

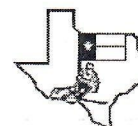


The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

www.spacecityskiclub.org

December, 2008



Member
Texas Ski
Council

Vol. 44, No. 7

DON'T MISS OUR ANNUAL SUNSHINE KIDS AUCTION AT OUR DECEMBER MEETING

Our annual silent and live auction will be held December 8, 2008 at David & Buster's, 6010 Richmond Ave, Houston, TX 77057, starting at 6:30 pm. Please ask all your friends and neighbors to come join us this evening to promote our Christmas gift to sick children.

If you have anything to contribute, please contact our 2008 Chairman, Cheryl May at 713-705-2345. CAMaySFA@aol.com. Please see last page of this newsletter for more details.



From Mission Control

by Gary Butler, Space City Ski Club President

Over a decade ago Space City Ski Club began supporting the Sunshine Kids, a charity that supports children with cancer. Through auctions, pledges and donations we have raised through the years well over \$50000 and once again this year we plan to add to that total. We are going to hold our annual Sunshine Kids auction at our upcoming December meeting to be held on the 8th at Dave & Busters in the Showroom. As mentioned last month Cheryl May will head up the committee running the auction so if you want to contribute an item please contact Cheryl at 713-983-8866 or at camaysfa@aol.com.

Bring your checkbooks or a wad of cash to the auction and be prepared to help yourself to great auction items and at the same time you will make a charitable contribution to the Sunshine Kids.

By the time you read this our first ski trip should be back in town so the ski season has officially started. We still have spots available on most trips so tell your friends and family to join the club and hit the slopes. It's time to break out the snow dance and get the slopes covered. **Think snow.**



SCSC's Recycle Program

Hi skiers!

As I mentioned a while ago, I know that some of us actually have too many of those nice neck wallets used as name badges. We plan to order as many as we need for our ski participants this season, but don't want to add to your growing collection if you don't want one. So if you have one or two too many, please bring the gently used ones to the General Meeting so we can put them to good use. We will collect them at the sign-in table.

Thanks

Marsha Lutz, VP Trips



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



Space City Ski Club 2008-2009 Executive Committee

President	Gary Butler	gbutler@beckmasten.net	281-897-6611
VP of Activities	Camille LaRoe	claroe@abm.com	281-686-2274
VP of Trips	Marsha Lutz	marsha.lutz@comcast.net	281-600-1035
VP of Membership	Nancy Schultz	ecdsnws@gmail.com	713-664-7434
VP of Publication	Sandy Wellhausen		
		sandywp.ski@gmail.com	281-996-8653
Treasurer	David Cone	djcsesc@hal-pc.org	713-521-9741
Secretary	Penny Chancey	pchancey881@att.net	713-686-4863
Dir. of Comm.	Bruce Lowther	rblowt@hal-pc.org	713-785-5196
Dir. of Trips	Diane Stotz	dianestotz@comcast.net	713-862-9486
Dir. of Trips	Melinda Hughes		
		melinda@angeloproductions.com	281-859-8024
Auditor	Keith Kirkman	keithakirkman@comcast.net	
			281-894-4203
Race Director	Robert Wray	robertwray@att.net	713-410-3350

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Pat Piech, Chairman	Barbara Della Longa	Bill Bomberger
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SITZMARKE STAFF:

EDITOR: Sandy Wellhausen
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 online 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" or "spam".

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!

Having A Blast!

by Camille LaRoe, Vice President of Activities

I want to express a big "Thank You" to our members that have volunteered to coordinate activities for us over the last couple of months! In October, Ann Dorn hosted a fantastic wine tasting for 44 SCSC members and friends and plied us with some sensational food and wine while Laura Carmin put a lot of effort into rounding up a great group for our now annual Dart Tournament. We feasted on some great treats brought by all and battled to the end for the winner's title grabbed by Larry Longbottom and the best Halloween costume snagged by Marilyn Swanson.

If you didn't join us for the St. Arnold's Brewery Tour you truly missed a blast! Larry Christie was a volunteer bartender the day we attended and kept us all in suds! I would love to do this again any Saturday. Ike hit us once again and forced the relocation of the Holiday Gala to Sambuca! That didn't faze AC Janice Harris and 63 other Gala attendees as we still had a festive night with great food and the music of Ezra Charles! Rounding out November our never tireless, Ellen Eastman, organized volunteers for the Thanksgiving Day Parade and Feast. It was a great way to give back to Houston after so many challenges for our city since September. Peggy Shillinger

has also been a much appreciated volunteer organizing our Happy Hours every month. Happy Hour, December 18th at Howl at the Moon in Midtown, will be a great place to celebrate our friendships and the Holiday Season together. Thanks again to Ann, Laura, Larry, Janice, Ellen and Peggy for organizing these great times!



Kicking off 2009, I am in the process of getting approval for a bowling activity January 10 or 11th and a trip to the Rodeo with AC Craig Campbell March 7th. Steve Giesler and Rick Jaeger will AC/AAC Mardi Gras Galveston February 21st, so be sure and mark this date on your calendar. This is another great opportunity to support our neighbors and your participation could sincerely help a community rebuild. Stay tuned for updates from Chuck Pena for this year's TSC Bid Fest to be held in Dallas, April 17th to 19th. Discount room rates are available until January 31st. Keep your fingers crossed for the Sandcastle Competition in Galveston in May of 2009. I am currently looking for an AC for this great fun, sun and suds activity. Our 2009 season will conclude with our Annual Volunteer Party in June so volunteer and volunteer often to make sure you are one of those Having a Blast!

Calendar of Events

December 8, 2008 - December General Meeting, Dave & Buster's
December 18, 2008 - HH at Howl at the Moon, 612 Hadley Street, AC: Peggy Schillinger
January 19, 2009 - January General Meeting, Dave & Buster's
January 22, 2009 - January Happy Hour
February 21, 2009 - Mardi Gras Galveston, AC: Steven Giesler
February 26, 2009 - February Happy Hour
April 17 - 19, 2009 - TSC Bid Fest - Dallas, TSC Representative: Chuck Pena

Countdown to Liftoff

By Marsha Lutz, Vice President of Trips

It's the holidays! Hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving. Our **Winter Park** trip surely did as they got to work off the big meal by skiing. Those of us left behind made plans to get in shape for the ski season – even though that is an ominous goal during the holiday season!

If you haven't picked out a fun trip for this season, now is the time! Most trips have a couple or more openings, but we are at the point where we have to either get one or two participants to fill a condo or see if we can get 2 or 4 more people so we can add 1 more hotel room or condo. Don't worry if it is past the posted final payment date. We had to set that date to make payments to vendors, but if a spot is available we can still add you once you pay in full. In some cases as we get closer to the trip, there may be only land packages available, but you can probably still get your own airline ticket and join the group.

By the time you get this **Vail** will be preparing to leave so you will probably have to wait for another year to make that destination – but if you are interested check just in case. But how about **Steamboat** where the total travel time from the Houston airport to the condo is less than 5 hours. And we still have a few places for those wanting overseas adventures – one across the Atlantic in **France** and the other across the Pacific in **Japan**. These trips offer great skiing and fun day excursions as well as great pre and post trip destinations. Our other

SUMMER MELTDOWN

Submitted by: Craig Campbell, TC

On the last weekend of September, 27 of your fellow skiers put Hurricane Ike and its problems behind them and headed to Port Royal at Port Aransas for the 2008 TSC Summer Meltdown. Sand is a little different than snow, but we still figured out how to have a good time. Friday night was a dinner in beautiful downtown Port Aransas with a live band. Saturday evening was a pool side dinner and a bonfire on the beach. Early morning activities were generally limited to beach walks, beach runs (at least the TC), sleeping late, etc. Water volleyball and other poolside activities lasted from mid-morning to dusk. There was a scavenger hunt and cocktail mixing contest.

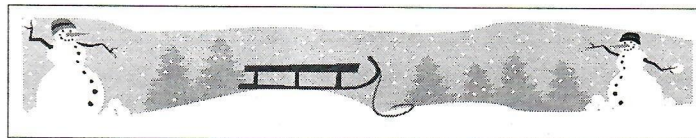
TC Craig Campbell and Margaret McCord were the first to arrive to be sure everything was ready. Victor & Paula Yovanovic were the last to arrive on Friday night. However, they were not the last to arrive for the trip because Tom Danowski and Ellen Eastham were the very last to arrive at 1:30 a.m. Saturday morning. Leyla Ozkardesh picked up Dallas Skier Michael Vick at the Corpus Christi Airport and brought him to Port Aransas. Peggy Schillinger wound up at the Corpus Christi Naval Air Station (almost) before making it to Port Royal. She made up for it the next day by going shopping in Rockport.

Stan & Linda Kuper, former members who rejoined, recruited two of their friends, Gary & Cathy Elston, and brought them

“foreign” trip is in friendly Alberta, Canada at the most beautiful **Lake Louise**. If you haven't stayed at the Chateau Lake Louise you have missed a wonderful experience.

Back in the USA –we are offering a new type of adventure for the true skier traveler to **Powder Mountain/Snow Basin** Utah. Lots of skier camaraderie is planned. **Snowmass/Aspen** is always a great place to ski, shop and dine – there is such variety in all of those activities in the area! We have a spectacular price for **Breckenridge** – a really popular quaint ski town with lots of skiing terrain. Finally – our last trip of the season is to **Big Sky, MT** – staying in the fabulous Huntley Lodge. Since it is one of the most northern resorts there is still plenty of snow and cold weather in mid March. And for the post –ski season, we have the Summer Expedition to **Panama**. Look in next month's Sitzmarke for an article or contact Vicki Faulkner now for more information.

So there it is. Give yourself a really nice Christmas or Hanukkah present. And start singing “**Let It Snow, Let It Snow!**”



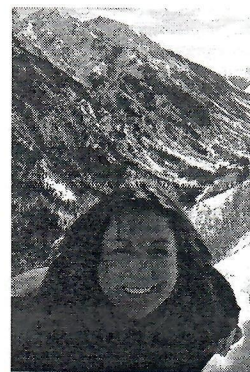
along. Long time SCSC members Jerry & Peggy Montgomery hosted two friends from the Austin Skiers, Tere Mayne and Christine Austine. New members Jeanne Dazey and Marylaura Merritt made this their first overnight SCSC event. George Lopez was planning to repair his home in Galveston, but Camille LaRoe talked him out of it (at least for this weekend). What's a hurricane when you have the Summer Meltdown. Penny Chancey, Christie Burke, Jill Nanney, Christina Anderson, Gloria Lopez, and Sandy Wellhausen rounded out the trip.

Our water volleyball team, which at various times consisted of the Kupers, the Elstons, Tom Danowski, Ellen Eastham and Craig Campbell, did its best to represent the club in the volleyball contest. Where we finished is a closely guarded secret.

Several people entered the cocktail mixing contest and Peggy Montgomery was a judge. Several of our people also entered the scavenger hunt and spent time looking for odd colored toenails and tattoos in certain places.

Unfortunately, two of our members went on the IR list (Injured Reserve) during the trip. Jeanne Dazey twisted an ankle by the pool and Stan Kuper was hit in the back coming off of the water slide. Both are recovering nicely.

It was a good time enjoyed by all. Many would like to do it again next year. If interested, please let us know.



Space City Ski Club 2008-2009 Trip Schedule

Dates	Trip Destination	Trip Price Full – PP/Cash Land -PP/Cash	TC ATC	Home Phone	E-mail Address
11/25 - 30/08 (Tues-Sun) Two Tier Pricing	WINTER PARK, CO TSC Fall Roundup Family Optional	Tier 1: Full - \$844/820 Land - \$390/379 Tier 2: Full - \$916/891 Land - \$463/450	Cheryl May	713-983-8866	camay@aol.com
12/6 - 13/08 (Sat – Sat)	VAIL, CO - I Long	Full - \$1023/995 Land - \$736/716	Judy Schiro Ron Hayes	713-939-8235	jschiro1@comcast.net
12/6 - 10/08 (Sat – Wed)	VAIL, CO - II Short	Full - \$802/780 Land - \$515/501	Judy Schiro Ron Hayes	713-939-8235	jschiro1@comcast.net
1/10 - 17/09 (Sat – Sat)	STEAMBOAT, CO - I TSC Traditional (Long)	Full - \$1117/1087 Land - \$687/668	Sandra McCunis Edmond McGee	281-463-7717 713-907-2122	semccunis@aol.com edmond.mcgee@sbcglobal.net
1/13 - 18/09 (Tues - Sun)	STEAMBOAT, CO - II TSC Traditional (Short)	Full - \$915/890 Land - \$530/515	Sandra McCunis Sarah Granbery	281-463-7717 713-662-0493	semccunis@aol.com sarahgranbery@sbcglobal.net
1/16 - 25/09 (Fri – Sun)	THREE VALLEYS, FRANCE	Full - \$2081/2024 Land - \$1210/1176	Leslie Caldwell	832-251-1296	lescaldwell@gmail.com
1/24 - 31/09 (Sat – Sun)	JAPAN HAKUBA-NAGANO&TOKYO TSC Winter Expedition	Full - \$3325/3247 Land - \$1693/1651 PRICE INCREASE in 10/08	Ross Baker	713-690-1443	ross@rossbaker.com
1/31 - 2/7/09 (Sat – Sat)	UTAH - POWDER MOUNTAIN	Full - \$956/930 Land - \$540/525 PRICE REDUCTION in 11/08	George Lopez	856-296-9399	GJL_ASTI@yahoo.com
2/7 - 14/09 (Sat – Sat)	SNOWMASS, CO	Full - \$1434/1395 Land - \$1073/1042	Thuy Rocque	281-615-0405	trocque@comcast.net
2/15 - 22/09 (Sun – Sun) Date Change	LAKE LOUISE, CANADA TSC Winter Shootout	Full - \$1639/1594 Land - \$1057/1028	Jessica Halter Dennis Hughes	281-793-1148 713-805-1757	jessicahalter@yahoo.com dwhughes@horizonsurvey.com
2/28 - 3/4/09 (Sat – Wed)	BRECKENRIDGE, CO	Full - \$637/619 Land - \$448/435 PRICE REDUCTION in 9/08	Patti Finch	713-374-3544	finchp@gtlaw.com
3/14 - 21/09 (Sat – Sat)	BIG SKY, MT TSC Final Showdown Family Optional	Full (BIL) - \$1512/1471 Land (BIL) - \$828/805 Land (BZN) - \$812/790 FULL PKG PRICE REDUCTION EXPECTED SOON	Cindy Moore Ann Rogers	713-984-1060 281-313-2234	dance_c_ski@yahoo.com rogersae@msn.com
6/28 - 7/5/09 (Sun-Sun)	PANAMA TSC Summer Expedition	Land – \$829/815 Full – waiting on air	Vicki Faulkner	713- 863-0470	Vicki.Faulkner@shell.com



The Sunshine Kids Auction December 8, 2008

Mission: The Sunshine Kids Foundation adds quality of life to children with cancer by providing them with exciting, positive group activities, so they may once again do what kids are supposed to do...have fun and celebrate life!

At our December gathering, Space City Ski Club (SCSC) will focus on raising funds to give to our special charity, The Sunshine Kids – children with cancer. Please consider volunteering to help with this event with both your time and donations. There is no greater gift than helping children afflicted with this horrible disease. **Our annual silent and live auction will be held December 8, 2008 at David & Buster's, 6010 Richmond Ave, Houston, TX 77057, starting at 6:30 pm. Please ask all your friends and neighbors to come join us this evening to promote our Christmas gift to sick children.**

We are currently working on listing donations on our SCSC web site, www.spacecityskiclub.org. Please check out the site for the latest information. We plan to list all auction items, donors and emphasize corporate donations. We want to provide special recognition to those merchants who help us generate funds for this worthwhile cause.

How can you contribute?

- v Contribute tickets to a sports event or theater show
- v Donate gift cards to movies, restaurants or stores
- v Gather a group to prepare a gourmet dinner or host a special event
- v Donate items people will enjoy giving to family & friends for Christmas
- v Don't forget to package children's gifts to sell – a "grandparent" special
- v Contribute something that you would enjoy receiving or using
- v For those who have special skills, offer your services
- v For the cooks, prepare those special treats that are "world famous"
- v Artists – create something special that your friends would enjoy
- v Ask your favorite restaurant, boutique, spa or store to donate to our cause
- v Be original....all is appreciated

Many restaurants and businesses are very willing to donate, especially with a letter describing the charity and our club. (Please see attached letter.) Be sure to leave this letter with the merchant and make a copy for the club. Every time you go to a restaurant, entertainment location, or to a club, ask for a donation. Nothing is too small or large.

PLEASE HELP US MAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL FUND RAISER FOR CHILDREN WITH CANCER.

Please e-mail Cheryl May with a description of your item and value. We are going to be posting all auction items on SCSC's web site and need to have the information and items prior to the auction. Thanks so much for your help!

Cheryl May, 2008 Chairman. 713-705-2345. CAMaySFA@aol.com

Sunshine Committee: Peggy Montgomery, Leona Schroeder, Marti Turner, Dana Wardell





Space City Ski Club

To Generous Supporters of Sunshine Kids Charity:

Space City Ski Club is Texas' largest snow ski club with over 1000 members. We are a non-profit, member run organization located in Houston, Texas that promotes the sport of snow skiing. We are a member of the Texas Ski Council, which is made up of ski clubs throughout Texas.

We support various charities such as the Race for the Cure and the Sunshine Kids. It is for this reason that we are contacting you. Space City Ski Club will host its annual fundraiser and silent auction for the Sunshine Kids Charity on December 8, 2008 at Dave & Buster's on Richmond starting at 6:30 PM.

The Sunshine Kids Foundation was founded by Rhoda Tomasco in 1982 while she was serving as a volunteer in the pediatric cancer unit of a hospital in Houston, Texas. After seeing the loneliness and depression among children during their extended hospital treatments, Rhoda had a vision to provide these young cancer patients with opportunities to participate in positive group activities which promoted self-esteem, personal accomplishment and just plain old fashioned fun at absolutely no cost! Second baseman, Craig Biggio, of the Houston Astros, has represented the Sunshine Kids as their national spokesperson for over two decades.

Thank you, in advance, for your generous support in donating services and/or items to benefit this worthy charity. This completed letter serves as your receipt for this tax deductible contribution.

Item/Service Donated: _____

Value:\$ _____ SCSC Representative: _____

SCSC Member, Please attach business card or complete the following information:

Name of Business or Donor: _____

Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Members: Please provide one copy to merchant/donor and keep one copy for SCSC records. As soon as you have secured a donation, contact Cheryl May at 713-705-2345 or email CAMaySFA@aol.com to register your donation. Bring all items to the December 8 meeting or call Cheryl to make arrangements for the donation.