the sky would look, see the color of the snow, feel the cold of the air around you, visualize the sounds you may hear and try to feel the sensations on your muscles and bones being pushed further than before. You also visualize yourself enjoying every bit of it, your execution of each move being flawless, natural, and easy in its familiarity.

The really cool thing about this strategy is that modern sports figures have been using it to exceed all the barriers and records that have been previously seen as ceilings for performances. And frankly, for me, it has been both a wonderful and relaxing experience. It has allowed me to feel more natural on the snow and to surpass all of my prior expectations and notions of my personal performances. People who have skied with me years ago have noticed a marked difference, too. So I wanted to share this experience with you.

I highly recommend this book, especially if you have found yourself at a performance barrier, regardless of where your current skill level is. Both beginners as well as experts could benefit from doing some inner-skiing now, before the season starts. Try it and let me know how it feels to you. Once you have taken a few of those inner-skiing trips, however, don't forget to sign up for a real trip with Space City and see how it works on real snow. We have some killer trips this season.

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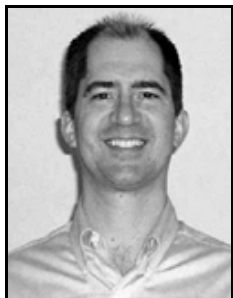
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Dana Wardell

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Marc Fellows, VP of Programs



Our search for a new home is over! SCSC will be holding its general meetings at **Big Woodrow's** on Chimney Rock. This venue has a lot to offer to our club. The meetings will be on the second floor; with its large bar, sound system, and tables. The high ceiling and wooden interior will dampen the noise much better than our former venue. This will cut down on distractions during our presentations and formal programs.

For those who would rather socialize than watch a presentation or program, we've got you covered too. You can continue your conversations in the downstairs bar without concern of interfering with the upstairs speakers. The level of excitement will be moved up a notch with the close proximity to the general public in the downstairs bar. We'll get more potential new members from the downstairs bar coming upstairs as guests to check out what SCSC has to offer. After the meeting, members can go downstairs to eat or catch the end of Monday Night Football.

There will be plenty of parking. In addition to the Big Woodrow's parking lot, the parking garage of the office building immediately north of Big Woodrow's will provide Big Woodrow's patrons free

parking. Since the September meeting has such huge attendance, we also may use another spillover lot just for that meeting. Sound confusing? Perhaps it may be a little confusing for the first meeting. The plan for the September meeting is to have SCSC volunteers in the parking lot areas helping guide people around. Of course, this will only work if we get volunteers: please contact me to help. We are also looking for volunteers to help with meeting set-up

Can you believe it will be ten years ago this December since Space City held its first annual **Sunshine Kids** auction? This worthy charity sends kids who are battling cancer on ski trips. This tradition of SCSC support continues at the December General Meeting where the auction will be the main event. The auction committee is already forming and is looking for committee members. While December seems far away, it is really just around the corner. Therefore, the auction coordination work is starting immediately. If you are interested in participating or have items to donate, contact the Sunshine Kids Auction Committee Chair, **Peggy Montgomery** at the.monts@att.net or 281-437-5467.

As always, contact me if you would like to lead an activity, volunteer to help out with an activity, or have any other ideas or comments. (281-286-0503, mjfrieb@ev1.net).

General Meeting

**Big Woodrow's;
3111 Chimney Rock**

September 20 @ 6:30 p.m.



HAPPY HOUR

Thursday, September 9

5:30 p.m.

River Café

3615 Montrose
(713) 529-0088

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Coordinator	Phone	E-mail/Address
SEPTEMBER				
9/9	Happy Hour - River Café	Deb Cini		3615 Montrose
9/12-19	TSC Summer Cruise (\$600+)	AAC-Debbie Bergeron AC-Nancy Sarff	(713) 880-3946	dbergeron@houston.rr.net
9/20	SCSC Meeting-Sign up for Trips - Big Woodrow's			3111 Chimney Rock
OCTOBER				
10/2	San Marcos River Paddling Trip	Calvin Doody	(713) 686-4831	birdsguys@yahoo.com
10/2	Race for the Cure	Becky Hall	(713) 783-9990	becahall@aol.com
NOVEMBER				
11/6	UH Tailgate Party & Football Game	Sean O'Brien	(713) 787-9762	sbobrien@trcsolutions.com
TBA	SCSC 40th Anniversary Celebration	Vicki Faulkner	(713) 863-0470	Vicki.faulkner@shell.com

If you have an idea for an activity or would like to volunteer to be an AC or AAC, contact VP-Programs, Marc Fellows (281) 286-0503 mjfrieb@ev1.net. For more information or to pass on ideas about the Happy Hours and Mixers, contact Deb Cini (832) 528-6125.



Who says, "There ain't no cure the summertime blues?" Sure there is...do what ski addicts in Houston do. Plan for another adrenaline-pumping ski season and sign up for one or more awesome ski trips organized by the pros at Space City Ski Club. When you're addicted to skiing, the saddest day of the year is when the lifts at your favorite resort stop spinning for the season. But, as a member of SCSC, one of your happiest days of the year should be during mail-in signup, when the TC of the trip you signed up for calls or e-mails you with the great news that you've made it on the trip!

For those that missed early mail-in signup, don't flip out just yet. There's still a chance that we can find a spot for YOU on the trip of your choice or at least put you high on a waiting list.

Plan to attend the coolest event of the summer, the **September General Meeting, Monday, September 20, 2004 at Big Woodrow's** on Chimney Rock. This is the 1st club meeting of the 2004-2005 ski season and your chance to get up-close and personal with all the Trip Leaders and various Resort Reps. Bring your checkbook to lay down a deposit or get on the waiting list for your desired destination. If you already have your reserved spot during early mail-in signup, swing by your trip's table, meet your TC/ATC, insure you are on the roster, grab a trail map, get the current scoop on your trip and meet fellow trip participants. This is a good

chance to start scouting out a roommate if you don't already have one.

Looking to improve your skiing or break out of that intermediate rut? Think you're a "terminal intermediate?" Well, the best way to see improvement is to ski, ski, ski and ski. The more ski days you get in each year, the better you become. Plan your vacation time right and you can take multiple trips. If you have already signed up for one trip, consider adding another. Try something *Familiar* like **Winter Park**, while enjoying a memorable **Thanksgiving holiday**. AND something *New* like SCSC's 1st adventure to world-renowned **St. Moritz**. Or, try a *Weeklong Club Trip* to **Park City, Vail** or **Whistler** AND a *TSC Short or Long Trip* to **Snowmass, Copper Mountain** or **Heavenly**.

Now that you know the cure for the Intermediate Blues, let's get back to finding a cure for those summertime blues. Another way to keep the blues away and skiing on your mind is to make sure you stay in shape during the off-season by keeping the adrenaline pumping. As of the general meeting on September 20th, there will be only 64 days before our first trip departs, so keep yourself slope-ready with adrenaline sports. Try trail running, in-line skating, mountain biking, rock climbing - any sport that gives you a rush. These activities will keep your lungs and muscles strong, reflexes sharp and your mind prepared for skiing. Check out Marc's Programs/Activities Calendar. He may have a few activities like these on the schedule. Or, offer to help him by volunteering to be the Activity Coordinator of an adrenaline sport. See you at Woodrow's!

SCSC's 10th Annual Sunshine Kid's Charity Auction



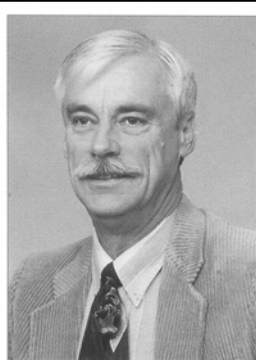
December General Meeting

COMMITTEE WORK & DONATION
COMMITMENTS START IMMEDIATELY

Looking for:

- SCSC Member Auction Item Donations
- Business Auction Item Donations
 - Committee Volunteers
 - Auction Day Volunteers

Contact Peggy Montgomery at the.monts@att.net or
281-437-5467



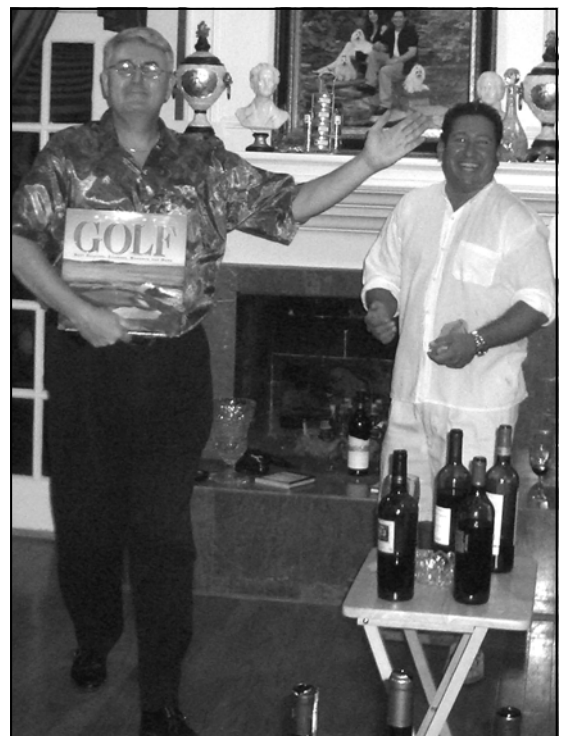
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Wine Tasting Door Prize

DON'T MISS THESE UPCOMING ACTIVITIES ...

Canoeing or Kayaking on the San Marcos River

Saturday, October 2

\$30 per person* for SCSC members

RSVP (with payment) by September 5 to guarantee canoe or kayak, thereafter availability is uncertain.

Get your upper body workout while having fun on the cool, clear San Marcos River. Paddle from City Park in San Marcos down to Pecan Park near Martindale, TX. Join your friends for a day in the fresh air and outdoors.

* Includes tandem canoe, sit-on-top kayak (must sign up in pairs) or single sit-on-top kayak. (\$5 surcharge if not an SCSC member).

Included: Paddle(s), life jackets, and shuttle transportation.

Also included: a "post paddle" get together with drinks and snacks.

On Your Own: transportation to San Marcos, lodging, and meals.



AC Calvin Doody (713) 686-4831 or birdsguys@yahoo.com

SCSC Tailgate Party and Football Game

Houston vs. E. Carolina

Homecoming

November 6



Tailgate Party Begins at Noon

Robertson Stadium Parking Lot

(Reserved Tailgate Space for SCSC)

Kickoff is at 4:00 p.m.

\$25 members/\$30 non-members includes:

Tailgate Party (food, adult beverages) & Game Ticket

For more information contact AC Sean O'Brien

(713) 787-9762 sbobrien@trcsolutions.com

(Final Payment October 13, Tickets are Limited)

Komen Houston Race for the Cure

Saturday, October 2

Fund Raiser for breast cancer. Fun run (7:45 a.m.) or Walk (8 a.m.). Plus activities before and after the race. The Race for the Cure starts at Eleanor Tinsley Park. Sign up with Becky to run or walk with SCSC and sign up to race or walk at

www.komen-houston.org.

AC Becky Hall (713) 783-9990 becahall@aol.com



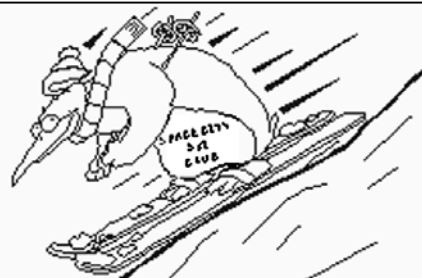
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Space City Ski Club has two levels of membership: \$35 per year for an Individual and \$55 per year for a Couple. Check out our trip rates and see how much money you will save on your next trip just by becoming a member. With your membership you will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

Membership is required to attend club Penny Chancey V. P. of Membership trips. Our membership period runs (713) 686-4863

from May 1st to April 30th. Down- vppennychancey@msn.com

load a membership application form Make checks payable to: Space City Ski Club
www.spacecityskiclub.org or contact: 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? _____



It was a BIG TIME in BIG SKY in March when 52 Space City skiers headed for the mountains of Montana. The trip started without any hitches for most of us. The group was gathering bright and early at the airport, ready to go, and then our first accident occurred. **Jo**

and **Gary Evans** "accidentally" left their identification at home in Clear Lake. Discovering it on the way to the airport, the Evans succeeded in breaking the land speed record from Clear Lake to IAH. **Jim Kane** and **Eileen Kendrick** anxiously awaited their arrival so that their 20-year reunion would proceed as planned. Family members **Ann** and **August Koedding** joined **Bill** and **Eileen Kendrick** for a 'mini-reunion' at Big Sky. Unfortunately, a couple of others had to cancel due to medical reasons, but they stayed in our thoughts all week.

The flights to Montana were smooth and uneventful and the breakfast muffins were plentiful. After a quick bus ride, we arrived at the rustic Huntley Lodge. Founded by newscaster Chet Huntley, this resort had everything, including fireworks on the first night of our arrival. A prompt and efficient check-in was followed by a wine and cheese reception in **Hope** and **Pat's** condo.

Our group included first-time skiers as well as old hands but all had a terrific time. Of our beginner group, **Marnie Lamb**, who had only been on skis 4 days prior to hitting the slopes in Big Sky, was "skiing the blues" by the end of the week and mastering those moguls! Expert skiers **Janet McKenzie** and **Bruce Baird** took **Marnie** under their wings and taught her the "secrets" of a successful Space City Ski trip. Ski and have a good time! **Bruce** did not realize that "denial" is a river in Egypt. Yes, **Bruce**, you did fall and we have it on film. All that practice and friendship paid off! **Marnie** will be assisting with a trip for 2005. Congratulations **Marnie**!

Unfortunately, one of our first time skiers, **Harry 'Zack' Zachau** took a tumble the first day in ski school and broke his hip. Requiring 3 pins to repair, **Zach** joined the fun for the final night party and promises to "try it again" once mended. What a great attitude!

Of course, there are always the mischievous ones, and **Bill Bomberger** and **Bob Debell** take the award for being the "menaces" in Big Sky. The nice certificates they received from the ski patrol made them feel like kids again.

It was questionable if Yellowstone was going to be open during our visit, but adventurers **Sharon Rance**, **June Cullum** and **Concietta Ruggiero** succeeded in having an exciting visit to the park. Unfortunately, it wasn't the wildlife that made it so exciting. The snow bus they were traveling on went out of control and ran

"out of bounds," a bit like **Bill** and **Bob**. The bus was promptly stopped by a snow bank and the passengers only slightly bruised. Luckily, they made it back to Big Sky safe and sound!

Susan Wicker found shopping to be a success and secured a beautiful new pair of ski boots. Her old ones were graciously donated to charity which will enable others less fortunate to ski and have their own equipment. Thanks **Susan**!

Generosity abounds in the mountains. Big Sky has a wonderful reimbursement program for those who suffer an inconvenience due to mechanical failure of the "state of the art" equipment. A cup of hot chocolate was given to **Joe Daleo**, **Susan Blome**, **Cindy Moore** and **Hope** for just "hanging" around for 45 minutes! The stalled chair lift named Southern Comfort was no comfort and was avoided like the plague for the rest of the trip. A little "Southern Comfort" would have gone a long way with that hot chocolate.

TSC final showdown would have not been complete without the Welcome Party! Again the wine flowed freely and we welcomed a couple of new members to the fold with an appropriate celebration. **Carol Newman** joined us from San Antonio and quickly caught on to **Nora Cortez'** contagious laughter. We all laughed and listened to the "tall mountain" ski stories from the day.

Although it was a bit wet, the group enjoyed a fabulous sleigh ride and dinner at the Lone Mountain Ranch thanks to the recommendation of **Kathy Young**. It was like traveling back in time. The cabin was totally lit with candles and lanterns. Prime rib was slowly roasted and fresh bread was baked on the 100-year old wood burning stove that once prepared meals for the railroad workers. Wine, laughter and song flowed freely. Topping the night off, we all joined in singing "Deep in the Heart of Texas".

The food was great all over the mountain. We gathered bright and early every morning to discuss the upcoming day's events and significant points from the day before at the fantastic breakfast buffet. This was a great way to start the day.

Dinner plans turned out to be a bit harrowing for the first group to venture down the mountain in the motor coach, a.k.a. old, dilapidated school bus with a crazy driver. Taking an icy curve at 60 miles an hour was a bit much. We're an adventurous group but not just that much. Upon arrival at the restaurant, the group was quite shaken up. The Mi Luna restaurant made the trip worthwhile. The highly acclaimed restaurant Buck T-4 served us well. Just about everyone made a trip there during the week. **Bob Debell** enjoyed it so much that he decided to stay longer and almost missed the bus back to the lodge.

St Patrick's Day found us a bit spread out. A large group ventured a couple of hours away to Bridger Bowl for some glade skiing. Upon arrival to Bridger, we were greeted by a wonderful group of

(Continued on page 8)

BIG TIME IN BIG SKY- MARCH 2004 (CONTINUED)



Koedding, Evans and Kane Reunion

ski ambassadors to show us the mountain. Of course, après-ski did not pass us by and we all enjoyed spring-like weather on the deck.

TSC Final Showdown would not be complete without the races and SCSC was well

represented on the winners' podium. Our most determined finisher was **Shannon Powers** who crossed the finish line on one ski, earning SCSC another all important point. Thanks **Shannon**. A wax lesson provided by **Bill Bomberger** (he swears) resulted in **Lori Gilliland** and **Janet McKenzie's** medals (oh, yea, it's been said that they may have beat him!) Our medal winners, each of course with a great story to tell, included **Sharon Simandl**, **Carol Newman** and the phenomenal skier **Karin Schidlowski**. Our men made a good showing as well with **Bob Wray**, **Bruce Lowther**, **Phillip Vice**, **Kurt Schidlowski**, **David Whitehead**, **Jim Hodges**, **Bill Bomberger**, **Joe Daleo**, **Dennis Stockton** and **Merrel Smith**.

Space City camaraderie was not short on the dance floor as fellow trip-goers **Lori Gilliland**, **Cindy Moore**, among several of the gentlemen like **Bruce Lowther** and **Joe Daleo** danced to a little bit of country and a little bit of rock n' roll.

Memorable sayings always come along with a group trip and this trip was no exception. Of course, the adage, "What happens on the mountain, stays on the mountain" creates an air of misbehaving, however, in **Bruce Baird's** case it's all a matter of falling and we have photos! It was reported he was in denial that the summersault-type fall occurred. Hardnosed skiers **Phillip Vice** and **David Whitehead** dared not to stop and view a map! Echoes of "put that map away Man, you're burning daylight" could be heard periodically the first couple of days.

We take care of our own, too. **Janet McKenzie** kindly went to advise them that fellow skier **Jeff Kovacs'** binding had broken and he was walking down the mountain. The innocent question from the lift operator of "what color is his jacket" resulted in endless laughter as the story was retold. "Hey, he's walking down the mountain!" His bright yellow jacket was a great thing for the newer skiers; he was easy to follow down the mountain. Daily, you'd see the more expert skiers unselfishly skiing with the less experienced. **Christine March** took a group on an adventure.

Departure day was equally exciting due to bit of overbooking that resulted in 4 newly found friends jetting off to Cincinnati on Delta. **Concietta**, **June**, **Marnie** and **Sharon Rance** were the adventurous ones who took advantage of the "overbooked" offer from Delta and jetted off to Ohio for the night. It paid off though, and they took the opportunity that Sunday morning to wait yet again for the next flight for more compensation. These girls are smart and were immediately planning another trip!

Old time friends **Walt Duemer** and **Tommy Thompson** were quite the pair seen here there and everywhere throughout the whole week. Quite the wild ones! A lot like **Philip Vice** and **David Whitehead**! Oh yea, **Philip**, beer does freeze.

All in all we can say we had "a Big Time in Big Sky!"



Cozy Dinner in the Cabin



Sleigh Ride to Dinner at Lone Mountain Ranch



Bruce Baird Fell for Us

AIA SANDCASTLE COMPETITION WEEKEND

By Ellen Eastham



'Ski Team' - Morning SCSC Volunteers

Space City Ski Club volunteered to work at the AIA (American Institute of Architects) Sandcastle Competition on June 5, 2004. This is the first year that an organization, other than Houston Proud, assisted as volunteers. The group was named the "Ski Team." AC **Ellen Eastham**

handed out t-shirts, wristbands, and parking passes to the enthusiastic group of 29 volunteers. The weekend of fun in Galveston began with Friday Night Beach Bash on June 4. Seven hundred tickets were sold to the Luau party held at the Hilton's swimming pool. A group from the "Ski Team" attended to enjoy the tropical evening of fun.

The Saturday, June 5, 6:00 a.m. shift saw a faint sunrise in the sky as volunteers were dispersed to entrance locations to control beach access. Other volunteer jobs were, for example, marking off with tape the 85 team sites, 22' x 25', taping the judges' viewing aisle, and driving stakes in the sand. Houston Proud and SCSC completed a multitude of tasks throughout the morning.

Wristbands allowed the group to have free food and drink from the sponsors' tents. Locating free "goodies," hats, koozies, temporary tattoos, and other items was fun! Sandcastle construction teams began at 10:00, and immediately encouraged signatures for the "Public Favorite Award." Bribes included handing out leis, beads, tattoos, and cups by gals in

bikinis. The architect groups were busy in preparation of molds, digging up sand, using a hose attached to a pressure pump from the Gulf, wetting the sand in their molds, using stencils for cutting out letters and figures. "Stompers" packed the sand, and some worked on finite details. It was amazing to walk along the 85 teams, watching their art unfold. The morning shift watched the groups in action.

The afternoon shift began at 2:00 p.m. SCSC was assigned to work with judges, lead them through pathways, and follow to keep crowds away. Houston Proud and SCSC volunteers picked up and tabulated the voting for the "Public Favorite Award."

The threat of rain existed throughout most of the day. The sun would come out, then lightning could be seen on the horizon. However, **Cathy Milkie**, head of the Houston Proud group, was confident as she predicted no rain and it stayed away all day! Awards for Sandcastle Competition winners were announced for the Golden Bucket (1st place), Silver Shovel (2nd place), Bronze Shovel (3rd place), and a dozen other awards.

In the afternoon, people were everywhere along the beach viewing and photographing the sandcastles. Some of the "Ski Team" met at Casey's for dinner, some spent Saturday night on the Island, and most drove home afterwards. All agreed it was a fabulous and worthwhile day.

Special Thanks to Volunteers: Greg Botard, Stacy Burns, Deb Cini, Ann Dorn and daughter, Ellen Eastham, Cheryl Esposito, Yvonne Guy, Tor Lileng, Ronnie Livingston, Marsha Lutz, Patti Maudslay, JoAnn McClain, Cindy Moore, Leyla Ozkardesh, Brenda Parker, Marianne Pearce, Dan Petersen, Janell Peyton, Sue Radoff, Barbara Rossetti, Peggy Schillinger, Sue Sedwick, Steve Shaddox, John Sims, Brenda Soileau, Chip Stokes, John Thayer, and Marda Waters.



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The 'Golden Bucket' Award goes to 'Castle Count Alfred'



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'Ski Team' - Afternoon SCSC Volunteers

ON THE WATER SPECTACULAR WEEKEND LIVES UP TO ITS NAME

By Cindy Moore

A week before the **On the Water Spectacular Weekend** fellow organizer, **Inga Birkenstock**, and I had a sudden terrifying thought... what if it rained on any part of our weekend? Should we make an alternate rain plan? As the final hectic planning went on, we both forgot about those worries. The snow ski and sailing gods smiled upon us as we got a weekend with no rain until our event was officially over at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday! I didn't know just how lucky we were until I drove home in a blinding downpour in Houston! The second annual big event, **July 23-25**, which mixed members and guests from the **Texas Association of Single Sailors (TASS)**, **Space City Ski Club (SCSC)** and a few from the **Clear Lake Area Ski Club (CLASC)**, was an astounding success as 212 people attended the various activities!

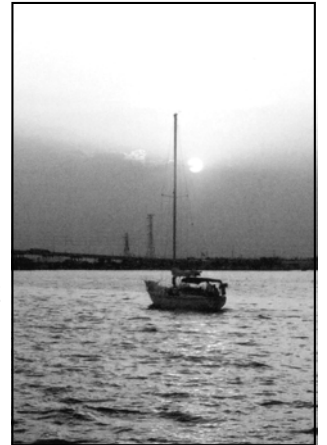
The Friday poolside dinner party featuring the **Kelly McGuire Band** pulled in 123 people. The band played outside until 10:00 p.m. and then the fun turned to the inside one-man band and music machine. He kept the attendees dancing until after midnight. The water of the pool was tempting, as the heat was oppressive at first. Later the wind kicked up and even the mosquitoes were held at bay as the concrete shook from the dancing.

Saturday's **Portofino** pool party, barbeque and sailing had 154 people checked in. As the sun beat down, the pool was the "cool" place to be when not on a boat. During the afternoon, the powerboats delighted all participants. The owners, **Ross** and **Diane Baker**, **Bill Lodato**, **Pat Fitch**, **Bob Gottlieb**, **Bob Span** and

Jet Ski owner **Andrew Clark**, were lifted to almost sainthood as the thanks poured forth from the members and guests.

The sailboat owners, **Gary Pollock**, **Steve O'Brien**, **Cheryl Morvillo**, **Brian** and **Natalie Reagan**, **Malcolm Jones**, **Susan King**, **Tal** and **Carolyn Rogers**, and **Rus Records**, were likewise placed on a pedestal as anyone who wanted to sail was given the opportunity. I personally went on an evening sail with 19 others on *Voyager*, a 47-foot Vagabond wooden beauty. We watched an incredibly red fireball set, and an equally impressive moonrise on the 3-hour tour! The pool party was still going strong as we docked.

The weekend ended with a splash at the Sunday **Seabrook Beach Club** brunch and water volleyball tournament with 72 people! The food was fabulous and SCSC took the honors of the first place trophy, beating out TASS 3 games to 1. After that, the water volleyball continued with mixed teams just for fun! As I left, the poolside band was just getting started while ominous clouds began rolling in from the north.



Sunset on Galveston Bay



Onlookers Watch Volleyball



Departing for a Night Sail



Captain Ross and Guests



The Water Spectacular Gang

WINE-TASTING EVENT 2004

By Ron Rodriguez



Ron Uncorks Fun for All

Shall I try the Merlot or the Cabernet? What about the Pinot Grigio and Chardonnay? Why not just try them all! These were some of the comments heard at **Ron and Dawn Rodriguez's 3rd Annual Wine Tasting**, held at their home on **June 19**.

The guests arrived in style and on time, with **Ron Hayes** and **Judy Shiro** arriving first, but wondering whether or not there was even a wine-tasting event. **Deborah** and **Larry Christie** walked in eager and ready to taste, while **Tor Lileng** was put to work as

soon as he entered, meticulously slicing the Rotisserie Chicken, which was to be served for dinner. As is customary at a Rodriguez Wine-Tasting, the event is to commence and sampling to begin at **Ron's** signal. However, **Marc Fellows** had other ideas. He was ready to start as soon as he arrived, as were **Gary Barrett**, **Carmen Mikhail**, **Gloria Lopez**, etc., etc., etc.

As the evening progressed, it appeared that all involved were having a blast. The wines were good and bad, the food was excellent and the camaraderie fruitful. Door prizes were awarded to lucky participants, with **Anne Dom** and **Chuck Albright** winning, just to name a few.

In summation, the evening was a success, with only minimal breakage of wine glasses and other dishes. Perhaps next year we can break more glass and take a dip into the swimming pool. Until then, see ya...



The Wine-Tasting Ladies



The Wine-Tasting Gentlemen

LEARN TO SKI TRIP- SNOWBIRD, UTAH - DECEMBER 7-12, 2004

Space City Ski Club (SCSC), along with the Texas Ski Council (TSC), is firmly committed to encouraging individuals who have never skied before to give skiing a try. SCSC further recognizes that for someone who has never skied before, mustering courage or overcoming anxiety to try it the first time can be somewhat nerve-racking.

As a result, 3 years ago, the TSC in cooperation with all of the Texas ski clubs began a program to offer a special ski trip early in the ski season that is 100% geared to beginning skiers. The trip is scheduled in early December so that once you discover you love the experience of skiing from this trip you can have the opportunity (if you wish) to participate in some of the clubs regular trips later in the year.

This year's "Learn to Ski" trip is going to **Snowbird, Utah** and is \$299. This price includes five nights lodging and a three-day beginner skier program that is inclusive of lessons, ski equipment

and lift tickets. The price does not include airfare. However, SCSC and the TSC will assist you in getting airfare to Salt Lake City if you want to participate in this trip. Airfare can probably be obtained for around \$300.

For this trip, an SCSC Trip Coordinator is not selected to run the trip because it is a combined trip with all of the other TSC member clubs. The SCSC contact is the TSC Representative for SCSC (Sean O'Brien). The person actually coordinating the trip this year will be **James Mershon**. James is a past President of the TSC and a member of the Lone Star Ski Club in Dallas.

If you wish to learn more about this trip or go on this trip, please contact:

SCSC/TSC Representative, Sean O'Brien
sbobrien@trcsolutions.com 713-787-9762



Space City Ski Club

2004-2005 Ski Trip Schedule

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 Hotel	WINTER PARK Colorado (TSC Fall Roundup) Family Optional	9/20/04	\$742 L\$433	Diane Baker John Sims (KK)	713-690-1443 713-972-1804	diane@rossbaker.com jasims@att.net
Dec 7-12, 2004 (Tues—Sun)	5/4 Hotel	** SNOWBIRD, UT ** TSC - <i>"Learn to Ski"</i>			Contact TSC Rep Sean O'Brien	713-787-9762	sbobrien@trcsolutions.com
Jan 8-15, 2005 (Sat—Sat)	7/6 Hotel	SNOWMASS - I Colorado (TSC Traditional)	10/11/04	\$998 L\$652	Bill Bomberger Gary Ladd (ML)	281-495-8668 281-265-6233	bbomberger@satake- usa.com mbasrld@aol.com
Jan 11-16, 2005 (Tues—Sun)	5/4 Hotel	SNOWMASS - II Colorado (TSC Traditional)	10/11/04	\$785 L\$439	Bill Bomberger Dana Wardell (ML)	281-495-8668 281-497-8552	bbomberger@satake- usa.com dwardell@stalkerenergy.com
Jan 21-29, 2005 (Fri—Sat)	7/6 Hotel	ST. MORITZ Switzerland	10/11/04	\$1,798 ***	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 Condo	PARK CITY Utah	10/28/04	\$866 L\$585	Jeannine Jiral Pat Piech (ML)	281-776-0424 281-531-7650	jeannine@ev1.net ppiech@ikon.com
Feb 12-19, 2005 (Sat—Sat)	7/6 Condo	COPPER MTN - I Colorado (TSC Winter Shootout)	11/08/04	\$806 L\$532	Angie Westergren Marnie Lamb (ML)	281-589-2884 713-825-1161	angie-westergren@mac-haik- ent.com mlamb1@houston.rr.com
Feb 15-20, 2005 (Tues—Sun)	5/4 Hotel	COPPER MTN - II Colorado (TSC Winter Shootout)	11/08/04	\$718 L\$440	Angie Westergren ATC-TBA (ML)	281-589-2884	angie-westergren@mac-haik- ent.com
Feb 26-Mar 5, 2005 (Sat—Sat)	7/6 Condo	VAIL Colorado	10/18/04	\$855 L\$586	Kathy Young Arlen Isham (KK)	281-497-5339 713-455-4858	snowwixen@houston.rr.com isham@kmgbernuth.com
Mar 12-19, 2004 (Sat—Sat)	7/6 Hotel	HEAVENLY - I Nevada (TSC Final Showdown) Family Optional	1/07/05	\$747 L\$408	Barb Ehrlich Bruce Baird (ML)	713-868-2470 281-496-4661	barbehrlich@houston.rr.com bruce2skis@aol.com
Mar 15-20, 2005 (Tues—Sun)	5/4 Hotel	HEAVENLY - II Nevada (TSC Final Showdown) Family Optional	1/07/05	\$669 L\$309	Barb Ehrlich Jan Ferrell (ML)	713-868-2470 281-799-0001	barbehrlich@houston.rr.com ferrellj@sbcglobal.net
Mar 26-Apr 2, 2005 (Sat—Sat)	7/6 Condo	WHISTLER Blackcomb BC, Canada	12/13/04	\$985 L\$550	Steven Teoh TBA (KK)	832-298-2893	steventeoh@remax.net

*** Breakfast and Dinner included on the St. Moritz trip.

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Mark Your Calendar:
Come to the September 20th
General Meeting to check out the
Ski Trip Tables.

All schedules subject to change