

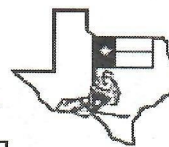


# The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

[www.spacecityskiclub.org](http://www.spacecityskiclub.org)

April 2008



Member  
Texas Ski  
Council

Vol. 41, No. 12

## From Mission Control

by Pat Piech, Space City Ski Club President.

It's hard to believe a whole year has flown by and you will have a new president in May. Serving as president of SCSC has been an interesting and fun experience, one I have truly enjoyed.

Helping to make it such a great experience was the terrific group of officers and directors with whom I had the pleasure to work. I felt we were a very easy going group that embraced their respective duties with a positive attitude and the intent to make the club a better organization. Each came to our meetings with wonderful constructive ideas and I sincerely thank each one of them for the contribution of their time and talents.

I encourage you to acknowledge and thank these individuals for volunteering. We need volunteers like these if we are to make this club a continued success.

**VP of Trips-Ted Widmer, VP of Programs-Sandy Perry, VP of Membership-Barbara Della Longa, VP of Publications-Ross Baker, Treasurer-David Cone, Secretary-Sarah Granbery, Director of PR-Camille La Roe, Director of Trips-Judy Schiro & Marsha Lutz, Directory of Communications-Bruce Lowther, Director of Programs-Christina Anderson, Race Director-Robert Wray, Club Auditor-Keith Kirkman, TSC Representative-Kayleen Kill**

In April, we will be attending the Texas Ski Council's Bid Fest and will know some of the resorts that we will be skiing during the 2008-09 season. The incoming team will also be very busy in determining club trips to supplement the TSC trips. A great way to get involved in the organization and do something you love is to volunteer to help with a ski trip. I, or our incoming VP of Trips, Marsha Lutz, can help you find out how.



We still have several fun activities to help celebrate spring in Houston. Sandy Perry has done a FABULOUS job this year on coordinating these non-ski events and a huge THANK YOU to her. April's meeting will be our annual Expo and your chance to get acquainted with other social and sporting clubs from around the city. Be sure not to miss it. Our final meeting of the season is in May but happy hours will continue through the summer. Yummy! The SCSC website has a list of all of the events and activities that you can join.

Stay safe to those lucky enough to be spring skiing. For the rest, it's time to pack up the gear and celebrate spring.

## Having A Blast!

by Sandy Perry, Vice President of Programs.

You don't want to miss the next General Meeting on Monday, April 14th. Once again, Space City Ski Club will be sponsoring the Sports and Social Clubs Expo. We will have several clubs and organizations attending to promote their clubs and activities. This is a great opportunity to see what other clubs and organizations in the Houston area have to offer.

Our final General Meeting for this season is on Monday, May 12th. We plan to feature our Annual Sunshine Kids Auction. Please dig in your storage areas and closets to see if you have anything you would like to donate. Also, we need volunteers to help put this show on the road. We are eager to hear from you who wish to participate.

The activities we have coming up include the April Wine Tasting and the 22nd Annual AIA Sandcastle Competition on East Beach in Galveston. The Sandcastle Competition needs volunteers. These volunteer activities are always a lot of fun so please sign up.

We will have our April Happy Hour at the Black Swan in the Omni Hotel on April 24th. The May and June happy hours are to be announced at a later date. Please check our website for updates.

### WINE TASTING

Dawn Rodriguez and Gary Barrett will host the April Wine Tasting on Satur-

### SCSC Next General Meeting April 14, 2008

day, April 26. The cost of \$15.00 person includes a pasta dinner and door prizes. Please bring your favorite bottle of wine. Please contact AC: Dawn Rodriguez or AAC: Gary Barrett for more details.

### 22ND ANNUAL AIA SANDCASTLE COMPETITION

We need volunteers to assist in set up, serving beer, assisting judges, and vote counting. You will receive complimentary t-shirts, food, and drink. The sandcastle building competition begins at 10 a.m. There is also an optional Friday night Beach Bash at the Galveston Hilton for a fee of \$20.00. The volunteer ships are 6 a.m. - 11 a.m., 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. and 2 p.m. - 7 p.m. You don't want to miss this one! Contact AC: John Thayer for more details.



If anyone would like to see Space City Ski Club participate in a particular activity, please let us know. We are always looking for new and exciting activities to participate in. If you are interested in being an activity coordinator please let us know. You may contact Christina Anderson at [andersoncmt@hotmail.com](mailto:andersoncmt@hotmail.com) or me at [sandywp.ski@gmail.com](mailto:sandywp.ski@gmail.com) with your details and interests.



Space City Ski Club  
P.O. Box 22567  
Houston, TX 77227-2567

PRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HOUSTON, TX  
PERMIT # 9036

EN 3-DIGIT 773



## RECAP OF JANUARY & MARCH MEETINGS by Christina Anderson, Director of Programs & Activities

The January meeting brought out the shoppers and the deal-makers. We had our annual Ski Swap and Sale. The participating membership really got involved, as we had some wonderful outfits. Ski supplies and even a pair of antique skis - perfect as a decorator item.

We had the need for more items, so please keep this in mind for next year's sale. As you are packing away your ski apparel, and wanting to give it away rather than packing, keep this activity in mind. It will sit nicely in a box until our next Swap & Sale. And you may make some cash to put

aside for another outfit!

The March meeting brought us new volunteer ideas for our community. Emily Leach from Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau was our guest speaker. Her program is called "Houston Greeters", an activity she is excited and passionate about. It definitely provides a service for visitors in our city. I have extra copies of her printed material and will bring them to the next happy hour. Also, Emily was so thoroughly impressed with our club, she will be back at the April meeting. SCSC showed to be an active, friendly and professional organization. She would even like to spotlight us on the Houston Greeters Website. So, thanks you to all for making her feel welcome.

### Space City Ski Club

#### 2007-2008 Executive Committee

|                   |                     |                             |                |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| PRESIDENT         | PAT PIECH           | ppiech48@comcast.net        | (281) 531-7650 |
| VP of PROGRAMS    | SANDY PERRY         | sandywp.ski@gmail.com       |                |
| VP of TRIPS       | TED WIDMER          | tedwidmer1@aol.com          | (713) 203-3145 |
| VP of MEMBERSHIP  | BARBARA DELLA LONGA | bdellalonga@sbcglobal.net   | (281) 398-7107 |
| VP of PUBLICATION | ROSS BAKER          | ross@rossbaker.com          | (713) 934-7368 |
| TREASURER         | DAVID CONE          | djcscc@hal-pc.org           | (713) 521-9741 |
| SECRETARY         | SARAH GRANBERY      | sarahgranbery@sbcglobal.net | (713) 662-0493 |
| DIRECTOR of TRIPS | MARSHA LUTZ         | marshalutz@earthlink.net    | (281) 870-9724 |
| DIRECTOR of TRIPS | JUDY SCHIRO         | jschiro1@comcast.net        | (713) 939-8235 |
| DIR. of PROGRAMS  | CHRISTINA ANDERSON  | andersoncmt@hotmail.com     |                |
| DIR. OF P. R.     | CAMILLE LAROE       | claroe@abm.com              |                |
| AUDITOR           | KEITH A. KIRKMAN    | keithakirkman@comcast.net   | (281) 894-4203 |
| DIR. of COMM.     | BRUCE LOWTHER       | rblowt@hal-pc.org           | (713) 785-5196 |
| TSC REP.          | KAYLEEN KILL        | kayleenkill@att.net         |                |
| RACE DIRECTOR     | ROBERT WRAY         | robert.wray@att.net         | (713) 410-3350 |

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

|                         |                |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| ELLEN EASTHAM, Chairman | DEB CINI       | PENNY CHANCEY  |
| JESSICA HALTER          | ROGER HOLTZMAN | DON MACKEN     |
| CINDY MOORE             | SEAN O'BRIEN   | DAWN RODRIGUEZ |
| SUE SALVAGE             |                |                |

#### SITZMARKE STAFF:

EDITOR: ROSS BAKER PHOTOGRAPHERS: RON HAYES, BRUCE LOWTHER

### We Want YOU To Reliably Receive Your Sitzmarke!

You want to find out what exciting trips and fun activities that your club has to offer by continuing to get your Sitzmarke by print and by email.

1. Make sure your mailing and email addresses are current by updating your on-line membership profile. PLEASE CORRECT YOUR EMAIL ADDRESSES!!!
  2. Make sure that our email newsletters and email informational blasts are reliably received in your in-box without your filters mistakenly blocking them as "bulk". Please add these email addresses to your computer's email contact list:  
vppublications@spacecityskiclub.org webmaster@spacecityskiclub.org
- You may also need to do this at your internet service provider's webmail. Thank you!

## 22nd Annual AIA Sandcastle Competition

EAST BEACH, GALVESTON - May 31, 2008

**VOLUNTEER** to assist in set up, serving beer, assisting judges, and vote counting.  
Complimentary t-shirts, food, drink, and MUCH FUN!  
(and there's no charge)

Sandcastle building competition begins at 10 a.m., awards at 4:30.

Volunteer Shifts 6 a.m. - 11 a.m.; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and 2 p.m. - 7 p.m.

If you have not seen the Sandcastle Competition, it is a must! 85 architectural firms teams competed in 2007!

Optional: Friday night BEACH BASH at the Galveston Hilton (~\$20) GREAT Party!!  
Probably a Saturday night after party for the hale and hearty!!!

Check website for photos [www.aiasandcastle.com](http://www.aiasandcastle.com)

AC John Thayer, aka "Easy"  
johncthayer@computron.net (979) 297-5436

## Countdown to Liftoff

by Ted Widmer, Vice President of Trips.

Even though it is April, we are very busy planning the 2008-09 ski season. The annual TSC Bid Fest meeting is schedule for April 4-6 and it should be very exciting. It is at this meeting where the various ski clubs from around Texas decide which resorts will host the five winter TSC sponsored ski trips. This year, the organization will be considering the following:

### Fall Roundup

- Vail Resorts, Breckenridge/Keystone
- Winter Park

### Traditional

- Steamboat
- Heavenly
- Snowmass

### Winter Shootout

- Coeur D'Alene/Schweitzer
- Sunday River
- Lake Louise
- Panorama

### Final Showdown

- Big Sky
- Sun Valley
- Mammoth
- North Shore Tahoe

### Winter Expedition

- Grindlewald
- Latania 3 Valleys
- Japan
- Interlaken
- Bormio

### Summer Expedition

- Peru
- Chile
- New Zealand
- Panama

This year's finalists really offer a great mix of old favorites and new locations that we rarely, if ever, ski. Also, we will be considering a Summer Expedition which is always an outstanding trip. Once the TSC trips are determined, we will get to work to finalize our club trips.

But all of this work cannot happen without volunteers. Typically we run approximately 12 trips per year and do to that we need Trip Coordinators and Assistant Trip Coordinators. Please consider volunteering to help run either a TSC or club trip. Although a bit of work, it is also a very fun and a great way to meet members of SCSC. Marsha Lutz will be taking the VP of Trips reins in June and I know she will be eager to hear from you.

So get your passports ready and luggage organized...it will be another great year to be a member of the Space City Ski Club. Safe travels!



# Vail 2008

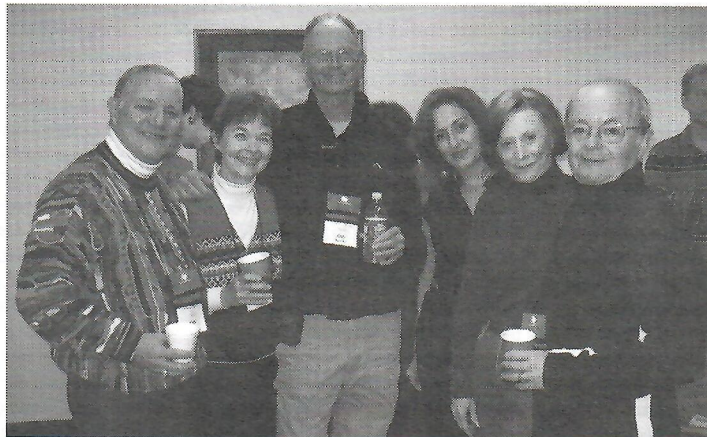
by Diane Stotz and George Lopez

Vail was certainly a wonderful destination to ski and party. The skiing was great. It snowed every day and everybody partied together. So what more can you want, besides having the condos on the same side of the highway near Lionshead! Know better next time.

The Vail long trip began their journey bright and early Saturday morning, January 5th. Most people showed up sleep deprived, but still ready to ski, party, shop and relax. We had several early-birds like **Laurie Haischer, Belinda Parker, Chuck Pena, and Jimmy Walker** who checked in early before **Diane Stotz, Elizabeth Barker and George Lopez** handed out their boarding passes and trip itineraries. The airline flight was uneventful (which is good in today's orange alert status), so we all arrived in Denver safe and sound. We caught up with several participants at the Denver airport: **Frank Adams**, who just recently moved with his wife to Loveland, Colorado, **Tom Norton** who flew in from New Jersey, and **Bob Rexford** who flew in on another airline.

After everyone got their luggage, 50 of us attempted to board the bus. Fortunately, the other 7 participants of the Vail long trip had their own transportation because the bus was packed with us and lots and lots of luggage. It seems like we skiers tend to bring a great deal of luggage. Are we clothes horses or what?! Someone said they spotted a kitchen sink in the luggage bay.

We stopped in Wheat Ridge (just outside Denver) to shop at King Soopers Supermarket and Apple Jacks. The mad scavenger hunt was on. We got lots of supplies (food, beer and wine) for the week, so we didn't need to go out for breakfast or happy hour very often. It was great to see the beautiful mountains as we traveled the I-70 corridor to Vail. Houstonians are not used to seeing mountains along the roadways, so this was a treat. Our participants



were relatively quiet, as we still felt sleepy from waking up so early. We arrived two hours later, eager to unpack, relax, rent our equipment, and get to know our condo-mates.

The SCSC Welcome Party / Happy Hour began at early sundown. Fortunately, the party was set up by **Camille LaRoe, Janet McKenzie and Maria Mendez** so everyone could enjoy their wine, beer and munchies. With beer for so many, they creatively improvised and used snow to cool the beer. **Diane, Elizabeth and George** arrived with the eagerly awaited the lift tickets and TSC materials. Everyone was able to get their essentials and began plan-



## SCSC Calendar of Events

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 4/3 - 4/6 | <u>Texas Ski Council Bid Fest</u> at the Omni Park West in Dallas, TX  |
| 4/14/08   | <u>General Meeting</u> at Vargo's - SCSC's Sports and Social Clubs Expo - 2008   |
| 4/24/08   | <u>Happy Hour</u> @ Black Swan in the Omni Hotel - Riverway, Four Riverway<br>6 - 8 pm, free food, & live entertainment. Valet and a self park garage. |
| 4/26/08   | <u>April Wine Tasting</u> , AC: Dawn Rodriguez, AAC: Gary Barrett  |
| 5/12/08   | <u>General Meeting</u> at Vargo's - Sunshine Kids Auction  |
| 5/31/08   | <u>The 22nd Annual AIA Sandcastle Competition</u> at East Beach in Galveston,<br>AC: John Thayer, aka "Easy"   |



ning adventures for the days ahead. Our shadow participants, **Marie Henry** and **Louella Steller** showed up as well as Colorado transplants, **Martha** and **Helmut Zenger**. Yes, the party was complete.

On Sunday morning, it was a cloudy, powder day. Many participants decided to go on the Mountain Tour. It was heard that at least 5 people in a tour group, including **Roger Holzman** and **Carman Mikhail**, said they were enjoying the tour until their tour guide left them behind in China Bowl. Let the adventures begin. Day one on a black diamond ski area with only one blue run to ski down. What a way to begin your ski trip!!! Fortunately, they skied down safely after two hours on the mountain. Later, many skiers met for lunch at Eagle's Nest. After a rest, some participants continued skiing with their friends, and others re-grouped with a new bunch. That's the great advantage of planned lunch meeting spots! That night, TSC had their Welcome Party at Evergreen Lodge. We saw **Gary Hercules**, **Bob Rexford**, **Steve Slade** and **Mark Ehrlich** as well as **Gin Knebel** and her husband, **Mike Knebel**. It was also nice to visit with the other Texas ski clubs. Everyone talked about how great the snow was that day.

Unfortunately, that night **Jana Rosenbaum** received a message that her room-mate, **Kelly Reynolds** had broken her leg that afternoon. **Jana**, **Diane** and **David Stotz** along with **Bob Wray** visited Kelly at Vail Medical Center. After her successful surgery, she was also visited by **Alice Allbritton**, **Gary Barrett**, and **Maria Mendez**. During the week, **Chuck Pena**, **Gretchen Weis**, **Miriam Glover**, and especially **Jana Rosenbaum** and **Bob Wray** were on hand to provide help and company.

**Kelly** later wrote: "I only skied Vail a short period of time before I broke my left leg in 3 places: tibia twice and fibia once. Vail Valley Clinic did a great job and I now have a titanium rod and screws in it! I want to thank everyone for the great card that they got for me. I appreciate so much all of the help and comfort I received from the members. Many people came to visit me in the hospital and at the condo. It's so nice to be part of this great club! Special thanks to my condo-mates for putting up with me and my other friends that took me places. You all made it bearable!!"

Among the troops, it was rumored Kelly's ski accident was due to "French Fries". While having a nutritious lunch of a grilled chicken sandwich with French fries, **Gary Barrett** offered his fries to Kelly, who witnesses say, enthusiastically ate most of the fries. After Kelly broke her leg, Gary refrained from eating French fries for the rest of the trip. But Gary has his own story. When trying to recover his lift ticket cost for days he was in lessons, he was accused by mountain staff of reckless skiing or stealing the pass that appeared to be marked as a reckless skier. We all know neither could be true and eventually Vail realized so and gave Gary his refund. But Gary tells it so much more humorously!

On Monday, some such as **Steve Slade** chose the "Intro to Powder" Group Lessons, in Blue Sky Basin, while others such as **Alex Bunsch**, **Mike Murphy**, and **Davis Tucker** skied on their own. **Janet McKenzie** skied all week with new member and snowboarder, **Edmond McGee**. She learned the first day that there is a good reason (no poles) why snowboarders stop on inclines and not on flats. That night, over 20 "football fans" met in Camille, George, **Larry Edmondson** and **Gary Barrett's** condo to watch NCAA football finals. More LSU fans than Ohio State. Go figure.

On Tuesday, **Belinda Parker** was probably the only one to remember it was Elvis Presley's birthday. She served her condo-mates, **Laurie Haischer**, **Cindy McGowan** and **John McGowan**, peanut butter sandwiches for breakfast

to celebrate! (Elvis loved peanut butter sandwiches). Several Elvis sightings were later reported on the slopes. Not only does the king live, he skis! At least 15 skiers hiked their way up to Two Elks for lunch - among them **Mike Murphy**, **Camille LaRoe**, **George Lopez**, **Frank Yu** and **Dale Allbritton**. Later that afternoon, George



drove to Denver to meet up with the short trip participants. **Kay McKeough**, our unofficial AATC, handed out the boarding passes and trip itineraries to the participants in Houston and got them safely to Denver. Thanks Kay! After another scavenger hunt at the grocery and liquor store, the group finally arrived at Vail, at midnight. They looked happy, but exhausted.

On Wednesday, we had our SCSC Breakfast bright and early for both the long and short trips. Most of the short trip was there so they could get the mountain scoop from some long trip skiers. **Isabel & Thomas Chin**, **John Gillies**, **Marsha Lutz**, **Peggy Schillinger**, **Anne Nettles**, and **Pat Piech** were all seen enjoying their nutritious breakfast, as well as the much needed caffeine.

**Ron and Roberta Rambin** took advantage of the free powder lessons offered by Canadian Mountain Heliskiing on Wednesday. They reported "The Powder Clinic was a great idea!! The clinic was awesome." Roommate **Frank Yu** kept directing **David Launarey** to the powder area to ski even though David wanted to ski on non-powder areas. Eventually, they went their separate ways. **Frank Adams** and **Kay McKeough** skied the day together and had a great time. Many skiers met for lunch and after everyone regrouped, **Janet McKenzie**, **Al Smith**, **Roger Holzman** and **Diane Stotz** skied together. Diane remarked "I never heard so many one-liners on one ski run in my life".

**Monica Rey** and **Mike Turner** commented that "Vail was a great place. Even for beginners like us. The green trails were great and fun." Other enthusiastic "green" skiers included **Janice Harris**, **Gin Knebel** and **Gary Barrett**. One large group always skiing together was **Isabel & Tom Chin**, **Corrina & Edward Huang**, **Paul & Irene Lee**, **Tony Tarn** and **KC & Betsy Wang**.

**Chuck Ratliff** arranged an evening shuttle for 17 adventuresome souls to Midtown. We heard they ate quail and really enjoyed it. It was also the TSC Pub Crawl and some participants went to different bars to enjoy the local brew.

On Thursday, were the NASTAR Races. Ten skiers from the club entered the races on the black diamond, Golden Peak Race Course which was difficult to find. **Bob Wray**, our race director, reported that over 50 people had signed up, but only 10 participated. Must have been the big night the night before. Hey the race was a challenge; it was on a black run!!!! Of the ten, most managed to finish. That night was the SCSC Club Party at the Simba Run Conference Room. 85 of 88 participants showed up to wine and dine from food catered by Foods of Vail, and by the trip coordinators. It was a huge success





as everyone had lots of eat and drink, with lots of socializing. Diane was seen taking lots of pictures.

Later that night, Jana organized an impromptu BYOB, "Bring Your Own Banana" for Kelly. What a trooper, Kelly bounced back quickly and was faster on her crutches than most of us on our skis! Especially after receiving a plethora of bananas at the BYOB (bring your own banana). Bananas are healthier than French Fries aren't they? The party was held in room 1419 where **Dale Allbritton** and **Roger Holzman** entertained us with stories of the good ol' days of SCSC! You know - those wild activities of the 60s and 70s!

Friday, most of the group tried to get as much slope time as possible. The wonderful trip was drawing to a close. Some chose to shop. Others took pictures. Still others like Elizabeth were seen making snow angels. That night SCSC partied at the Final TSC party at Dobson Arena. **Eileen Kondor** and **Peggy Schillinger** were seen taking lots of pictures, particularly later on, when many SCSC contingents put on their version of Dance Fever.

## Whistler 2008

by Bruce Baird and Jill Nanney

Our adventure began early the morning of January 12 when our merry band of traveler's departed Houston on United Airlines bound for Vancouver via San Francisco. **David** and **Guri Pryce** met us at the Vancouver airport to complete our small but mighty group of 25. We boarded our roomy bus for a scenic drive along the "sea to sky" highway to Whistler Village. Our newest member, **David Novak**, showed his stripes early by suggesting a quick stop for a little "refreshment" along the way.

We arrived at the Hilton Resort and Spa in the early evening, just in time for folks to get settled in before our wine and cheese welcome party. Afterwards, many ventured out to see the Fire and Ice Show, a free ski jumping show by local instructors and ski patrol followed by fireworks.

The entire group was delighted with hotel and location - fabulous accommodations and literally steps from the gondolas. **Markus Bartl** was especially happy that he was on rental skis this week since he literally skied to the front door. Others raved about the hot tub, spa treatments, special banana French toast as well as the endless supply of homemade chocolate chip cookies at the front desk.

On Sunday, all skiers headed to Whistler. The resort had had tons of fresh snow and it was a sunny, gorgeous day. Trip leaders, **Bruce Baird** and **Jill Nanney**, decided to opt for the free mountain tour to learn the ins and outs of the ski area. **Keith Kirkman**, the human trailmap, said no tour for me and proceeded to lead the Big Dogs all over the mountain. In **Bill Bomberger's** case, his inability to follow directions earned him the nickname "Beer Fine Bill" or BFB. Eventually, most found their way to "The Peaks" to view awesome scenery including natural snow sculptures. Looking down, you almost felt you were on another planet.

After a fun first day, the group met in the hotel's Cinnamon Bear Bar to cel-

The TSC awards were given: SCSC came in 3rd place in Division 1. **Bob Wray** reported the race results: Morning Club Race -- **Marie Henry** received a silver Nastar medal and was our fastest female. **Barry Casper** was our fastest male and received a bronze medal. Other racers earning bronze medals were **Mike Murphy**, **Tom Norton**, **Larry Edmondson**, **George Lopez**, **Dale Allbritton**, **Helmut Zenger** and **Kurt Schidlowski**. Unfortunately, **Karin Schidlowski**, **Dave Stotz** and **Bob Wray** DQ'd. But again, it was on the black diamond course. We all know those guys are often medal winners. Afternoon Individual Race -- Marie and Mike both won third overall in their divisions and also received silver Nastar medals. Other individual racers were Dale, George and Tom, with bronze medals awarded to Dale and George for their performance.

On Saturday, the long trip flew home, while the short trippers stayed for one more day of skiing. Everyone made new friends or spent time with old friends and we all returned with precious memories of our ski trip. 'Til next year in Vail - in Lionshead.



brate. **Mary Wollmann** told a story about a French colleague who when making a toast, got her American slang mixed up and yelled "UP YOURS" (instead of bottoms up!) - instantly becoming our trip motto!

On Monday, the group was supposed to ski Blackcomb. It was a bizarre weather day as a Pineapple Express had blown in. Snow was great on the mountain, but it rained in the Village. A few diehards, **Keith**, **Dennis Newell**, **Bob DeBell**, **Bill**, **David** and **Thuy Rocque**, **Yvonne McMahon**, **Don Macken**, **Mary**, **David**, **Markus** and **Bob Eberhardt** weathered the elements and enjoyed what they said was a fabulous snow day although they got a little "damp" heading home. "**Yellow Bob**" **Eberhardt** (his jacket color and so not to be confused with "**Tall Bob**" **DeBell**) met up with the Big Dogs at lunch. It was snowing so hard his glasses kept fogging up. His tendency to ski fast and stop abruptly (i.e. with head buried in the snow) earned him multiple fines but a great way to break in the new guy. In fact, "Yellow Bob" got so many ski fines the first day with the Big Dogs that he bought all the beer at Après ski that evening and said that was just a "down payment!"

Those who wimped out on skiing took the opportunity to visit the spa, tour the village, shop, view the galleries and take long lunches. Most everyone met up at the Irish Bar for happy hour and to trade tall tales.





Rather than assess a beer fine on **Nancy Schultz** for not skiing on the second day, "Tall Bob" decided she should be his Sherpa for the rest of the week.

On Tuesday, we arose to blue skies, no wind and lots of fresh snow! Skiers were scheduled to go back to Whistler as we were alternating days between these two fabulous mountains. After breaking off from skiing with the Big Dogs, Thuy and Richard reportedly skied 2 miles of moguls on Peak to Creek. Hearing that, the Big Dogs later skied the run, looking forward to the challenge. Unfortunately, what they found was 3 miles of groomed skiing. They are still waiting to hear from someone to corroborate Thuy's story.

Since they missed Blackcomb the day before, **Leslie** and **Don Caldwell** headed there and accidentally started their routine of skiing the opposite mountain - leading one skier to wonder if the only skiing they really did was *Après Ski*! At the end of a wonderful ski day, the group met up at Longhorn Saloon. The new guys, "Yellow Bob" and "Sister" David, had really caught onto this beer fine thing as they both kept trying to pay in advance.

**Ladye Freitag** and **Yvonne** had a wonderful dog sledding experience and Ladye said she was huffing and puffing as she drove the team up the mountain since she had to do lots of running to help the dogs up the hill. Yvonne and the musher got to ride in the sled.

Wednesday, skiers headed back to Blackcomb except of course for Don and Leslie who claimed they skied Whistler and viewed rainbows! Of course, no one ever saw them except at *Après ski* back at the Irish Pub. They were then dubbed the "*Après ski couple*". UP YOURS!

Thursday, we continued to enjoy the fabulous weather and snow and all,

except of course the "*Après ski couple*", headed out to Whistler. We saw Ladye with her snowshoe group at the Roundhouse Lodge over lunch. When we yelled "Hey Ladye" her whole table, in fact the whole female half of the room, turned around.

Friday at Blackcomb was our last ski day. "**Don Juan**" **Macken** had vowed to ski with "every" female skier on this trip and almost succeeded until Mary decided to join the mountain tour with **Johanna Kuang** instead! While Johanna was skiing, **Jing Kuang** stayed in - no better place to be than Whistler if you have to do a little work, he says.

Saturday, we moved up the bus time slightly and everyone seemed to get the word but **Mary** and **Elba Villarreal** who were last to hop on the bus. Naturally, upon their arrival, they were greeted with extensive jeers and teasing to which Elba yelled, UP YOURS!

The trip back to Vancouver airport was beautiful. Customs was so smooth that we had oodles of time to spend those last loonies. Then, naturally, our flight from Vancouver took off late. By the time we disembarked in Denver it was almost time for our flight to Houston and we had to beg United to let us board. Eventually the pilot agreed to wait for the rest of the group and even waited an hour longer to load all of our bags. We thought everybody made it until **Buzz Allen** noticed that his roommate, **Karl Ferenczy** was missing and not to be found. Apparently, Karl liked the Denver airport so much he decided to have United put him on a later Frontier flight.

From all the participants who enjoyed this wonderful trip, to those who couldn't make it, we just have two words for you...UP YOURS!!! :) And hope you make it to Whistler someday.

## Steamboat Springs 2008

by *Dennis Hughes*

SCSC is back from Steamboat Springs and the 56 brave souls who followed **Melinda Hughes** (TC) and **Dennis Hughes** (ATC) had a week of fun, sun, and wonderful snow.

**Robert Knupp**, **Joe Kulpinsky**, **Buddy Soland**, **Ben Wakefield**, **Lene Hein**, and **Bob** and **Mary Simpson** joined everyone in singing Happy Birthday at the **Sharon Simandl** surprise wine, cheese, and cake party on Sunday. **Tom Huzzey**'s skis did not make the direct flight until Tuesday.

**Keith Kirkman** aka "Trail Boss" led his entourage of skiers (**Gary Davis**, **Frank Adams**, **Ross** and **Diane Baker**, **Charlie** and **Beverly Roberts**, **Nancy Schultz**, **Melinda Hughes**, **Jim Hodges**, **Bill Bomberger**, **Morris Covin**, and **Sharon Simandl**) through some wonderful trees and glades most of the week. After "losing" this group, **Dennis Newell** had a "near out of bounds" experience. **Bill Bomberger**'s face plant and DR on Monday and



fence hugging on Tuesday, is a reminder that everyone should consider a helmet. **Janet McKenzie** got "engaged", had a DR, and, a face plant, all in one trip.





**Rick and Jane Adams, Nelson and Marti Turner, Ron and Roberta Rambin, Janet McKenzie, and Maria Mendez** joined **Dennis Hughes** for a set of cruisers on Thursday and Friday. **Dale Allbritton** eloquently videoed **Alex Bunsch** and himself while skiing 360's down the mountain. **Susan Blome** decided to chill out and get a massage from a local masseuse. **Judy Schiro** and **Ron Hayes** rented a car and spent a day touring the Steamboat area and taking in many wonderful sites and a photo or two hundred.



**Chuck Britton** and **Barbara Della Longa** refined their skills in lessons – we'll be eating their snow on the slopes soon. **Mac McNamara** and **Ken Wall** hosted a pot luck dinner for weary skiers. Mac described **Teri Welsh's** lightening speed as she skied through the trees from one black slope to another.

**Mark Clarke, Miriam Glover, and Bill Riddlehuber** joined 22 others for the adventure to Strawberry Park that, well, let's just say that no flash-lights, open air changing hut, and some boisterous locals, left much to be desired.

**Mark and Linda Aguilar, Stan and Linda Kuper, Bill and Carla Nerwich** cut the cards during lunch and Apres Ski Happy hours for the SCSC Steamboat Poker Run

was recruited from Boston to join our club and had a wonderful trip. **Michael Testa** had a great time on vacation. **Lara Mallyn** "popped" her ankle on the mountain, but, found out back in Houston that she suffered a broken fibula. **Stan Smith** had a binding malfunction and got a complimentary toboggan ride down the mountain from the Ski Patrol. **John Roberts** was crowned "Mr. HotTub" as it is reported that he spent more time in the water than on the slopes.

Special thanks to Slopeside Bar & Grill and Bear River Bar & Grill for donating T-shirts for the Poker Run. And lastly, **Charlie Roberts** still has not paid **Beverly Roberts** her jewelry fine.

trying to get the best poker hand for the week. The three best hands and the three worst hands received prizes. 40 of the 56 trip participants turned in at least 5 cards.

We also learned that **Pat Piech** is "not", I repeat, "not" a morning person. **Beth Wilson**



## It's Membership Renewal Time!!!

The SCSC membership period goes from May 1 to April 30 of each year. Renew NOW and get the discounted rate of \$35! Limited Time Offer!!!

Do it online NOW. It is easy!

1. Go to [spacecityskiclub.org](http://spacecityskiclub.org).
2. Click on the "My SCSC" tab.
3. Log in with username and password.
4. The light blue print above "Here are your member features" verifies your membership expiration date.
5. Click on "Update My Membership Profile" and check all information for accuracy including e-mail address.
6. Click on the "Renew My Membership" button.
7. Decide if you want a single year membership (through 4/09 or multiple years – so you don't have to do all of this stuff every year)!
8. Proceed thru PayPal to complete your payment. It's secure, it's free and you don't have to have a PayPal account, just a major credit card or checking account.
9. TROUBLESHOOTING:

Don't have a SCSC on-line account?

1. Click on the "My SCSC" tab.
2. Click on the "SCSC members may request an account here" link.
3. You will need your member number from a Sitzmarke label, or e-mail the VP of membership @ [vpmembership@spacecityskiclub.org](mailto:vpmembership@spacecityskiclub.org).

Did you get "Your session has timed out" when trying to complete the PayPal process? It's just a browser cookie setting.

1. Go back to the payment page.
2. Below the PayPal button there is a link to a help page to get that all straight.

OR-----

See **Barbara Della Longa** at the Membership table to complete a new application at our next meeting or Happy Hour. You may also download an application on the Membership tab of the [www.spacecityskiclub.org](http://www.spacecityskiclub.org) website.



# SCSC's SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUBS EXPO - 2008

Sponsored by Space City Ski Club

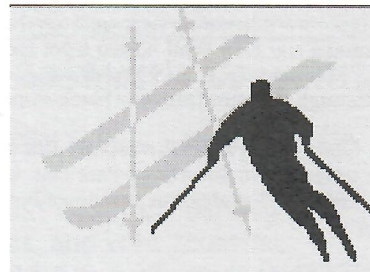
[www.spacecityskiclub.org](http://www.spacecityskiclub.org)

Come visit with representatives from all types of organizations in the Houston area.  
There is something for everyone!

Monday, April 14 - 6:30 p.m.

Vargo's, 2401 Fondren  
(just north of Westheimer)

Activity Coordinator Camille LaRoe (281) 686-2274  
[prdirector@spacecityskiclub.org](mailto:prdirector@spacecityskiclub.org)



Participating Clubs (more organizations may be added):

Space City Ski Club

Buffalo Bayou Partnership

Shotokan Karate - Do Center

LTG

Texas Association of Single Sailors (TASS)

Houston Single Source

Houston Underwater Club

Bayou City Outdoors

Houston Tennis Association

Galloway Marathon Training Prog.

Bad Blades Rollerblade Group

Friends & Fairways Golf Club

Eight Friends Out

REI

Bay Area Divers Houston



**SPACE CITY SKI CLUB**  
**QUICK APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**  
(for complete application, visit website)  
**2008-2009 (MAY 1 - APRIL 30)**

|                       |    |       |
|-----------------------|----|-------|
| 2008-2009 APPLICATION | #  | _____ |
| "CASH" OR CHECK       | #  | _____ |
| AMOUNT PAID           | \$ | _____ |

MINIMUM AGE FOR MEMBERSHIP IS 21

Make Checks payable to: "SPACE CITY SKI CLUB"

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 22567, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77227-2567

**For Club Information**

Visit [www.spacecityskiclub.org](http://www.spacecityskiclub.org)

Information line: (713) 866-4021

## MEMBERSHIP DUES SCHEDULES (Check One)

☐ NEW MEMBER

☐ \$40 Single    ☐ \$60 Dual Membership

Referred to SCSC by: \_\_\_\_\_

*SCSC Member Name*

☐ RENEWAL of existing membership

Renewal by 5-31-2008    ☐ \$35 Single    ☐ \$55 Dual Membership

Renewal after 5-31-2008    ☐ \$40 Single    ☐ \$60 Dual Membership

## MAILING AND DIRECTORY LISTING DATA (Please Print Clearly)

(A1) APPLICANT 1

(A2) APPLICANT 2

LAST

FIRST

MIDDLE

LAST

FIRST

MIDDLE

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIPCODE + 4 (See Phone Bill for Zip + 4)

Home Phone

Applicant1 Work Phone

Applicant1 Cell Phone

Applicant2 Work Phone

Applicant2 Cell Phone

@

@

APPLICANT 1 E-MAIL ADDRESS

APPLICANT 2 E-MAIL ADDRESS

APPLICANT 1 BIRTHDAY: MO/DAY

APPLICANT 2 BIRTHDAY: MO/DAY

X

APPLICANT 1 SIGNATURE

DATE

X

APPLICANT 2 SIGNATURE

DATE

**Signature constitutes acceptance of Release of Liability and Standing Rules shown on the website page 2 of this application form.**