June, 2001



Have You Renewed Your Membership Yet?!?



No General Meeting in June, July, or August
Next General Meeting - Sept. 10, 2001

at Holiday Inn Select • 6:30 p.m. • 2712 Southwest Freeway at Kirby
(additional parking available at the Red Cross next door)

Happy Hour June 21st at The Elbow Room

SPACECITYSKICLUB
P.O. Box 22567
Houston, Texas 77227



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SITZMARKE

The Sitzmarke is published monthly by the SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

Printed by Holly Pro Graphics

Volume 34, No.2

June 2001

Head of the Liftline

by John Rice



It's summertime, and for those of you new to the Club, this means there are no general meetings during the summer months. We will resume our monthly meetings in September. This does not mean that there is nothing going on with the Club; on the contrary, next year's ski schedule is being finalized and activities are being scheduled.

Our VP of Trips, Patti Maudslay, has given the Board a preview of her trip schedule and it really looks exciting. We already know the Council trips, but don't ask any of us any questions about the other

destinations, because we are leaving that for Patti to surprise everyone. But seriously, she has done a wonderful job putting together a list of trips that I think the whole Club will enjoy. She has also put together a great group of trip leaders and assistants. Thanks to all who volunteered, because without you the trips would not happen.

The same goes for activities. Our VP of Programs, Jerry Sadler, has a huge list of activities he is planning for the upcoming year. So give him a call or drop him an e-mail if you would like to run an activity.

Every year the Board of Directors appoints a Texas Ski Council representative and alternate. This year, I am very proud to announce that Peggy Montgomery has been approved as the TSC representative, and Jim Edwards has been approved as the alternate. Both of these people are long time members of SCSC and have a tremendous amount of experience dealing with our club and the Texas Ski Council. Peggy has been an officer of the Council for the last three years and Jim was our TSC representative last year, as well as a past President of SCSC. I have the utmost confidence in both of these people, and I know that the interests of SCSC will be well represented.

This month's Happy Hour will be at The Elbow Room at 5757 Westheimer on June 21st. See ya there!

IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP....

THIS WILL BE YOUR <u>LAST</u> ISSUE OF THE SITZMARKE!!!!

Do you love racing, working with people, & have good organizational skills?

Then SCSC NEEDS YOU to volunteer for

SCSC RACE DIRECTOR

Contact Patti Maudslay (713) 532-1610



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SCSC Activity
Happy Hour

The Elbow Room

5757 Westheimer (832-242-0975) (between Chimney Rock & Fountainview)



Complimentary Buffet, Happy Hour Prices

Thursday, June 21 5:30 pm - Band at 9 pm

SCSC Activity

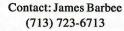
Brazos Bend Bicycle Ride and Exotic Wildlife Observation Tour

20 Miles of Hike & Bike Trails June 23, 2001 - 9:00 a.m.

Activity Fee: \$10.00 (lunch & drinks included) plus \$3 per person park admisson fee



Final Payment Date: June 21 (Happy Hour)





SCSC Activity

Miller Outdoor Theater

July 21, 2001

TUTS Production of

"Pump Boys and Dinettes"

BYOB & Picnic: 7:30 PM - Showtime 8:30 PM

Free Event!

Contact: Claire Finn (713) 467-6187

CALENDAR

		J	une			
S	M	T	W	Т	F	S
3 17 24	4 11 18 25	5 19 26	6 13 20 27	7 14 20 28	1 8 15 22 29	2 0 16 33 30

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	(19)	20	01
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	(30)	(31)		(<u>9</u>)		

July
TBASCSC Ex Comm Meeting
19 Happy Hour-TBA
21 Miller Outdoor Theater
7/30-8/5 Grand Canyon River Rafting Trip

	August					
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
12 19	6 13 20 27	7 14 21 28	15 22 29	@9 @23 30	3 10 17 24 31	4 1 3

August	
7/30-8/5	Grand Canyon River Rafting Trip
	SCSC Ex Comm Meeting
16	Happy Hour-TBA
18	Miller Outdoor Theater
25	Miller Outdoor Theater



The summer is starting to heat up and so is our trip schedule. While you are enjoying your summer activities, we have dedicated volunteers working hard behind the scenes to bring you the best trip experience possible. Our Trip Coordinators (TCs) and Assistant Trip Coordinators (ATCs) are now in place and already working hard to secure the best air, lodging, and party locations for our exciting destinations. Of course the two DOTs, Jessica and Sue, are assisting. I could not do all this without them. Thanks to everyone for your help.

We would like to thank each person who volunteered to be an ATC. We were fortunate to have more candidates than openings, so not everyone was selected to assist with a trip. Our club could not run without the help of dedicated people like you, and we hope you will volunteer to run an activity this year and please volunteer for a trip again next year.

Here is a quick review of the Texas Ski Council (TSC) trips:

Fall Roundup
Traditional
Expedition
Winter Shootout
Final Showdown

Copper Mountain, CO
Lake Louise, Canada
Anders (between France and San

Andorra (between France and Spain) Durango, CO

Alyeska, AL

Nov. 20-25, 2001

Jan. 5-12, 2002

Jan. 26-Feb. 2, 2002

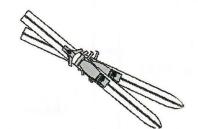
Feb. 9-16, 2002 Mar. 1-9, 2002

We have a great schedule coming together for club trips including favorites like Aspen, Big Sky, and Sun Valley plus a few other surprises with something for everyone.

Be sure to renew your membership now so you can participate in the early mail-in sign up in August. It will be here before you know it and you don't want to miss out on getting your favorite trip!

Have a fun June! See you next month.

















Texas Ski Council Sponsors 2000-2001

Remember - for the latest ski club information, membership inquiries, and activities - call the

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB HOT LINE 713-688-SCSC

Visit our Web Page
http://www.spacecity.org



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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.unobyte.freeservers.com or call 281-498-8185

Bikers welcome



SCSC's TSC officers: Jeff Sarff, Kayleen Kill, Susan Blome & Gary Butler



Delegates and members from 17 ski clubs in Texas attended the annual TSC Bid Meeting in San Antonio the weekend of April 6-8, 2001. Included in that number were SCSC's seven Delegates (Jim Edwards, Susan Blome, Patti Maudslay, Jane Orr, John Rice, Stacey Ronczy, and Richard Hall) and quite a few SCSC Officers, Board Members, and members, approximately 30 SCSCers in all. Susan Blome capably handled the duties of Bid Meeting Coordinator this year, with the much appreciated help of many volunteers.

While some enjoyed a few leisurely hours shopping or otherwise recreating where they could, the delegates and many others spent the better part of one-and-a-half days listening to the proposals of enthusiastic representatives of 20 resorts and tour operators. Each resort operator did their best to convince the clubs that their resort package was the one to select for a given TSC trip.

In order to recover from a long day of presentations and announcements, club members and resort reps sincerely enjoyed the Saturday evening dinner, dance, live auction and silent auction. Dozens and dozens of cascarones (confetti filled eggs) were liberally smashed on the heads of friends, lovers, and even strangers – I'm still finding confetti!

SCSC Activity

Miller Outdoor Theater August 18, 2001 Romeo and Juliet

BYOB & Picnic 7:30 PM - Showtime 8:30 PM

This may be your last chance to see the original version before the script is improved by making it compatible with next year's Follies thene!

Free Event!

Contact: TBA



On Sunday, the decisions had to be made. For many club members who had not attended the Bid Meeting in the past, the process by which the clubs vote and select each year's TSC trips was a learning experience. And now – the results:

Trip
Fall Roundup
Traditional
Winter Shootout
Final Showdown
Expedition

Destination
Copper Mountain, Colorado
Lake Louise, Canada
Durango, Colorado
Alyeska, Alaska
Andorra (between Spain & France)

In addition, the new TSC officers for the coming year were elected, and SCSC is well represented:

President
VP Marketing
Secretary
Treasurer
VP Fall Roundup
VP Traditional
VP Winter Shootout
VP Final Showdown
Past President
Expedition Coord.

James Mershon (Lone Star Skiers)
Ray Harvey (Los Amigos)
Susan Blome (Space City Ski Club)
Jeff Sarff (Space City Ski Club)
Sandy Ellison (Flatlanders Ski Club)
Gary Butler (Space City Ski Club)
Caryne Prater (Corpus Christi Skiers)
Kayleen Kill (Space City Ski Club)
Karen Mann (Lone Star Skiers)
Sherry Fowler (Los Amigos)

Thanks to those who attended and helped make it a fun weekend.



SCSC Activity

Miller Outdoor Theater

August 25, 2001 La Boheme

BYOB & Picnic 7:30 PM Showtime 8:30 PM

Free Event!

Contact: TBA

V. P. Programs



The song may talk about "lazy, hazy days of summer," but there is nothing lazy about Space City skiers and non-skiers. Monthly meetings are over until September, but happy hours and activities continue year round. My year as your Vice President of Programs got off to a great start with activities already planned by your past VP of Programs, Joe Walker, and his able assistant, Diane Stotz. Cinco de Mayo was celebrated at

Thai Spice restaurant with twenty-four members enjoying Hispanic delicacies of the types found in the Far East, followed by over forty members who kept the dance floor full all evening at The Big Easy. Thanks to Claire Finn for sponsoring this successful event.

What a treat to be followed on May 21 by this year's Follies, the Rocky Mountain Picture Show, produced by Peggy Montgomery, and including a startling cameo appearance by Joe Walker and his Harley-Davidson. You can experience a more tamed down version of the Follies any Saturday night at the River Oaks Theatre for the Rocky Horror Picture Show. May wound up the way it started, dancing at the Longhorn Saloon Happy Hour. Thanks again to Laura Carmin who is continuing into her second year as your Happy Hour Coordinator. She has the June 21 Happy Hour scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. at The Elbow Room where the band and the dancing start at 9:00 p.m.

This year we are planning "no reservations required activities" for the weekends immediately following meetings and/or happy hours in order that visitors and new members will have places to go and things to do with SCSC immediately after they get involved. The kick-off event for this effort will be on June 23 with the annual Brazos Bend Bike Ride and Exotic Wild Life Observation Tour starring such wild life as lots of alligators, lots of mosquitos, and one

activity coordinator, James Barbee.

Coming also in June is the Volunteer Party honoring all of you who did so much to make the past year such a success. If you haven't received an invitation, it's because you missed the fun of volunteering with the club this past year. But it's not too late to get in on part of the fun by volunteering NOW to work at the June 10th Volunteer Party. If you want to work on the games, such as volleyball using water balloons, call Ellen Eastham at 281-997-1496. To help with food or other activities, call me at 713-522-5121 or Diane Stotz at 713-862-9486.

Other SCSC activities are already on the summer schedule at the Miller Outdoor Theatre — July 21 for the TUTS production of Pump Boys and Dinettes, a musical version of the 1950s service station -diner scene; August 18 for Billy Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet; and August 25 for the opera, La Boheme.

Here's wishing you all a great summer, even without snow around.



LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN (& WOMEN)!!!

Space City needs volunteers to plan and run various activities in the upcoming year and a **DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS** to assist the VP of Programs.

Please contact:

Jerry Sadler (713) 522-5121

Activity	Activity Coordinator	Activity Date	Final Payment Date	Cost
Brazos Bend Bike Ride	James Barbee (713) 723-6713	June 23	N/A	\$10 & \$3
Miller Outdoor Theater	Claire Finn (713) 467-6187	July 21	N/A	\$ -0-
Grand Canyon Raft Trip	Diane McKenzie (281) 471-5291	July 30 -Aug. 5	Feb. 12	\$1,835
Miller Outdoor Theater	TBA	August 18	N/A	\$ - 0 -
Miller Outdoor Theater	TBA	August 25	N/A	\$ - 0 -

Fredericksburg Wine Tour



What do Harley Fat Boys, Texas wildflowers, and Wine Tasting have in common? SCSC'S easy rider trip to Fredericksburg!

Many of the trip participants took off work Friday to arrive in Fredericksburg early in the day. The Montgomerys and Kennys even came up a day early - going to Fredericksburg via San Antonio. A group of early arrivals went to one of the local Biergartens to get into vacation mode. A few folks arrived late. Elaine Schoch and Linda Patterson came to the Welcome Party straight from work - complete in their work clothes. After their long drive, they decided to leave the Welcome Party early to get some dinner. Harvey Hatling also decided that something more than appetizers was called for, so he snuck out to a German restaurant to sample sauerbraten for his first meal in Fredericksburg. Kayleen Kill and John Rice started out the day with the Shell Open and then continued their day of fun and frolic when they arrived at the Welcome Party around nine o'clock. The Welcome Party was such a success that we had to make 2 extra runs to the liquor store for more wine! This seemed appropriate since we were all on the trip to sample wines. The wines at the Welcome Party were a remembrance of Peggy Montgomery's 1998 trip to Italy. On that trip we went to the Cavit winery and came away with some true favorites. We felt this trip would start off with a previous SCSC success and serve as a springboard to discover some wonderful Texas wines. The snacks were a success, but the Amaretto Torte for dessert received rave reviews.

Saturday morning some folks decided to go off on their own. Sue Edwards, Nancy Sarff, Kay Cain shopped till they dropped in town. Penny Chancy went out to the Fair Grounds to see what was available at the Antique Festival. Jim Edwards, Jeff Sarff, and Ed Cain tried to set up a golf foursome with Steve Kenny. However, his ATC mule duties did not allow him to make the 7:45 T-time. Ed set the tone for competition by starting out the morning by 4-putting the 1st hole, but Jim reported it went "up hill" from there. Floyd Hanks and Ginger Howard-Hanks took the morning to check out a Rose Farm to see if they could find some specialty roses for their garden. While the roses didn't pan out, they got a great mirror for the mantle in their new home.

We started out Saturday with a drive along the Willow City Loop. This scenic drive of 13 miles has beautiful outcroppings,

wild flowers, and streams that cross the road. One of the unexpected benefits (?) of the weekend was that Harley Davidson clubs were participating in a fund raiser rally. Joe Walker and Gene Soo were sorry they didn't know about this event ahead of time, as they would have brought their bikes along for the weekend. The bikers we doing a good job of attracting the single (and married!) women on our trip. More than one person attempted to make friends to get a ride! At our first stop along the scenic drive, Claire Finn asked one of the bikers if she could take a picture with him on his bike. He was glad to accommodate so she and Linda Morrison captured a Kodak moment. Jerry Sadler knew how to solve the problem of bikers luring the SCSC women away from our group. He loaded up his car with women for the tour to make sure he had a chance to get to know Claire Finn, Linda Walters, Linda Morrison, and Barb Hefron. We had so much fun on this excursion that we were 30 minutes late for our first winery tour! (We were to learn later that it might have been better to pass this one up!) When we arrived at Bell Mountain, Lee Swords, Sandy Cox, Joe Walker, Gene Soo, Craig & Sy Liebergot, Suzan Miles, and Annette Brown were also being entertained by bikers as this winery was a stop on their

The weekend of April 20th is the annual Wine and Wildflower Trail. While many wineries participate in this annual event, the SCSC group limited their visits to two wineries. Bell Mountain Winery was first on our list. Our tour guide was delightful, but this vineyard did not get high marks from the SCSC crowd. There was general consensus on the Mead sweet dessert wine, but the other wines got mixed reviews. Harvey Hatling helped out by finishing the wine samples for several folks.

Everyone made different choices for lunch, with plans to meet at Beckers Winery at 3:00. Cheryl Kenny couldn't get the Montgomerys, Liebergots, Suzan Miles, Annette Brown, Harvey Hatling, Sylvia Hudspeth, and Millie Jude to leave the Herb Farm after lunch, so she was AGAIN late for the Winery Tour. Sylvia Hudspeth and Millie Jude decided that Fredericksburg was a shopper's paradise, so they opted to drop out of the afternoon activities to explore the antique shops in town. Since the Sarffs, Edwards, Cains, Kill/Rices, Lee Swords, Joe Walker, and Sandy

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Big Mountain Motana was the place in March 2001! This group of anxious skiers became good friends and enjoyed many wonderful times in Whitefish, Montana.

Off to a slow start, Delta Airlines greeted the group with regrets,

no airplane! No matter, we got a free trip to Salt Lake City where we visited the Mormon Temple, shopped and drank beer at one of the great breweries in town.

Although we arrived 24 hours late, a most hospitable group greeted us. Some skied on Sunday, but many spent the day shopping and setting up ski equipment.

The week brought a few snow showers and some great sun. Big Mountain, well known for its wide cruisers, gave us many

days of spring skiing.

Meanwhile, at the ranch, Ellen conjured up several wonderful events. A great country dinner with sleigh rides, a day in Glacier Park, and many dinners through the week were enjoyed by all.

For the grand finale, Ellen and Jeff gave a last day party. Ellen wrote a poem describing much of the week and all had a wonderful evening.

Thanks to everyone who joined us!

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Fredericksburg (continued from page 7)

Cox were on time at Beckers, they joined another tour group. This winery was delightful. Beckers has won several Texas wine tasting awards, and has even beaten out some California wines in competition. As there was lots of wine drinking by the glass, the group ended up staying here much longer than expected listening to live music on the porch. Ginger Howard-Hanks was talked into playing the washtub, using her skills as a harpist to pluck the rope. Suzan Miles did some ethnic dances, and Jerry Montgomery picked up the accordion to play a short melody (?!?). This was one of many places during the course of the weekend where Suzan Miles made sure we celebrated Annette Brown's Birthday. Ed Cain had a chance to get back at Jeff talking about his putting skills when he placed a Top Flight golf ball in his fresh glass of Chardonnay. Afterwards some folks stopped by the Wild Seed farm. The group then took a break before dinner.

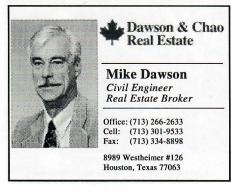
Dinner was at the Navajo Grill. Due to having so much fun during the day, Millie Jude, Sylvia Hudspeth, JD Baron and Carol Cain decided to join the dinner festivities. While Lee Swords, Sandy Cox, Elaine Schoch and Linda Walters decided to dine on there own, they all stopped by to say hello and see how

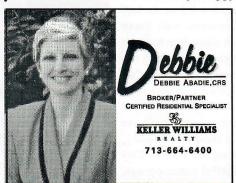
our meal was going. The restaurant put together a special menu for our group - Southwestern in style, the food was fabulous. At the end of dinner Jeff Sarff entertained us with his cork in the bottle trick. Make sure you ask him about the \$75 bill the General Manager gave him at the end of the meal for a "damaged" napkin! After a day of fresh air, wine, and food, most everyone retired to the hotel. The Kennys, Montgomerys, Suzan Miles, and Annette Brown followed the Liebergots to the Piano Bar after dinner for a final nightcap. While there, the Liebergots took turns serenading the crowd with their beautiful voices. The piano player was having so much fun, he stayed past his time to close. Only when the lights were raised did the lounge empty out.

After a weekend of delightful food, wine, weather, and company, SCSC checked out on Sunday morning and headed back to Houston. General consensus is that we need to do this again. Volunteers to run the next trip????

Thanks for the contributions from Steve Kenny, Peggy and Jerry Montgomery.









Big Mountain (continued)

continued from page 8

BIG MOUNTAIN FUN

A delay in flight, March 24 the departure date To sightsee in Salt Lake City was the group's fate. Mechanical problems in two airplanes the same day A night in Holiday Inn, the pilots' fault all say. Sunday a Kalispell arrival on a Delta plane It was a bad sign to see the sprinkling of rain. Some ventured to rent skies, others to the slope In search of great snow for skiing, they hope. SUSAN shops, and plans a group dinner the first night JOHN joined the DREAM gang, and skied without fright. On Monday all anxious to ski, a great day in all Except for low clouds some blame for their fall. Fearless leader JEFF, joined with ELLEN, ROSS and BILL Four Musketeers ski bumps on a black diamond hill. All for one, one for all, the motto of the clan All loved skiing chair #7, it was the promised land. Most-improved skiers are AL and MARY, too To ski with the gang, on the slopes of blue. GLENDA and PAWEL, a cute twosome as can be STEVE, from Canada, skied with TERESA and LEIGH. Leaving Wednes. for adventure, the "Glacier-Seeking Clan" Ten bodies packed in a large passenger van. Thoughts of mountains to photograph, and many a scenic view With pilot RON, and co-pilots JUDY, JIM, and SUE. A stop at Snow Slip Inn, a unique place to go At the Continental Divide, a trio made yellow snow. Essex Railroad at Izaak Walton Inn, a historical sight Munching on hors d'ouerves, a lunch so very light. LORI dressed in leather, recommends a B-52, A coffee with sweet liqueur, MIRANDA tries one too. Florescent HARVEY, a fixture on the first stool BRETT drinks his Cognac, others have Moose Drool. Some had Dos Amigos "grass clippings" dips Meals with appetizers, queso and chips. Brick oven pizza, steaks, chicken and soup Truby's, Tupelo Grill, and many eateries for the group. A sleigh ride with horses, a flutter of snow SUSAN and a lasso, put on a great show. Cowboy Larry and Sourdough with a Southern drawl Eating BBQ and singing, we really had a ball. Hell Roaring Saloon was the lunch place to meet To have a good chat, drink beer, and warm up your feet. PARK with headphones, skied listening to a tune Some complained of aches, but the end arrived too soon. Thoughts of great times, a group photo on Saturday Fond memories of George's Gorge, to ski, fall, and play. Grouse Mountain Inn, with hot tub, fireplace, and bar Big Mountain, Montana, from Texas a land so far.

Dedicated to a great group of people! With fond memories, Ellen Eastham

Volunteer Profile: Gary Butler

Board Member from 1994-2001

by Peggy Montgomery



Once again we say adios to a long time Board Member of Space City Ski Club. This past year was Gary Butler's last of a seven year stint on the Board. When he was elected Treasurer of the club for the 1994-95 term, I'm sure he did not realize that he wouldn't leave the Board until seven years later. Five of the seven years as a Board member was because of the commitment he made when he accepted the nomination and was elected to be the Club's President for the 1996-97 ski year. Gary exemplifies the enthusiasm and involvement of all of SCSC's Past Presidents. Not only during his tenure with the Board did he attend numerous ski trips to places such as Mt. Bachelor, Lake Louise, and Winter Park, but he also attended Board, Executive Committee, and budget meetings. He also could be found at practically every general meeting and most happy hours and lots of activities. As you can see, being President of Space City is no small commitment, and I encourage all members to take time to let Gary know how much they appreciate his involvement.

Gary became a member in 1991 after learning of the club at one of the Houston Chronicle ski shows. He quickly jumped into the middle of volunteering as he ran a Bowling Tournament in October of 1991 and was an Assistant Trip Chair for a Texas Ski Council Trip to Steamboat in January of 1992. While also helping with Follies and volunteer parties almost from the beginning of his involvement with the club, he also stepped up to be the Trip Chair for a trip to Snowmass in January 1993. He became the Treasurer of the club for the 1994-95 ski season and followed it with being Vice President of Publications during 1995-96. He also supported the club by attending activities such as volleyball tournaments, bowling, and the Hill Country Hoe Down and other TSC Summer Meltdowns. He also has actively participated in the Sunshine Kids Auction by not only bidding on auction items, but getting a group together to donate a barbecue which sells for a good price every year. Wherever you look you could find Gary eagerly participating. The ski trips he has gone on are too numerous to mention. When he became

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The Sitzmarke Page 9



A small but very enthusiastic group of seasoned skiers jumped on a plane in Houston to embark on Space City Ski Club's "most unique" trip of the year. Dubbed the "Texas Invasion" by our reps, we were pioneers from Texas trekking east (and north) to a resort that Skiing Magazine had dubbed one of the Top Ten Ski Resorts in the country. Although weather caused delays in Chicago and a late night arrival in Sugarbush, all were in good spirits and took the obstacles in stride. And true to his word, Jim Halavonich met us at the airport and led us to Sugarbush. We saw that layovers don't slow down Angie-Doodle Westergren, Sister Sarah Granbery, Bubba Bobby Viktorin, or Bubba Mark Chambers....they just found the nearest waterin'hole and settled there to wait off the hours! Come to think of it, not much slowed them down all week!

Everyone was ready to hit the slopes the first morning. Our reps, Shawn Sullivan and Jim greeted us on the mountain and took us on a super mountain tour. This place was good for the ego...much skied black runs instead of blue. Most of us skied all day just checking out what the group of mountains had to offer. It was a promise of things to come. We never had to stand in line for a lift; even on the last Saturday when local traffic is usually so heavy, Roger and Bobby went out and endured no long lines. And it was also proof that terrible icy conditions are a misconception. We did hit a few patches of ice on places that were getting a little thin, but hey, who doesn't have a little ice when it's time for new snow? Overall, the conditions were very good everywhere we skied.

That night Jim and The Bridges hosted our "first night" party in the lodge's fireside lounge. It was a pizza party with all the extras (including tequila shots) and a small group, who I won't

name again, closed the place down! I understand the instigator this time was **Joe Walker**. Jim showed up at Karla's condo early the next morning in total amazement at the tequila that went down! He just *thought* he was a partier!

Day 2 was Monday and our own "Tour Guide Dave" (Dave George), who had graciously rented a 15 passenger van, chauffeured Roger Holzman, Joe W., Mark, Sarah, Janell Peyton, and Yvonne Guy to Montreal for a city tour. From what we heard, it sounded like a great day. Their outing included dinner so that night another group walked to The Warren House right around the corner and enjoyed a wonderful meal. It was a cool walk over and even colder walk back! By the time Bob and Karla Darden, Cindy Jones, Bill Dahl, Donna Bergland, Mitch Gaspard, Priss Davis, and Kathy McManus got back to the condos, they were experiencing unusual nearly-zero degree temperatures. Only Mitch was adequately dressed in his long fur coat (which he was lucky to keep!).

Day 3 was another touring day for those who wanted a break from skiing. Thanks to the efforts of Dave (all week), a group of thrill seekers when to Stowe to go snowmobiling in the morning. With Dave were Joe W., Bobby, Mitch, Priss, Janell, Bill, and Cindy. There they took a 2-hour tour and had a great time. Well, until a bold tree dared to jump out in front of Mitch's snowmobile!

That afternoon Jim chauffeured the Dardens, Yvonne, Donna, and Janell to meet Dave and switch out people so a bunch of us could go on a covered bridges tour. We ate at a great Italian restaurant and then took off through the countryside to take as many pictures as we could find bridges. The weather was clear and we hit about 8-9 bridges (bad choice of words!). We got back late and found that another group had already gone across the road to celebrate Fat Tuesday at Emilio's, a local Mexican restaurant. I was surprised that the fun ended rather early that night..maybe it was because we had to walk back in the snow! Could it be that we were slowing down?

Day 4 was a ski day, but we traveled first. With Tour Guide Dave hauling people and equipment, Shawn and his wife, Candace, took 14 of us up to Killington to ski for the day. He arranged for a 2-hour mountain tour. What a great place! And they were making snow the whole time we were there. This time Joe Kulpinsky joined us. For him it was a return to an old "stomping ground" as he had skied there many years before. Kathy was familiar with Killington as well. They are both excellent skiers...they must teach them well in Vermont! And by the way,







Sugarbush (continued)



although Priss was a first-time skier, you never would have known it. I understand she took to skiing on one ski *real* fast! And although Donna *said* she wanted to ski with us, she spent considerable time trying to lose us! Was it because our handsome young guide Scott went back to look for her? Upon returning to Sugarbush, some of us ate dinner at The Common Man, a restaurant housed in a huge old barn. Both of the Joes, Donna, Roger, Bob, Karla, Mitch, Priss, Kathy, and Yvonne enjoyed an elegant dinner in this romantic restaurant warmed by a huge fireplace at one end of the barn.

The next day was Thursday and everyone opted to stay at home and ski instead of prowl the countryside. (Can you believe it...they gave up a trip to Ben & Jerry's?) Well, everyone but the Dardens, that is. It seems that after dinner at The Common Man, Joe W. came calling at the TC's condo with a rather large bottle of tequila. Bouncing Bob, not being much of a drinker tried to keep up with Joe and our condo mate, Roger (where does he put all that tequila?). Unfortunately, Bob's drinking skills are not quite up to par, so he slept away most of the next day. Karla was under the weather but NOT under the spell of tequila! By the way, Roger was out of the condo by 9:00 am the next morning. He's either real tough or real crazy! By the way, what lift goes to Mt. Ellen?

If anyone saw him fall that week, would they please step up to the plate and admit it?

Thursday night Roger, Joe K., Donna, Kathy, Mitch, Priss, Yvonne, and Dave ventured out to the Sugarbush Inn for dinner. They said it was the best meal of the week. Bar-b-que ribs to die for! The rest of us picked a bad night to stay in! After dinner, Joe W. invited everyone to his condo for homemade apple pie

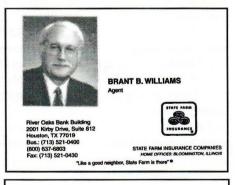
and coffee (so he said...I bet it was tequila!). I think we all agree that the bakery in Waitsfield does a fine job! Meanwhile, at the TC's condo, our last 2 participants are finally arriving. **Dan Conery** and **Slava Karnauk** replaced the Dan Conery Sr's 'who had to cancel unexpectedly at the last minute. They skied Friday at Sugarbush, partied with us on Friday night, and moved on to Jay Peak on the way back home.

On Friday, Jim hosted a trip to Mad River Glen for those skiers daring to ski on ungroomed slopes. Only Donna, Kathy, Mitch, Priss (the first time skier), Yvonne, and Dave were brave enough to go there and survive the elements. As it turned the rest of us missed a great day...they said the snow was the best yet. While they were melting down the snow, the rest of us were getting ready for the last night party. Joe W. has many talents! If you take a trip with him, ask him to prepare a pasta dish...he does a fine job! For desert we had a selection of Ben & Jerry's ice cream so as not to miss out completely. Jim and Shawn stopped by to help eat all the goodies.

The bus didn't pick us up until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, so in the morning, Bill, Cindy, Bob, Karla, Kathy, Donna, and Mark put on their ridin' duds and went on a trailride at the Icelandic Horse Farm. We had a great time and our guides were pleased that we all did so well. Now the folks in Vermont *really* believe that if you are from Texas you have horses, cows, and oilwells in your backyard! After the ride, Jim again saved the day by picking us up and taking us back to the lodge...no short drive.

The trip back home was nicely uneventful and we arrived back here in the heat and humidity right on time. The trip home was entertaining as Sarah and Angie "adopted" an unsuspecting traveler, male of course, and taught him about Bloody Marys. I am sure he will never be the same! In fact, we are all forever changed...we have all now skied the wilderness of the northeast U.S. and are all back in Texas in one piece to tell about it.

I would recommend that everyone try to ski here at least once and see what Vermont has to offer. I think you will be pleasantly surprised.











AS THE BLUELIGHT FLASHES – A JACKSON HOLE SLOPE OPERA

This is your "Requirer" reporter on location with the cast of the Emmy winning Jackson Hole Slope Opera "As the Blue Light Flashes"— Requiring minds wanted to know....

There will be drama, excitement, fun...tragedy....

The drama started before the group's flight left the airport. What could have happened to *Maureen Irwin*—had she forgotten? – the only phone number is going to a fax machine...(oh no)...thankfully she arrived just in time.

The story continues as the group arrives to "spring like" weather in Jackson Hole—The snow is melting....melting. We had already lost participants to broken bones & medical emergencies—what else could befall the merry group next—little did they know....as the village bus "With the blue light flashing" would take the group to and from 37 different stories...in the snowy village...

At the Welcome Mixer that night the group finally got to meet the participants who flew the longest distance to join the trip *Charles Medlin & Philip Taft* from Minnesota. *Fred Kahrs*aka "Road Warrior" – drove from Colorado to join the group.

Later that night, billowing smoke in Condo #7 began setting off the fire alarms. The first fire was started by Ann Rogers and Kelly Reynolds—without opening the damper. Alex Bunsch and Charlene Fleming came dashing out of their bedrooms in PJs to find out what was the strange racket. Alex ran downstairs to open the damper, while Charlene fanned the alarm. And how was Mike Fleming and Charles Elliott sleeping through all the smoke & commotion? The fire was certainly an "ice breaker" for getting to know each other!

This reporter discovered that there were some unusual & interesting skiing techniques among the group. Charles Allenaka "Scratch" was seen sliding down "Thunder Run" hanging on by his fingertips. Bill Bomberger-aka "Thumper" makes this thumping sound as he comes to a mogul trough—stops and falls over. Gary Davis-aka "Butt Man"—hit a tough patch on the "No Name" run and was seen skidding down on his back with his skis

crossed over his chest. **Steven Teoh**-aka "Tumbledore" gets down the moguls faster by tumbling. (He took an all day lesson to learn how to ski the bumps and at the end of the day, the instructor told him to give it up!)

There were also some scary moments. Beverly Roberts Memorial Gorge so named because after sliding arcross a catwalk, Beverly slid into a 30-40 foot deep gully. Thankfully she was not hurt and was rescued by her faithful husband, Charlie Roberts and Craig Moffat. Charles Elliott was not quite so lucky, on a foggy day while skiing he hit something and went flying, fell and broke his hip—thankfully he is doing fine now.

There were also the daredevils in the group. "Bumpin" Bob DeBell led many a skier down any run with a bump. He even led a group trip down through a boulder garden—it was known as the "Secret Slope". Nancy Schultz-aka "Dances with Boulders" was always part of every group and did a good job of keeping up with Bob. Bob and Sue DeWitt-aka "Pumpkin" (to match her outfit-not her skiing) decided to get a "birds eye view" of the resort by parasailing from the top of the mountain.

There were also number of multi-talented people on the trip. Cheryl May, tough negotiator (she got a store to give a group buying helmets a 10% discount), skis, snow blades, snowboards—what's next? Walter May a/k/a "Wild Walter", after a snowmobile trip, the Mays strongly considered buying motorcycles. "Condo queen" (ask Cheryl), and piano virtuoso - after eating in a restaurant, Walter performed a wonderful piano concert for the patrons.

The favorite Apre Ski hangout was the Mangy Moose. Numerous members of the group were spotted on many occasions. *Nelson Turner*-aka "Tough Guy" was spotted the first day standing in the Moose, fixing his own dislocated elbow (after a fall on an icy slope) while waiting for a ride to the hospital. He was again spotted later in the week "shaking a tale feather" cast and all....and he skied the last day! *Chip Stokes*-aka "Trooper" had dislocated his shoulder, but was always on the go with the group...to the hospital to visit Charles, to dinner and definitely

continued on page 13



Jackson Hole (continued from page 12)

to the Moose. Rumor has it that *Darlene Hirasaki really* missed the Moose dancing when she, husband *George Hirasaki* & Fred Kahrs on the last night went instead to a *gourmet* dinner cooked by a friend of George's now living in JH. *Sue Bohnert* was also seen mixing her antibiotics with some "funky pink drink" at the Moose—is that why she was seeing "real" wooden moose on the way to the airport?

Even the trip to and from the Moose could be full of unexpected hazards. On the last night out, returning from the Mangy, a group including Sandra Brockhausen boarded the "Blue Light Special" with the favorite driver, Russell, at the helm. After a few drop offs the bus picked up two "very happy" drunks. Sandy was seated in the first row of seats facing the door when one of the happy drunks noticed her lynx fur coated body and proceeded to run straight for her. He grabbed her and buried his head in her coat saying "Wow this is a great coat, lady!" Sandy finally managed to get the young man off her "chest" while she kept expecting her husband, Edward Brockhausen, who was seated across from her, to come to her rescue—which he did not! In fact he was not concerned at all until the young happy drunk turned his eye towards him!

The parties did not always start or stay at the Moose—sometimes they started at a restaurant. Just ask *Dave Stotz*-aka "Sake Bomber" (Just ask him what it is like to try "snow cycling" the day after a number of sake bombs!). He, *Barry Norman* and *Maria Isabel* dined on sushi and introduced Dave to sake bombs...not wanting the evening to end, they crashed the annual JH Ski Patrol party and enjoyed the local hospitality. In exchange, Maria showed them that *Texans can dance*—by winning the dance contest—but since she wasn't a local, she didn't get the keep the prize!

And then there was fine dining "with the animals" in a pizza place that had come highly recommended...just ask Craig Moffatt, *Michele Collins, Dan Taft, Judy Katany*, Charlie and Beverly Roberts. Lousy pizza, but the balloon artist was wonderful. Craig was transformed into a longhorn steer—Charlie received moose antlers. Judy our—fearless TC—without whose diligent efforts this production would not have been possible—received a Tiara. (After all she planned a ski trip <u>and</u> a wedding in less than 6 months!)

By the way this reporter would like to know how *Gary Werner* and *Bob Tripp* avoided being "caught" in any kind of compromising situation—no blackmail

opportunities at all! We did learn that Gary knows his beers & ales—just ask him about "Fat Tire". Thanks for a great trip!

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Gary Butler (continued from page 9)

President in the 1996-97 ski year, he also made the commitment to serve five years on the Board of Directors. However, he did not stop there. He went on to make sure Space City was represented on the Texas Ski Council by putting in his name for TSC Treasurer. He was TSC Treasurer for two years, and this past season was Vice President of the TSC trip to Heavenly. He is starting his fourth year as a TSC officer and will be running the Texas Ski Council's Traditional trip to Lake Louise. You could say that when Gary makes a commitment, he makes it all the way!

So as Gary moves off Space City's Board he will be missed, but we know that he will continue to be a valuable resource for new officers and Board members for years to come. Thanks, Gary, for all the hard work throughout the years!



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Mt. Bachelor: February 10-17, 2001

The 2001 TSC Winter Shootout began as 45 adventurous SCSCers made the long trek up to the Cascade Mountains of the Pacific Northwest & Oregon's Mt. Bachelor via a 4 1/2 hour direct flight to Portland, OR.

Upon arriving at the Portland airport, we discovered that Brigitte Litz was MIA. Brigitte was due to arrive from San



Francisco. Ultimately, the bus had to take off & our begin her.

During our 4-hour bus ride to the Sunriver

Resort, all passengers were treated to the fine cuisine of the "on bus" Space City Deli owned & operated by Phillip Vice, TC & Lori Gilliland, ATC.

The Deli menu included handmade sandwiches such as the Downhill Racer Special, the Crash & Burn Special and the Giant Slalom Special. A special treat for those who love a little spice in their food, was the famous Pepper Jack cheese, courtesy of a proud Phillip Vice. The Pepper Jack cheese was so popular that it sold out in no time. Sandwiches were made to order, led by Head Chef Jane Orr & her exceptional assembly staff of Karin Schidlowski & Joe Bruccoliere. As Joe called off the orders, Jane threw the assembly line into high gear, handing sandwiches off to Karin to garnish, while Phillip & Lori handed out drinks, chips, and cookies and delivered the lunches. While the extinct Volcano of Mt. Bachelor did not erupt during our visit, most of the Space City Deli's Diet Cokes did. Sorry to those of you who experienced this frozen Diet Coke explosion.

Upon arriving at the Sunriver Resort, the Sunriver staff faced some challenges delivering our luggage to our condos because another TSC bus due to arrive before the SCSC bus decided to take the "scenic" route causing both buses to arrive at the same time. The luggage delivery & shuttle systems were pushed to their limits that 1st day.

We all met at the Sunriver Lodge to picked up lift tickets, packets etc. Just as we were wrapping up for the evening, Brigitte Litz finally turned up after dealing with a cancelled flight from San Francisco.

Our first day of skiing was met with heavy snow & poor visibility as we all attempted to regain our "ski legs". This 1st day of poor conditions set the stage for a week of fabulous fresh powder & perfect weather including the clearest blue skies.

Sandi Vela got off to a rough start by suffering a knee injury while getting off her first lift of the trip. Mark Vela suspects Sandi planned this event so he would have to carry ALL of the luggage. Here's Sandi's perspective: "Just wanted to let you all know what it's like to get that infamous ski patrol

toboggan ride from the top of the mountain. It feels like one of those full-body massage chairs, especially when there's 9" of fresh powder. Everyone stops skiing & stares at you, I think to see if you're dead, by the look on their faces. So, near the end, I did my parade wave.

Pam Smith, Diane McKenzie & Sue DeWitt accidentally skied the out of bounds edge off the summit. 1° hours later, they finally saw civilization again, only after Pam launched herself off a rock.... With a scrape (rock), click (ski release), thud (knee against rock) & scream (self-explanatory).

Charlene Fleming led husband Mike, Helmut & Martha journey to the **Zenger, Karin Schidlowski & Brigitte Litz** into the woods, up Sunriver & down through the trees trying to find the Flying Dutchman. resort without Work, work, work, no sight of a run. Helmut & Martha tested 2 ft of new powder with a forward flip. After a lot of laughter, they finally made it back west to a groomed slope. It was a splendid adventure for this brave group. Kurt Schidlowski missed all the fun, because he knew where to find better snow on his own!

> Stacey & J.R. Ronczy told Lori Gilliland & Ron Rambin about a run where they could do a lot of "little jumps". Lori & Ron searched & searched, until they finally found it. The snow ramps on this run were huge, but they figured this must be the place. Lori made it half way up a ramp, chickened out & pulled over to the side, looked around & saw Ron heading straight up the ramp, she figured he was "going for it", then suddenly Ron veered off to the right, but instead of stopping where Lori did, Ron just kept on going "right off the ledge" & Lori saw a "yard sale" first hand! They later learned that this was NOT the run recommended by Stacey & J.R.; this run called Snowpark was "For Experts Only"! Oops!

> Condo mates Steve & Judy Brown, Irma Rosendahl & Lila Davis enjoyed a variety of Mt. Bachelor's offerings. Steve enjoyed the fresh powder & great alpine skiing. Judy caught up on some reading, crafts & shopping. Irma & Lila enjoyed crosscountry skiing on 56 kilometers of groomed tracks & trails through the beautiful Deschutes National Forest.

> Even great skiing can't keep great minds off of work. John Stenson was often found in the bathroom on his cell phone & Ken Feaster had to wrap up a presentation before he could fully enjoy the week of skiing, condo mate Meynard Nussbaum, helped Ken out so he could focus on more important things like "which run should we take now?"

> SCSCers experienced a taste of Little Italy at the condo of Phillip Vice, Jane Orr, Stacey & J.R. Ronczy. Chief Saucetress Jane Orr whipped up a delicious batch of her homemade spaghetti sauce. Hard at work in the kitchen were Jane Orr, Lori Gilliland & Phillip Vice with added assistance from Charlene Fleming who helped keep an eye on all those boiling noodles. This wonderful spaghetti dinner was accompanied by crispy garlic bread, tossed green salad, beer, wine & soft drinks. Lori never imagined how 45 people could fit into that condo, but somehow they did & all had a great time. Many pots were needed to boil all that spaghetti, so Lori traveled condo-to-condo trying to borrow some spares. Somehow after cleaning up after the big

Mt. Bachelor (continued)

evening, **Meynard Nussbaum's** pot didn't make it back to his condo right away. We all remember **Meynard** traveling condo to condo for several days trying to match the lid with the missing pot from condo #13.

The most talked about activity of this trip was the Snowmobile Tour enjoyed by Don McGee, Ruth Ann Wright,



David George, Joe Walker, Mitch Gaspard, Sarah Brown, Randy Smith, Liz Kinne, Patti Maudslay and Lori Gilliland. The snow conditions were per-fect, tons of untouched powder...it was like riding on a rollercoaster up to 60 mph on trails that twisted & turned through the trees & powder...the sky was crisp & clear...it was truly a "Winter Wonderland". We all started off the day riding together then after a great lunch out in the wilderness, we broke off into 2 groups, "High & Fast" and "Low & Slow". Our guides were awesome & the "High" group experienced the thrill of maximum speed while the "Low" group experienced the breathtaking scenery at a more moderate speed. Veteran snowmobile racer Joe Walker said this was the best snowmobiling experience we will ever have.

TSCers took a 15 mile bus ride into the town of Bend to enjoy a "Night in Bend". Groups of folks spread out across downtown, dining at several of Bend's great restaurants. Don McGee, Ruth Ann Wright, Stan Broniak, Pam Smith, Mitch Gaspard, Lori Gilliland, Diane McKenzie, John Stenson, Gary Davis & Alex Bunch strolled around downtown Bend until they found Toomies Thai Restaurant. Inside, they found fellow SCSCers, Kurt & Karin Schidlowski, Helmut & Martha Zenger & Brigitte Litz who had met up with some old friends. Toomies had some of the best Thai food any of us had eaten.....Very Spicy! Who would have thought that such great Thai food would be found in Oregon? Alex Bunsch provided some of the evening's entertainment us with one of his infamous magic tricks. Phillip Vice had made reservations for 10 SCSCers at the High Tides Restaurant. Corpus Christi was waiting 'hour for a table for 10 & Phillip's group got it before they did. Another group of SCSCers dined at the Pine Tavern Restaurant.

Wednesday was Valentine's Day & while most women hope to receive jewelry, flowers and candy on this special day, **Roberta** Rambin received a pinched nerve in her back while taking a lesson.

Mike & Charlene Fleming, John Stenson, Liz Kinney, Mitch Gaspard, Jane Orr, Phillip Vice, Patti Maudslay & Lori Gilliland went on a Snowshoe tour guided by Wanderlust Tours. Our guide Robert was great, he gave as an education in the history

of snowshoeing, geology, winter ecology & flora/fauna of the beautiful Cascade Mountains. Boy, snowshoeing was more of a workout than any of us would have expected, especially running up & down hill in deep powder. Phillip treated us to a full somersault assisted by the weight of his backpack, we all gave his performance a "10". Patti, Charlene, Jane & Lori all excelled in the "running leap off ledge" into deep powder.

Ron & Roberta Rambin, Mark & Sandi Vela, Randy Smith & Sarah Brown enjoyed Valentine's Day dinner at the Meadows at the Lodge. Randy had a rose delivered to Sarah at the table. The trouble was that the restaurant sent the rose to the wrong table & Randy had to retrieve it. They all felt sorry for the disappointed couple at the other table. Joe Walker, Patti Maudslay, Liz Kinne, Mitch Gaspard, Lori Gilliland, John Stenson & Gary Davis ate at El Pescador. Don McGee & Ruth Ann Wright were spotted dining at a corner table & they recommended the Enchiladas de Cangrejo (Dungeness crab enchiladas). This was the popular dish of the evening & it was delicious.

The TSC Valentines Day Dessert party was held at the Sunriver Resort's rustic & historic Great Hall. We all enjoyed delectable desserts & a fun evening of dancing.

Race Director Joe Bruccoliere did a great job organizing a winning team of racers. SCSC took the 1st Place Nastar Race Trophy. Individual race winners included: Kayleen Kill 1st - Senior Women, Phillip Vice 2nd - Senior Men & Helmut Zenger 1st - Super Senior Men. In the club races, Silver Medalists included: Phillip Vice, Charlene Fleming, Kayleen Kill, Sue DeWitt, Kurt & Karen Schidlowski, Brigitte Litz, John Stenson, Helmut Zenger & Ron Rambin. Bronze Medalists included: Diane McKenzie, Sarah Brown, John Rice, Stan Broniak, Gary Davis, Mark Vela, Charles Butler, Joe Bruccoliere. A great Texas Fajita Party followed the races.

On Thursday night, John Rice, Kayleen Kill, Gary Butler, Charles Butler, Peggy Montgomery, Mark & Sandi Vela & 4 Flatlanders enjoyed a great dinner at the Trout House. Lori Gilliland & Patti Maudslay recruited Charlene & Mike Fleming, Helmut & Martha Zenger, Kurt & Karin Schidlowski, Brigitte Litz, Liz Kinne, Mitch Gaspard, Joe Walker & Gary Davis for a shuttle ride to Axel's New Black Forest and Eclectic Bistro. We were seated in a nice, private banquet room. The food was great, most of us ordered the German Mixed Plate that included Sauerbraten, bratwurst, potato pancakes & red cabbage. Let's just say this was not low cal dish, but it was delicious!

The Awards Dinner at the Sunriver resort Great Hall was a memorable one as we dined on Salmon & Steak. We all danced the night away as we enjoyed our last night at Mt. Bachelor. Race awards were handed out as SCSC proudly received the 1st place trophy & 1st time skiers, **Ruth Ann Wright** & **Randy Smith** received special recognition.

The return bus ride to Portland was interesting for **Sandy Brockhausen** as she got locked in the tiny bathroom on the bus. **Sandy** hoped she would get out before arriving at the airport, would husband **Ed** realize she was MIA?

The 2001 TSC Winter Shootout was a trip to remember, with great condos, food & skiing conditions!





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