

The Sitzmarke Space City Ski Club www.sr

www.spacecity.org



Texas Ski Council

January 2003 Vol. 35 No. 9 From the Officers and Board of Directors at SCSC ...



SCSC General Meeting Monday, Jan 13, 2003 6:30 pm Holiday Inn Select – 2712 Southwest Fwy @ Kirby Drive

Happy Hour - Thursday, January 16 - The Brownstone



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Ladye Frietag

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Please contact Sue Bohnert to Volunteer

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SITZMARKE

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Volume 35, No. 9

January 2003

Head of the Liftline

I hope everyone had a joyous Holiday Season and I hope you are all excited about skiing. Perhaps each of you received some neat new "ski gadget" for a present that you will be soon trying out on the slopes.

January marks the first extensive month of skiing for our club this season, with SCSC taking trips to Whistler, Vail and Lillehammer. At last count, over 220 of our club members will be going skiing this month. That's awesome. Your TC's and ATC's have done an excellent job organizing these trips for you and I have no doubt that anyone who ski's this month will have a great time. I am sure there will be many wild stories at our February meeting.

With the ski season in full swing, now is the best opportunity to get new members into our club. The weather is cooler and a week of skiing sounds like the perfect escape from all the daily stress of everyday living in Houston. I hope everyone is out there talking to friends and co-workers about becoming members in SCSC.

Our Sunshine Kids Auction was a huge success in which we raised \$10,000 for this great organization. To all of you who participated by either donating items, bidding on items or assisting Nancy with the logistics, I thank each of you for giving a little of yourself at this time of year.

(Why are chair lift operators only given half hour lunch breaks? Answer: If they were given any longer, they would have to be retrained.)

For the latest ski club info, membership inquiries, and activities:

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB HOT LINE 713-688-SCSC

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB WEB PAGE
http://www.spacecity.org



Join your SCSC friends in the **Bad Blades Rollerblade Group** every Sunday morning

9:00am - Workout Skate 10:00am - Social Skate

For the weekly meeting place, check out www.badblades.org Bikers welcome



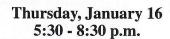
"... a week of skiing sounds like the perfect escape ..."

Happy Hour



The Brownstone

2736 Virginia (713) 520-5666





Appetizers & a Cash Bar

General Meeting - January 13, 2003

Program: Z Krewe (Mardi Gras Galveston)

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New (& Younger) Member Mixers!



Friday, Jan. 10 6:00p - 9:00p



6400 Richmond Ave. Karaoke Room on 1st Flr.

Free Steak buffet Dinner, \$1.50 You-Call-It drinks, no cover. Valet parking, or free parking at 6420/6430 Richmond Ave.

Friday, Feb. 7 6:00p - ???



3122 Dunvale (713) 977-3515

Free Appetizer Spread! Happy Hour prices til 9pm.
Matt Leddy & the Meat Cutters @ 9:30pm.
No Cover. Lots of parking.



Guidelines:

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

AC: Cindy Moore (713) 984-1060

CALENDAR

		Ja	nu	ary		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5 12 19	6 13 20 27	7 14 21 28	1 8 15 22 29	2 9 23 30	3 17 24 31	18 25

SCSC ExComm Meeting
N&Y Member Mixer-TTown 2000
Lazer Tag
SCSC General Meeting
HappyHr/C&W Dance Lesson-Brownstone
Super Bowl Party

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29	30	31				

March	
TBA	SCSC ExComm Meeting
TBA	SCSC Board Meeting
9	SCSC General Meeting
	HappyHour-Cosmos Cafe
25	N&Y Member Mixer-Two Rows



(Picture by C. Guerra)

"I trust
everyone
started off the
New Year with
a BANG!!!"



HAPPY NEW YEAR – I trust everyone started off the New Year with a BANG!!! (and maybe a ski trip?)

Our Whistler Trip departed January 4—what a way to begin the New Year. Many thanks to Patty Finch, Larry Christie, Hope Flynn and Carmen Mikhail for their hard work...I know the trip participants will reap the rewards of their leaders' efforts.

The TCs and ATCs have worked for many months to setup a fun trip with the basic air, lodging, transfers and club parties. The participants have signed up. What's next? **PRE-TRIP Meeting** You will be notified of the date, time, and place. This meeting is *very* important. This is your opportunity to prepurchase lift tickets, which are usually at a discounted rate. This is also your opportunity to meet the other participants on the trip, sign-up for a roommate, or find one. Find skiers of your ability. Many new friendships have developed from the meeting and the trips. You will also receive other optional activity information, which is designed to enhance your trip experience.

As we approach the New Year and many trips begin departing – Have an excellent trip and *THINK* SNOW!!!

Trip Updates:

Whistler, BC, Canada: At the time you receive the Sitzmarke 100+ lucky skiers/snowboarders will be "swooshing" down the mountain trails at Whistler. I know they are having a wonderful trip.

<u>Vail:</u> Just a few days away from departure. Wish them an "EXCELLENT" adventure!

<u>Lillehammer, Norway:</u> With a January departure, these lucky travelers will be on their way to Lillehammer. With a pre trip to Copenhagen Denmark and post trips to St. Petersburg & Moscow, Russia I am sure they will have lots of pictures to share – look for the article in a future Sitzmarke.

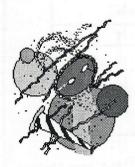
<u>Steamboat:</u> Arrive just a short distance from the resort and then stay right on the slopes so you will never get lost—day or night! Ski/snowboard hard on their famous "Champagne Powder" and then enjoy the night-life — PARTY...Yes PARTY!! We arrive just in time to enjoy the festivities of Winter Carnival.

Jackson Hole: Visit the "Wild West" where the view is breathtaking, the slopes are uncrowded and the powder is deep—skiers/snowboarders wanted for fun and adventure.

Lake Tahoe: How about a place where the night-life is as captivating as the skiing? The "Ides of March" begins with this breathtakingly beautiful destination.

<u>Quebec, QB, Canada:</u> Madames et Messieurs, we welcome you to the last ski season destination...one of the oldest French Settlements in North America...partake in this wonderful adventure.

(A business man called and had a question about the documents he needed in order to fly to Norway/Russia. After a lengthy discussion about passports, I reminded him he needed a visa. "Oh no I don't, I've been to China many times and never had to have one of those." I double checked, and sure enough, his stay required a visa. When I told him this he said, "Look, I've been to Norway/Russia 4 times and every time they have accepted my American Express.")



Travel Advisory

Please be aware that, when travelling by air, you must provide a picture ID in order to board any of the major airlines.

It is not uncommon for travellers to lose or misplace a picture identification when in a foreign country. This creates a problem for those attempting to board a plane to their next destination or to return home.

One good suggestion is to always carry two picture ID's, (e.g., your drivers license and your passport). While travelling, keep them in two different locations. Then, if one is missing, you will still have the second ID to use for travel purposes.



Space City Ski Club 2002-2003 Ski Trip Schedule

Vice President of Trips
Sue Bohnert
713-467-5027
sebohnert@ev1.net

Director of Trips
Christine March (CM)
281-491-1129
christine.a.march@usdoj.gov



"Let us continue to build as we move into the new year ..."

Merry New Year! Can you believe we are entering 2003! It seems as if only yesterday we were worrying about Y2K issues and the world ceasing to exist as we know it. My, how time and skiers fly! It is time to start anew and rally for roadtrips, bowling, laser tag, and of course skiing as the new year kicks off with a buzz! Obviously, there are numerous other activities scheduled for the new year, but I only have so much room to write. Hopefully, your calendars are as full as mine due to all the activities which you have graciously signed up to participate in and indulge with fellow members.

As you are aware, upcoming ski trips are packed with lots of fun people. So many trips so little time. If you are signed up for one, you are sure to have a blast. For those who are not, it is definitely your loss! In addition check out the list below with lots of great activities to choose from.

Jumping back to some of more memorable December events, ravishing thanks and congratulations to Nancy Sarff for organizing the Sunshine Kids Auction. It was exciting and exhilarating as Joe Walker conducted the auction with skill and artistry, not to mention humor. Rock on Big Joe!

Rita Tucker Wright was masterful in orchestrating the Christmas Holiday Gala, which was a big success. For those who attended, did we not party! Please feel free to send me some of the more interesting "behind closed door" stories, as I would love to hear about them.

2002 was a fantastic year for the club and we strive to improve and grow every year. We added new, quality members to the club and have really strived to add numerous activities and events to offset the ski season, with much success. Let us continue to build as we move into the new year and participate, participate, participate! You cannot build new friendships, party and party some more without participatin

ACTIVITY			FINAL PMT			
DATE	ACTIVITY	COORDINATOR	CONTACT #	DATE	Cost	
2003 1/10	N&Y Member Mixer - TTown 2000	Cindy Moore		-		
1/11	Lazer Tag	Lee White	(281) 477-8803	12/9	\$18	
1/16	Happy Hour - The Brownstone	Laura Carmin		_	_	
1/16	C&W Dance Lesson @ HappyHour	Dawn Edwards	(713) 729-7639	1/13	\$4	
1/26	SuperBowl Party	Becky Maitland	(281) 498-4457	1/20	\$5	
2/7	N&Y Member Mixer - The Hideaway	Cindy Moore		The Later	_	
2/9	Bowling Tournament	Gerry Simpson	(713) 984-9641	1/20	\$20	
2/20	Happy Hour - Wild West	Laura Carmin		- 32	_	
2/21-23	Mardi Gras-Galveston	Ellen Eastham	(281) 989-9935	2/3	\$137	
3/20	Happy Hour - City Streets	Laura Carmin		-		
3/25	N&Y Member Mixer - Two Rows	Cindy Moore		_	_	

BE A STAR!!!

SCSC is always on the lookout for great volunteers to plan & help coordinate various activities for the upcoming year.

Please contact Dawn if you have ideas or are interested in running an activity!

Dawn Rodriguez, VP Programs (713) 728-1955 or dawn.c.rodriguez@chase.com

SCSC Activity

MARDI GRAS IN GALVESTON

SALUTES

RAINFORESTS OF THE WORLD

February 21-23, 2003

Mystic Krewe of Aquarius Parade
Z Procession Parade
Commodore on the Beach Hotel

Price: \$137 Final Pmt Date: 2/3/2003 AC: Ellen Eastham (281) 989-9935

LESSONS IN MEMBERSHIP

It requires a lot of effort to run a social club such as Space City Ski Club. The next few Membership Lessons articles will introduce you to the large group of volunteers who put forth this effort, and will try to give you some insight into how they find themselves in the role of volunteer and why they do it. It is our hope that by better understanding the hows and whys of volunteering in SCSC that you may decide to join the ranks of these special individuals.

The Nominating Committee

Each year SCSC looks for volunteers to "take the reins" of the club as the upcoming years' club officers (see the Sept. 2002 Sitzmarke for a discussion of the officers and their duties). The task of finding these volunteers falls largely to the Nominating Committee (NC).

The Committee is a group of seven members appointed by the President of the club, and approved by the Executive Committee (the officers) each year in September. The President must make sure that the Nominating Committee has "not less than four nor more than five past officers of the Club" (Bylaw Article 4.4), with the remaining two or three members being "members in good standing".

Once the Committee is formed, the work begins! The members of the NC meet several times over the next three to four months. They attend the General Meetings and Happy Hours, distributing applications and talking to as many eligible candidates as possible. The Nominating Committee's job is to present one nominee for each office to the membership at the February General Meeting. Eligible individuals may also be nominated from the floor at that time. Election of officers is held at the Annual Meeting in March.

So, why do we have a Nominating Committee? Why not just let those who want to run all be nominated from the floor in February? In short, the Nominating Committee helps to ensure that we have a complete slate of officers to vote on when March rolls around. Imagine what would happen if there were no nominees for VP of Programs or for President in February!!! There would be a rush to find candidates, and no time to present them (if they were found) to the membership before the election. If a candidate could not be found for one or more offices, how would the club operate in the coming year?

So, during the period from September to January, these volunteers help those who offer themselves as candidates to understand what is involved in performing the duties of each of the offices. In addition, if there are multiple candidates for one or two offices, and none for another, they work with the prospective candidates in order to, hopefully, spread the talent among the available positions. Finally, when there are not enough volunteers to fill all of the available positions, the NC members begin early to "beat the bushes" to find those who have "not yet volunteered".

Continued on page 9

Classified Ad

For Sale: Ladies Bogner ski suit, size 10, with matching hat. Season's hottest color. Call (713) 785-6825 for details.

Classified Ad

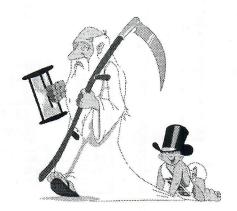
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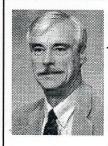
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or olstadpm@aol.com

Classified Ad

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Oh! What a stroke of genius to have the First Annual Ron Rodriguez SCSC Rollerblading Invitational on November 23 at Cullen Park. The weather conditions were phenomenal, with blue skies and cool temperatures to provide maximum "blading" capabilities for our eager participants.

The day began inauspiciously, as **Sue Salvage** arrived first, wondering if she possessed the prowess to "hang" with some of the other "bladers" who had yet to arrive. I simply instructed her to stretch, pray and have a cold beer! What a trooper she was! Next to arrive was **Keith Kirkman**. Talk about being prepared, Keith was a walking Rollerblading billboard? (No pun intended) He had all the appropriate garb and blades to go along with his grasp of the vernacular when describing the intricacies of proper rollerblading.

As Mary Ann Harrell and Dawn Edwards pulled into the park, the stage was almost set, until it took Mary Ann forever to put her blades on and prepare for battle. Dawn simply grabbed a cold beer, expressed her lack of concern for how she skated and said "I'M READY." Dawn Rodriguez, the skating and skiing general that she is, had been prepared since arrival and was simply barking instructions to the gracious

host, yours truly, to prepare lunch for the troops after rollerblading was completed.

At the last instant, when lift-off was approaching, but who should appear, two additional bladers in **Gary Barrett** and **Dale Albritton**. So, off they went to conquer the slopes and streets of Cullen Park as I hastily prepared a meal fit for the heartiest of appetites.....processed weenies, hamburgers, chips, and dessert, to be washed down with cold brews of their choice.

The event was a success as no injuries were sustained. But, lessons were learned when the day was complete. Rollerblading is for fun, and with Ron at the helm, things are certain to get wild. So, mark your calendar now — the next event I host will be sure to be a blast, and if you are not in attendance for that, you can simply kiss my ass.

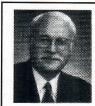
Peace



Ross, Banks, May, Cron & Cavin, P.C. Attorneys at Law

J. Richard Hall Attorney - Mediator

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SCSC Activity

LAZER TAG

Saturday, January 11, 2003 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Hunt, Hide, Form Coalitions, Shoot-em-up -- You never had so much fun!

Price: \$18 Final Pmt Date: 12/09/2002 AC: Lee White (281) 477-8803



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SCSC Activity

DANCE LESSONS AT THE SCSC HAPPY HOUR

January 16, 2003 C & W



Enjoy the Happy Hour. Learn a New Step or Two. Singles or Couples

Price: \$4 ea. lesson Final Pmt Date: Call for Details AC: Dawn Edwards (713) 729-7639



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SCSC Activity

BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Sunday, February 9, 2003



Have a great time at a place where striking out is a good thing!

Price: \$20 AC: Gerry Simpson (713) 984-9641

Lessons – Continued from page 7

There often will be more than one member volunteering for a given office. When this happens, the NC members must select one from those who have expressed a desire to serve. This is often the hardest job of the Committee, because it is hard to turn down anyone who wants to volunteer their time for the Club. The guiding principal that the NC follows in this instance is to present a slate of officer candidates whom they believe will best be able to work together to serve the membership.

As you can see from the preceding description, serving on the Nominating Committee is hard work, but it is also an invaluable service to Space City Ski Club. The NC will present their nominees in next month's Sitzmarke and at the General Meeting. When you see one of these individuals, let them know that you appreciate their efforts in ensuring that SCSC runs smoothly through another year of fun and friendship.

This year's Nominating Committee is:

Cheryl May - Chair

Ladye Freitag

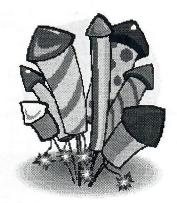
Jason McCanna

Leyla Ozkardesh

Ron Rodriguez

Sue Salvage

Debbie Warren



Final Pmt Date: 1/14/2003



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Patti Maudslay, Sue Bohnert, her Mom, Llonna Doubet, and Marianne Pearce met at the Spaghetti Warehouse before the haunted tour for dinner. We had a 10% discount because we were on the tour. All of us had ghost stories or experiences to tell each other during our dinner, so we were in the mood when we went upstairs to meet Scott Arthur and Sandy Webb, our tour guides.

Scott gave us an introduction to the world of the paranormal. Everyone got to hold an Electromagnetic Field meter (EMF). It would tell us if we were in the area of a spirit. Jason McCanna and his friend got high readings immediately. How nice that Dawn and Ron Rodriguez with Dawn Edwards were able to get on at the last minute because some seats were available on the bus. Scott says that the Spaghetti Warehouse is the most haunted place in Texas. Llonna went into the kitchen and felt something push her out, but it wasn't VISIBLE! There are many stories told by employees about weird sightings and happenings there. Yvonne Guy thought a new friend might be following her out to the bus. She had a high reading on her EMF as she was walking out the door and it stayed high until she got on the bus.

Our next stop was Houston's oldest and most mysterious cemetery, going back to 1836. There were mass graves and some of the Allen brothers' family are buried there. Christine Tremonte was glad to have her date by her side as we walked around the tombstones in the dark. Others tried to pose with the ghosts for photos.

Back on the bus and on to an old stage coach stop turned pub called the Brewery Tap. After that we went to the Julia Ideson library. Mr. Cramer and his dog still patrol the grounds and we put our hands on his tree to feel the warm spot



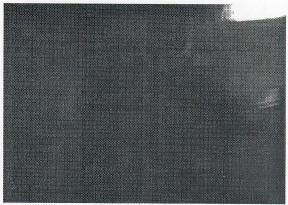
Next, it was on to the "hanging tree" that is across from the County Court house. We saw videos of current employees telling stories about spooky things that go on up there, even now.

Our last and most awesome stop was the most frightening and sad. The first Jeff Davis Hospital was built on top of 10,000 restless souls, on a burial ground denounced by the city officials. Our cameras were really clicking here. We will look for orbs, ectoplasm, and vortexes on our photos. This indicates that presence of spirit.

All enjoyed the tour, especially from the historical viewpoint. We can send our photos to their website. Be sure you go to: www.highspiritstours.com to see the ethereal apparitions from past tours.







Ghosts? Really bad photography? You Decide!!!





How about some spirits to go with your Spirits?



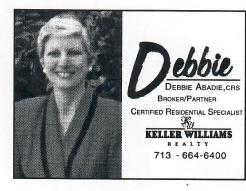
SCSC Activity

COSTA RICA

June 28 - July 6, 2003

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Price: \$1,529 Final Pmt Date: 3/10/2003 AC: Marsha Lutz (281) 870-9724 mlutz@erm.com AAC: Bill Raley (281) 873-8730 davisraley@pocketmail.com



Boise Cascade







Texas Ski Council Sponsors



SCSC Activity

Super Bowl Party

ZEN, 1100 Wilcrest (@ Briarforest)

Sunday, January 26, 2003 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

It's a Super Bowl Party!!! . Private room for SCSC with Big Screen TV. Cash Bar/Cash Food Service.

Price: \$5

Final Pmt Date: 1/20/2003

AC: Becky Maitland

(281) 498-4457 ladymaitland@msn.com

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