

# The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

**NEW WEBSITE NAME** spacecityskiclub.org



Member Texas Ski Council

Vol. 38 No. 11

March 2005

## TSC LEARN TO SKI TRIP - SNOWBIRD, UTAH

By Brenda Parker

The annual TSC "Learn to Ski" trip took place in Snowbird. Utah on December 7-12. This trip was led by former TSC President James Mershon and included SCSC members: James Parise, Brenda Parker, Elaine Parker. Cameron Stephenson, William Brown and Patrick Claymore.

The three days of instruction went by so quickly. Everyone fell down a lot,

laughed a lot and we had superb ski conditions! One day there was a blizzard and we were snowed-in until nearly noon. The next day was sunny and hot! A lot of Europeans were there to enjoy the near perfect skiing conditions early in the ski season. I heard that this is the one place that can almost guarantee early snow every vear!

We even had our share of celebrity encounters; Rob Lowe and his family were staying at the Cliff Lodge. I ran into Rob's dad, Chuck, and brother Chad at breakfast. At first, I didn't know with whom I was talking. Later, at lunch, Chuck invited me back to meet the rest of his family when they came down from the mountain.

In the picture from left to right was Rob Lowe, Chad Lowe, Matthew Lowe (Rob's eleven year old son), James Mershon, Elaine Parker, Instructor Gwen, Brenda Parker, Chuck Lowe, Sheryl Lowe (Rob's wife),

> and Maggie (Ski School Director). From the Lowe group, the only missing person was Hilary Swank, Chad's wife who was promoting her new movie "Million Dollar Baby".

> The Lowe Family was very gracious towards us. Chuck Lowe made quite an impression with me. The next day, James Mershon ran into Rob who remembered him from the day before, and invited him to ski with him and his son that day!

> All in all, it was a trip that couldn't have been better even if we tried!



Maybach

St. Moritz 'World Cup Polo on Snow'

#### SPACE CITY ONLINE DIRECTORY

You've read the good news that the SCSC membership directory is now online with password access. Go to the website www.spacecityskiclub.org and click on the "My SCSC" tab to access the directory. You can reread "Space City Goes Online" from the February Sitzmarke by clicking on the "Sitzmarke Online" tab.

With member information available online, SCSC will forgo the printing and mailing of a hard copy to every member. If desired, the current membership pages (sorted by the first letter of the last name) can be easily printed. For those members without computer access, a printed copy will be made available.



#### **UPCOMING HAPPY HOUR**

Thursday, March 24 @ 5:30 p.m.

Slainte Irish Pub

509 Main Street

General Meeting - March 21 @ 6:30 p.m. at Big Woodrow's - 3111 Chimney Rock (NOTE DATE CHANGE!!)

Permit #9036 XT ,notsuoH

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SPACE CITY SKI CLUB



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#### SAN MARCOS RIVER EXPEDITION

May 21, 2005

\$30/person – canoe or kayak - \$35 non-member

Final Payment Date: April 18

Cance or Kayak on the San Marcos River. Paddle from City Park in San Marcos down to Pecan Park near Martindale, TX

> Optional activities: \* Saturday night dinner at River Pub \* Enjoy Sunday tubing on the Comal River

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

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A club of any kind is really a group of people who join their energies together for the benefit of each other and their common interests. SCSC is no exception. We have gathered our energies because of our common interests and love of the outdoors, the sports of skiing and snowboarding and the opportunity to share those interests with others who love these same things. We are fortunate because of the skiers who have come before us and formed this

organization. We are also fortunate because of the individuals in our club today that labor to keep our club, trips, activities and administrative duties going for the benefit of all of us. We are also blessed with individuals who are willing to come to the plate when the need arises.

Our former Vice President of Programs Marc Fellows, worked hard and gave

us his best but had to resign mid-way though his term to tend to personal issues. Since the VP of Programs is a key position within our club and manages all the monthly meetings, activities and happy hours; we were really in a pinch to fill this important position. This was especially difficult because we had a vacancy in the position of Director of Programs. But, it is in tough times that we learn to appreciate the special people that come to the plate. Ellen Eastham has agreed to take over this important position and is now serving as our VP of Programs. SCSC was incredibly lucky to have someone with so much energy and enthusiasm to take over this key position. Ellen, we all thank you and appreciate your doing this! But we have been doubly blessed by also getting a new Director of Programs, Chip Stokes! These are two people with a great deal of talent and enthusiasm and I look forward to seeing what they have in store for us.

If you have a chance, please join me in thanking them for taking on this challenge!!!!



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#### TSC SKI BID FEST APRIL 15-17

#### **Location: Omni Hotel in Austin**

Registration fee \$55 by 3/12 (\$65 after)

Weekend includes: Fri. - 7 p.m. Welcome reception • Sat. - Trip presentations, vendor ski show, dinner and band • Sun. - Foreign trip presentations

Registration form – TSC website www.texas-ski.org Call 800-400-1700 to make hotel reservations at the Omni-\$119/night.

For more information call Sean O'Brien (713) 787-9762

#### **GET HIGH on HIGH ALTITUDE!**

May 7, 2005 at 7 p.m.

Location: Ellen Eastham's home

2045 Lee Rd., Pearland (281) 997-1496 No cost for activity. Bring a dish to share for a group dinner.

**Presentation featuring:** 

Space City Ski Club member Thuy Tran will discuss her climb to the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Tanzania on July 11, 2003.

Clear Lake Area Ski Club member Ken Goodwin will discuss his climb to Cho Oyu (26,906') in the Mt. Everest region, Tibet in August 2003.

To sign up, contact AC Thuy Tran ttran@kmg.com (281) 376-0343



## **19TH ANNUAL AIA** SANDCASTLE COMPETITION

On East Beach, Galveston

June 4, 2005

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

VOLUNTEER to assist in set up, parking cars, and assisting judges. Complimentary t-shirts, food, drink and MUCH FUN!

Shifts 6-11 a.m. and 2-7 p.m.

If you have not seen the Sandcastle Competition, it is a must! 85 architectural firms teams competed in 2004!

> Optional: Friday night BEACH BASH at the Galveston Hilton Check website for photos www.aiasandcastle.com/2004

To sign up as VOLUNTEER, contact AC: Deb Cini (832) 528-6125

### HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW & **RODEO NIGHT**

Friday, March 11, 2005

Cost \$19



Final Payment Date: February 21, 2005

"World Class **Entertainment and Top** Rodeo Performers"

AC Walter May (713) 983-8866 waltmaysfa@aol.com



Creativity and FUN are our goals for the first half of 2005! Would you like to take part in the FUN PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES, and HAPPY HOURS that we have planned? We need you and your friends to attend, participate, and coordinate in order to achieve these goals.

MEETINGS: Make every effort to attend

General Meetings because it's the best way to stay in touch with your SCSC friends and you never know what surprises we have in store.

JAN. 17 – A big thanks to speakers who appeared with short notice for the topic: "Get in Shape for 2005" – GLIDING-Howard Schoenike, CLIMBING-Ken Goodwin (Clear Lake Area Ski Club), HIKING-Arlen Isham, BIKING-David Eickhoff, and BLADING-Susan Austin.

FEB. 21 – Applause to Cheryl May and her rodeo group called the "Texas Wildflowers" for their vocal entertainment, and Barbara Belzung, who demonstrated and explained the importance of rodeo clowns.

MAR. 21 – Join us for presentations by Houston Canoe Club and Texas River Expeditions to hear about canoeing, kayaking, and white water rafting. Calvin Doody will lead a group to San Marcos May 21. Mark Evans will show

off rafting and kayaking adventures in Texas, Colorado and the Virgin Islands.

APR. 11 – Trip Reunion and Membership Roundup. This will be held on the meeting night, but stay tuned for exciting updates.

MAY 16 – Don't miss SCSC's "Kamon Iwanna LeiYa" LUAU, full of tropical FUN and entertainment. Volunteer for a part in a skit and "Don Ho's band and his Waikiki Hula Girls." Wear our tropical apparel and get lei'd at the door.

Please note on your calendars that General Meeting dates MARCH 21 (date has been changed) and MAY 16 are the 3rd Monday's! We want you to be able to attend!

ACTIVITIES: March 11 Walter May leads SCSC to the Rodeo.

We are looking for AC's and AAC's for summer FUN activities: Kemah Scavenger Hunt, a Big Brother/Big Sister activity, the Volunteer Party, and Water Spectacular Weekend. Contact Ellen or Chip to let us know your interest for these and other activities of your choice. It's never too early to begin planning!

The ski season might be over soon, much to all our dismay. However, Space City has FUN all year round. Check the Calendar of Events and ads for future activities in the coming months. Exciting events are in the planning stages. COME JOIN US!



#### GENERAL MEETING - Big Woodrow's

3111 Chimney Rock (just north of Richmond)

#### March 21 @ 6:30 p.m.

Speakers and information presented by Houston Canoe Club and Texas River Expeditions on the topics of canoeing, kayaking, and white water rafting. JOIN US! Plenty of parking in the garage next door. Plan to stay after the meeting to eat, drink and be merry with friends!

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Date Event		Coordinator	Phone	E-mail/Address	
MARCH					
3/11	Rodeo	Walter May	(713) 983-8867	waltmaysfa@aol.com	
3/21	SCSC Meeting - Big Woodrow's - Houston	Canoe Club and Texas River	Expeditions	, 0	
3/24	Happy Hour - Slainte Irish Pub	Deb Cini		509 Main St.	
APRIL					
4/11	SCSC Meeting - Big Woodrow's - Trip Reu	inion and Membership Roundu	Q		
4/15-17	TSC Ski Bid Fest - Austin	Sean O'Brien	(713) 787-9762		
4/21	Happy Hour - tba				
4/24	Laser Tag	Diane Stotz	(713) 862-9486	dianesto@swbell.net	
MAY	*			<del>-</del>	
5/7	"Get High on High Altitude"	Thuy Tran	(281) 376-0343	ttran@kmg.com	
5/12	Happy Hour - tba	Deb Cini	( )		
5/16	SCSC Meeting - LUAU				
5/21	San Marcos River Expedition	Calvin Doody	(713) 686-4831	birdsguys@yahoo.com	
5/26-31	Grand Canyon Hiking Trip	Leyla Ozkardesh	(281) 584-9723	leylajo2@sbcglobal.net	
OTHER ACT	TIVITIES				
9/10-17	Maui, Hawaii	Sean O'Brien	(713) 787-9762		

#### \*For the latest updates on events, check out <u>www.spacecityskiclub.org</u>\*

If you have an idea for an activity or would like to volunteer to be on AC or AAC, contact VP of Programs, Ellen Eastham (281) 997-1496 (h), (281) 989-9935 (cell), eeastham@prodigy.net and Director of Programs, Chip Stokes (281) 485-5778 (h), (713) 857-2093 (cell), cstokesscsc@houston.rr.com. For more information or to pass on ideas about Happy Hours, contact Deb Cini (832) 528-6125.



Hello ski friends! By the time you receive this March issue of the Sitzmarke, hundreds of your fellow SCSC members will have already experienced the joys of skiing, dining, shopping and having fun with new and longtime friends and family at awesome destinations including Winter Park, Snowmass/Aspen (This one was definitely a Powderfest, take it from one who experienced it! ME), St. Moritz, Park City, Copper Mountain and Vail. Although the 2004-

WINTER PARK

SNOWBIRD, UT

SNOWMASS - I

2005 ski season is coming to an end, we still have 3 great trips that will allow you to experience some KILLER Spring Skiing: Heavenly/Lake Tahoe (Long) March 12-19, Heavenly/Lake Tahoe (Short) March 15 -20 (This trip has an 8:40pm departure on Tuesday, so you won't need to

take a vacation day on Tuesday) and Whistler/Blackcomb (March 26 -April 2). If you want to squeeze in a last minute Spring ski trip, contact either of the trip leaders listed in the trip schedule in this issue of the Sitzmarke to see if they have any last minute openings.

Although the 2004-2005 ski season is coming to an end, the work really never ends for those dedicated officers and trip coordinators. It's that time of year to send out the call to recruit TCs and ATCs for the 2005-2006 ski season.

Do you love to ski or snowboard? Do you enjoy working with people and making new friends? Are you good at planning and organizing? If your answer is YES to these questions, SCSC needs YOU to join the great team of Trip Coordinators and Assistants running fun ski trips to exciting destinations. Give me a call and I'll try to hook you up to run a trip in 2005-2006!



## Space City Ski Club - 2004-2005 Ski Trip Schedule

#### TRIPS COMPLETED

Nov 23-28, 2004 Dec 7-12, 2004

Jan 8-15, 2005 Jan 11-16, 2005

Jan 21-29, 2005

Feb 5-12, 2005

Feb 12-19, 2005

\*32 Skiers\*

\*32 Skiers\*

\*47 Skiers\*

\*52 Skiers\*

\*34 Skiers\*

\*56 Skiers\*

COPPER MTN - I Feb 26-Mar 5, 2005 \*80 Skiers\* VAIL

SNOWMASS - II Marsha Lutz (ML) ST. MORITZ PARK CITY, UT

(281) 870-9724 marsha.lutz@erm.com

Director of Trips

#### Vice President of Trips

Lori Gilliland (LG) (281) 493-3060 lcgilliland@att.net

Director of Trips

Kayleen Kill (KK) (281) 293-9533 kayleen-kill@houston.rr.com

Dates	Nights Ski Days	Trip Destination	Final Pay- ment	Trip Price	TC ATC (DOT)	Home Phone	E-mail Address
Mar 12-19, 2005 (SatSat)	7/6 Hotel	HEAVENLY - I Nevada (TSC Final Showdown) Family Optional	1/07/05	\$747 L\$408	Barb Ehrlich Bruce Baird (ML)	713-868-2470 281-496-4661	barbehrlich@houston.rr.com bruce2skis@aol.com
Mar 15-20, 2005 (Tues—Sun)	5/4 Hotel	HEAVENLY - II Nevada (TSC Final Showdown) Family Optional	1/07/05	\$669 L\$309	Barb Ehrlich Jan Ferrell (ML)	713-868-2470 281-799-0001	barbehrlich@houston.rr.com ferrellj@sbcglobal.net
Mar 26-April 2, 2005 (Sat—Sat)	7/6 Condo	WHISTLER BLACKCOMB BC, CanadaFamily Optional	12/13/04	\$985 L\$550	Steven Teoh Cindy Moore (KK)	832-298-2893 713-984-1060	steventeoh@remax.net lucinda_moore@ev1.net

Trips identified as \*\*\*SOLD OUT\*\*\* have reached their maximum # of participants and have begun waitlists. If the trip you are interested in is sold out, check out the other trips that still have openings or contact the TC of the sold-out trip to get on their waitlist.



I ♥ Referrals!

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Donna Kidwell, CRS, CRB **Broker Associate** 

### MAUI, HAWAII 2005 TSC SUMMER EXPEDITION

3eptember 10-17, 2005

Optional Kona Extension September 18-20

Final Payment Date May 16, 2005

See January Sitzmarke or spacecityskiclub.org for details and registration forms or contact

Sean O'Brien (713) 787-9762



## Presenting Your SCSC 2005-2006 Executive Committee nominees



## CINDY MOORE, PRESIDENT

I am excited to be your nominee for President. I joined SCSC about 7 1/2 years ago to widen my circles. Since then, I have been on many ski trips, enjoyed countless hours in SCSC activities and, most importantly, met the best people through this terrific organization.

My goals in the coming year are to increase

our membership and to create an activities committee under the V.P. of Programs.

My biggest accomplishments were while I served as your Vice President of Programs in 2003-4 with Director of Programs Ellen Eastham. We had an average of three activities a month. We initiated a handout calendar of all upcoming activities. We found a new exciting venue for our energizing and fun meetings and we did all of this below our budget.

I have also volunteered for many SCSC positions, including AC, AAC, ATC and happy hour coordinator. My other hobbies are dancing (hustle, east and west coast swing and country), working out and running.

When I'm not volunteering or playing, I am supervisor for the Houston office of GEICO Direct Insurance, combating insurance fraud.

I thank the nominating committee for this opportunity and I would appreciate your vote on Election Day!



## JOSE A. ARAUJO, VP of PROGRAMS

I am originally from Venezuela but obtained my US citizenship four years ago. Houston has been my home for the last fifteen years and Texas has stolen a portion of my heart.

Living in the Caribbean for many years, I enjoyed water sports such as sailing, snorkeling, sea kayaking, water skiing, etc... But, I never

experienced snow skiing. My first time was back in 1997 at Beaver Creek and Vail. After realizing that to control the skis you need to lean forward (and not backward as in water skiing), I fell in love with the sport. Shortly after, Kathy Young told me about SCSC and I joined it.

During these almost eight years of continuous membership in SCSC, I found good friends and wonderful people with open hearts who were willing to make a positive change in our society and enjoy healthy outdoors and indoors activities.

After helping on many trips, coordinating several SCSC activities and seeing the candidates for this year, I decided to run for a club position.

I am very excited about the club's potential. We have so much to offer: a wide spectrum of activities, quality people and the backbone of 40 years of existence. This club has the right balance between social activities, sports, international exposure and social function. I will count on your support to turn SCSC into the club of choice for the contemporary professional looking for an opportunity to interact with people with class.



## KAYLEEN KILL, VP OF TRIPS

I believe I'm finally running for the office I was destined for – VP of Trips. Every year I ask: "Where is the club skiing?" Now I hope to be instrumental in determining where we will go.

I have been skiing since 1975 and, prior to moving to Houston, was very active in clubs in other cities. On my first trip with SCSC in 1991, I

instantly decided to get involved. In the years since, I've run various trips and activities and served on the Board.

Going on several ski trips every year, I got to know the Texas Ski Council. I became an officer of TSC in 1999. During my five years on the Board, I spent four years of them running trips. During this time, I have forged relationships with tour operators and resort representatives that should serve me well as SCSC's VP of Trips.

I am currently one of SCSC's Directors of Trips. My intention during this year was to run for VP, so I've used the year as training ground. Email did not exist seven years ago when I last ran a trip. Lori Gilliland, the current VP of Trips, has shown me how we now use technology to do things better. But technology is always changing and I've got even more ideas. There are some things I'd like to investigate to help the club, as well.

I have a wealth of experience in SCSC and TSC and am very organized and detail-oriented. But my biggest asset is that I am ENTHUSIASTIC. I am looking forward to serving as your VP of Trips and to a great ski season.



## JEANNINE JIRAL, VP of Membership

I'm definitely a person that likes to be involved and right in the middle of things. Yes, kind of like a little kid that doesn't want to miss anything. It can be a curse sometimes, but I get to meet so many interesting people. So, I guess I wouldn't want to be any other way.

I'm pretty new to Space City Ski Club – joining in 2002 to take the Jackson Hole trip with some friends. That was my first weeklong ski trip and I actually progressed from Bunnies to Blues on that trip. I was hooked. Thereafter, I volunteered to assist on the Telluride trip the very next year and followed that up by leading the Park City trip in 2005. It's been great fun to run trips these last two years! All the people I've met have been great – and I've made some fun new friends and ski buddies.

It's time now for a new outlet for my energetic enthusiasm for SCSC. That's why I'm so excited about becoming your VP of Membership. I will have the opportunity to meet even more members and actively seek out as many people as possible to tell them about this great club and this great group of people. It's like being hostess everywhere you go – free license to walk up to perfect strangers and talk about Space City Ski Club. And, of course, I'm looking forward to another new ski adventure that someone else gets to plan for me.

## PRESENTING YOUR SCSC 2005-2006 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINEES



## PAT PIECH, VP of PUBLICATIONS

I love the motto – "Work Hard – Play Hard". And my most enjoyable "play days" have definitely been on the mountains. And I suppose that is why I have become involved with the SCSC. It is an opportunity for me to contribute back to an organization that has provided me with many hours of fabulous skiing and fun partying at some of the best ski resorts in the

country. I've had great fun as ATC for both the Big Sky trip in 2004 and the Park City Trip in 2005. Now, I am hoping to take on a bigger role as VP of Publications. Being in the marketing field, currently with IKON Office Solutions, I will bring extensive experience to the role including editing, printing, ad sales and more. Before joining IKON, I owned a full-service advertising agency serving a wide variety of clients. I understand the importance of deadlines and budgets as well as content and providing the club with a quality and useful monthly publication. Finally, I have served on the Board of Directors for the Austin and Houston Chapters of the American Marketing Association. I'm ready to -- Work Hard and Play Hard.



## GARY D. LADD, TREASURER

I'm a native Texan, born in Corpus Christi in August 1955. However, I grew up in St Louis, where I developed my appreciation for cold winter weather – no skiing though. I moved back to Houston in late 1981.

I began skiing during a three-month business trip to Alaska in 2001, where I also had my first contact with the SCSC club on the Alyeska trip. I immediately joined the club in late 2001 and have enjoyed being a part of the SCSC family ever since. I've only been on three trips with the club, but thoroughly enjoy skiing and the camaraderie that I've found in the club.

My professional life has primarily been centered in the accounting and finance fields, so I'm very adept at the type of financial management and accounting that would be required of the Treasurer.

I currently work for a large international industrial gases company located in the Galleria and enjoy traveling whenever time and money permits.



## BRENDA SOILEAU, SECRETARY

I joined Space City in 1997 at the urging of a fellow Registered Nurse. My first trip was a TSC Traditional to Steamboat. I had a blast. Since then, I have been on numerous domestic and international trips. I have also attended social and volunteer functions. All have been enjoyable and enriching experiences.

Rooming with T.C. Penny Chancey on the Chamonix trip, I began to realize the enormity of the work being done on my behalf. So, when approached about serving as an officer, I felt it was my chance to give back to Space City. I have been on numerous committees on the job and while doing volunteer work. I am familiar with group processes and dynamics. Having three degrees, note taking is second nature to me. I feel I am both capable and willing to do the job of secretary.

#### LASER TAG

**Sunday, April 24 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. LaterQuest ••** 13711 Westheimer (281) 596-9999

Cost: \$28 per person - Final Payment Date: Monday, April 11

Sign up for Laser Tag if you like: Hide-and-seek • Sneaking around in the dark trying to tag your friends • Enjoy space-aged video games ≈ Come join 30 participants as we run around Laser Quest tagging your friends. Refreshments and food will be available before and after each game. Dress Code: comfortable clothes (dark colored) and aerobic-type shoes.

http://www.laserquest.com ~ AC Diane Stotz (713) 862-9486 dianesto@swbell.net

Join your SCSC friends in the

## **BAD BLADES ROLLERBLADE GROUP**

Every Sunday morning. For the weekly meeting place and time see www.badblades.org, or contact Susan Austin, swicker@houston.rr.com or Dale Albritton (713) 776-9080



Walley of a state of the

P.O. Box 801525 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77280-1525 Office (713)524-7670

(713)478-4290 Cell (713)939-0679 FAX (713)788--5300 Pager ronhayes@houston.rr.com

## Grand Canyon Hiking May 26 thru May 31, 2005

\$399/members (land only) \$404/non-members (land only)

#### Final payment date: January 17, 2005 Deposit \$150

4 days of hiking the spectacular Grand Canyon - both the North Rim and the South Rim. See the beauty and splendor of the Grand Canyon up close and personal. Get back to nature. This is a small intimate trip for a maximum of 12 participants. This 6 day trip only requires "3" vacation days as it is over the Memorial Day week-end.

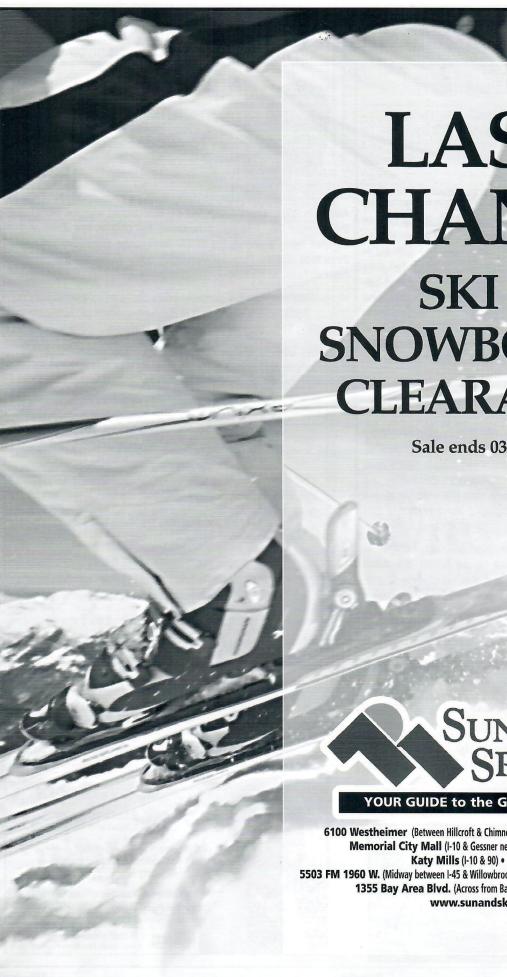
AC: Leyla Ozkardesh (281) 854-9723 leylajo2@sbcglobal.net





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