



The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

Vol. 33 No. 3

July, 2000



MEMBER
Texas Ski
Council



July Meeting Dates:

No General Meeting during the Summer

Next meeting September 11th, 2000

Happy Hour July 20th - Mesa Grill

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Volume 33, No. 3

July 2000

Head of the Lifeline

by Stacey Ronczy



I just spent a wonderful week hiking and horseback riding in Rocky Mountain National Park, Northwest of Denver, with my brother-in-law, his wife and some of their friends – FYI - there's still snow in them thar hills, and not much less than we saw on our own ski trips! We even saw a couple of Telemarkers climbing Tombstone Ridge, earning their turns. We hiked several trails above 9,000 feet and since we come from below sea level, I found out what I was made of. The anticipation of what was around the next peak/waterfall/cornice kept us all going. The views we achieved for the work we put out climbing were spectacular. As we sat below a pond, next to waterfall, on boulders, in a snowfield eating our lunch, @ 11,000 feet, enjoying the view, the great food, and the great company, I was reminded of what our ski trips are like – everyone pitching in as a team, the experienced mentoring the novices, strangers becoming friends, and friends deepening their bonds. Our non-ski activities are very much the same. We do things we enjoy with people we know – not just for the enjoyment of the activity, but the pleasure of the company. If an activity looks like fun to you, don't be shy, sign up and participate. If there is something you enjoy and it isn't on the calendar, see Joe Walker and volunteer to organize it. Trip Coordinators will need race directors and help on the trips so step up and be an integral part of the club!

I concluded my vacation with a weekend in Lubbock – I know, nothing like Colorado, but there were Texas Ski Council friends there. It was the first TSC Delegate's Meeting of the year and it looks like TSC Officers are motivated and ready to get things accomplished for TSC as well as the individual clubs that make up TSC. Among other interesting items, it was announced that our very own Susan Blome would be chairing the Committee to organize the Bid Meeting, April 6 – 8, 2001. This monumental task cannot be accomplished without the assistance of volunteers and as they say, "volunteering starts at home", so I am sure that Susan will be looking for a few good men and women to help her. A Special thanks to our friends, the Texas Twisters, for hosting the Delegate's meeting.

I would like to thank Lottie and Karl Gatschi for taking all the leftover food from the volunteer party and driving it to the homeless shelter.

I also need to give kudos to my wonderful husband who drove us home two days early from hiking so that I could attend the delegate's meeting on our 5th year wedding anniversary. Without the support of my family, it would be very difficult for me to accomplish much.

Looking forward to the next peak...

Auditor

Space City needs a volunteer to run the Audit chair. If you are interested and understand some Accounting, contact: **Stacey Ronczy** (sronczy@ev1.net or 713-861-6470)

or

Marvin Volz (mtve@hal-pc.org or 713-782-7118)

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SCSC Activity

Happy Hour

Mesa Grill

1971 West Gray

In the River Oaks Shopping Center
on W. Gray between Shepherd & Dunlavy

July 20, 2000

5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

713-520-8900

New Orleans Weekend Trip

Join us on *October 20-22, 2000*
for the party trip to New Orleans.

We will bus to New Orleans to spend 2 nights at
The Inn on Bourbon,
a Ramada Plaza Hotel located at
Bourbon and Toulouse Streets.

There is a \$50 deposit with a total cost of \$275.

For more information contact:

Ellen Bush (h) 281-997-1496 (w) 713-989-7684
(e-mail) ecbush@cmsenergy.com

or **Jeff Eastham** (w) 713-270-1443
(e-mail) gme@eastham-inc.com

or write to 3515 Woodbine Place, Pearland, TX 77584

CALENDAR

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	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

July

- 15 Laser Tag
- 20 Happy Hour - Mesa Grill
- 22 Miller Outdoor Theatre
- 29 Wine Tasting

August

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	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August

- 12 Summer Golf
- 17 Happy Hour - Chianti Restaurant
- 19 Windsurfing
- 26 Miller Outdoor Theatre
- 27 Bowling

September

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	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September

- 21 Happy Hour - Champs'



Hello SCSCers! Whew! It has been a really busy month since I last wrote to you. At last, the trip schedule is here!! All of the TCs and ATCs have been hard at work gathering information about their trips and trying to narrow down the prices. We are offering some great destinations this year and all of us are very excited to bring you these opportunities for wonderful ski trips. You won't be disappointed no matter where you choose to ski this coming season.

We have been experiencing some unfavorable responses from the airlines. If any of you have done any traveling lately, then you know what a difference there is in the cost of an airplane ticket just from 6 months ago. We are seeing increases in the prices of the airline tickets and those prices will be reflected in the total price of our ski trips this year. All of us are hard at work trying to get the best air transportation as possible. I just want to prepare you for the increase in the price of trips this year so you won't be surprised next month. Don't let this discourage you. We are going to some great ski destinations. Rest assured, everyone is doing all they can to bring you the best trip at the best price available. Again, the

TCs and ATCs will be providing you with fantastic trips that will be good times for all who participate.

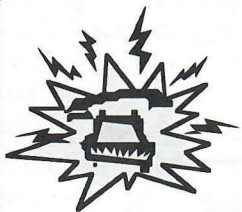
When you view the trip schedule, you will see Mystery Trip I and Mystery Trip II. Mystery Trip I will be your last chance to ski in the 2000-01 ski season with the club. We are researching several locations that will provide wonderful spring skiing and a great grand finale for the ski season. The destination will be listed on the trip schedule in the August Sitzmark. Mystery Trip II is definitely NOT a ski trip. We are planning to provide you a trip quite the opposite. Details will be available in the August Sitzmark. Keep you calendars clear for mid May, you won't want to miss this travel opportunity.

This year we are offering land packages on most of our trips. We do listen to what our members want and you have continually voiced your desires for more land packages. Don't disappoint me by not signing up for these land packages!! Also, something different this year is the method in which we are offering the participant slots available on the trips. We are reserving space for the maximum number of participants upfront rather than indicating, as an example, space for 32 with possible expansion to 42. So don't sit back waiting until later to sign up for a trip. If we don't get your commitment, we will have no choice but to cut back the numbers (to avoid costly penalties with the airlines and lodging) without possibility of expansion at a later date. If we reach the maximum numbers slotted for the trips, the prices will more than likely be reduced. So, SIGN UP EARLY!!!

Those of you who haven't renewed your membership should do so NOW. You must be a member in good standing by August 1st to take advantage of our mail in sign up. Mail in sign up is your way to guarantee a spot on the trips of your dreams. Details of the mail in sign up will be in the August Sitzmark. We will be doing it a little different this year so pay close attention to my article in August.

The TCs, ATCs and Directors of Trips have been doing a great job for you. Don't forget to let them know how much you appreciate them the next time you see them. THINK SNOW and have a great summer.

Members: Be Considerate



When inquiring about trips or activities, please be considerate when contacting the TCs, ATCs or ACs. Volunteers give their phone numbers to the membership to aid in the promotion of the function, but **NO PHONE CALLS SHOULD BE MADE BEFORE 8:00 AM OR AFTER 10PM!** Also, if you call a work number, be respectful of their work time.

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

**SPACE CITY SKI CLUB
HOT LINE
713-688-SCSC**

or
Visit our Web Page
<http://www.spacecity.org>

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Space City Ski Club

2000-2001 Trip Schedule

Trip Dates	Nights / Ski Days	Trip Destination	Cost (See Notes)	Final Payment	Lodging	No. Skiers	TC/ATC (DOT)	Home Phone
Aug 19-29, 2000 (Sat-Tues)	7 / 6	BARILOCHE Argentina South America	\$1949.	4/1/00	Pan Americano Hotel	32 (42)	Deborah Christie Lynda Henry (ARI)	713-802-9801 713-956-0853
No v 21-26, 2000 (Tue.-Sun.)	5/4	KEYSTONE Colorado (TSC Fall Roundup) Family Optional	TBA			32 L-8	Angie Westergren Jeanette Perini (RJH)	713-954-2114 713-467-6886
Jan 6-13, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/6	JACKSON HOLE Wyoming	TBA			42 L-10	Judy Katany Sue Bohnert (RJH)	713-864-7531 713-467-5027
Jan 13-20, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/6	STEAMBOAT I Colorado (TSC Traditional)	TBA			80 L-20	J.R. Ronczy Carol Cain (PGM)	713-861-6470 713-665-8121
Jan. 16-21, 2001 (Tues-Sun.)	5/4	STEAMBOAT II Colorado (TSC Traditional)	TBA			44 L-8	Marsha Lutz Sandra Perry (PGM)	281-870-9724 281-488-1033
Jan 27-Feb 4, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/5	CORTINA Italy (TSC Expedition)	TBA			64	Sean O'Brien Barbara Brescian (PGM)	713-787-9762 281-242-7908
Feb 3-10, 2001 (Sat-Sun)	7/6	WHISTLER Canada	TBA			42 L-10	Roger Sahni Mary Ann Soto (RJH)	281-493-4414 281-679-5686
Feb 10-17, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/6	MT. BACHELOR Oregon (TSC Winter Shootout)	TBA			64	Phillip Vice Lori Gilliland (PGM)	281-568-5073 281-493-3060
Feb 24-Mar 3, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/6	SUGARBUSH Vermont	TBA			42 L-10	Karla Darden David George (RJH)	409-851-2829 281-320-2859
Mar 10-17, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/6	VAIL Colorado	TBA			64 L-20	Jessica Halter Linda Beebe (PGM)	281-364-9972 713-520-9850
Mar 17-24, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/6	HEAVENLY I Nevada (TSC Final Showdown)	TBA			64 L-20	Curt Frisby Christine March (RJH)	713-807-0102 281-491-1129
Mar 20-25, 2001 (Tues-Sun)	5/4	HEAVENLY II Nevada (TSC Final Showdown)	TBA			44 L-10	Mary Simpson Doug Broussard (RJH)	713-436-0957 713-665-3704
Mar 24-31, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/6	TBA Montana	TBA			42 L-10	Jeff Eastham Kimberly Smith (PGM)	281-261-1180 713-690-6753
Mar 31-Apr 5 (Sat-Thurs)	4/3	The Mystery Trip I	TBA			32	Christie Burke Joanne Fore (PGM)	713-465-5644 713-723-4707
May (Sat-Sat)	7/6	The Mystery Trip II	TBA			32	TBA (RJH)	

** Notes: L=Land Package-excludes air; certain trips excludes ground transportation C=child Call TC about Child prices on Keystone trip.

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713-532-1610
pgmaudslay@duke-energy.com

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orr-vice@delnet.com

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713-461-7604
rogholzman@aol.com

Miller Outdoor Theatre - Shake, Rattle and Roll

by *Nora Montgomery*

The threatening weather did not scare off some brave souls who enjoyed the 50's Rock N Roll Revue at the Miller Outdoor Theatre. **Joe Walker** made a great paperweight to keep the wind from blowing the tarp away until others arrived. He had already staked out our claim by the time **Mike** and **Nora Montgomery** arrived with the balloons. He was in such hurry to get there, he brought drinks-but forgot his cooler. He had to make several trips to the concession stand for "mood" refreshment. **John Burke** brought his mood refreshment, but nothing to drink it from. **Mike** carved him a "glass" from a plastic water bottle. **Susan Wicker** and **Al Austin** arrived with cookies and monster sandwiches. **Susan** shared her cookies, but would have attacked anyone that touched her sandwich. **Kathy Young** brought her own designated driver, **Deanne Bogner**, all the way from San Antonio. She was prepared - and did a good job - of consuming a copious amount of - well, let's say she was in a good "mood." She was celebrating no longer being VP of Trips. **Kathy** got a

kick when the announcer said the group, The Continentals, came all the way from League City! WOW!!! During their warm up performance, we thought something was wrong with sound system. That might explain why **Deanne** looked over and found **Joe, Mike** and **Nora** all snoozing. She asked **Kathy** if this is what people do for excitement in Houston. **John** was afraid the dog barking next to us was going to wake up the sleeping beauties, so had the people move. When the final band, The Coasters, came on, they were very good, very entertaining, and the sound system worked great for them. Just ask **Susan** and **Al** - we hardly saw them after the Coasters came on as they were on the dance floor most of the time. So all of you who were concerned about the rain and didn't come out missed a good time, a great night of entertainment, and perfect weather. Remember, the next Miller Outdoor performance will be July 22, (The Who) Tommy. Contact nora.mont@aol.com or call at 281-282-0922 for more information

SCSC Activity Grand Canyon River Rafting

July 8 to July 15

Signup begins **Aug. 1st** (no earlier postmarks accepted)
\$1,830 Land Package \$300 deposit

8 days, 7 nights, 280 mile guided motorized raft trip,
two rafts, 28 people, awesome rapids, hikes, waterfalls, and wildlife.
Start from Las Vegas.

Diane McKenzie
3540 Miramar
Shoreacres, TX. 77571
281-471-5291



SCSC Activity A Mid-Summer's Night Golf Tournament

Saturday, August 12, 2000



Hackberry Golf Club
7777 S. Dairy Ashford
Ph# 281-575-7791

(Located approximately 1 block south of Bellaire)

Contact
Concietta Ruggiero or **Robbin Anderson**
(281)-293-7637 281-980-8969
ruggiero@hal-pc.org



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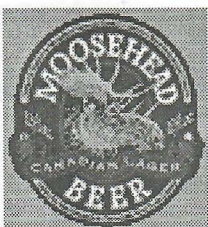


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Activity Coordinators

Space City needs volunteers to plan and run various activities in the upcoming year.

If you have an activity that you would like to run,
contact

Joe Walker (281-489-0379 or joewalk@hal-pc.org)
or **Diane Stotz** (713-862-9486 or diane.stotz@ey.com)

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Activity Coordinator</i>	<i>Activity Date</i>	<i>Final Payment Date</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Laser Tag	Steve Amy (281)-870-0762 steve.amy@kvaerner.com	July 16, 2000	June 15, 2000	\$ 25.00
Miller Outdoor Theatre - The Who's Tommy	Nora Montgomery (281)-282-0922 Nora.Montgomery@SW.- Boeing.com	July 22, 2000	July 22, 2000	N/A
Summer Wine Tasting	Janet Schafer (713)-349-9479 schaferj@hotmail.com	July 29, 2000	July 22, 2000	\$ 10.00/ \$ 5.00 guests
Summer Golf	Concietta Ruggiero (281)-293-7637 ruggiero@hal-pc.org	August 12, 2000	August 8, 2000	\$ 35.00
Windsurfing	Tommy Thompson (713)-995-1772 tommy2@airmail.net	August 19, 2000	August 4, 2000	\$ 22.00
Miller Outdoor Theatre - The Barber of Seville	Nora Montgomery (281)-282-0922 Nora.Montgomery@SW.- Boeing.com	August 26, 2000	August 26, 2000	N/A
Bowling at Palace Lanes- Bellaire	Nancy Sarff (713)-461-9665 jeffsarff@worldnet.att.net	August 27, 2000	August 20, 2000	\$ 15.00
New Orleans Weekend Trip	Ellen Bush (281)-997-1496 ecbush@cmsenergy.com	September 20, 2000	October 20-22, 2000	\$ 258.00



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This week wasn't "real life". It was **SKI LIFE!** Very early one Saturday morning, a group of eager skiers arrived at the airport. Some had their traditional beer on the way to the airport, even though it was 4:30 am! We thought **Charles Kulkarni** was going to be left behind, but he showed up just before the flight attendants closed the doors!

The first evening, there was a wine and cheese party to welcome our group and then we had some really good pizza delivered. During this party, **Bill Dahl** ("Paper Boy") serenaded us with his piano playing expertise. We also had some special appearances by **Tiny Tim** (**Lou Kleinman**), **Robert Redford** (**Carole Sahni**), **Timothy Leary** (**Bobby Viktorin**)

Our first day of skiing was the first of many beautiful days on the mountain. At the condo that evening, **TC**, **Angie Westergren** and **ATC**, **Roger Sahni** hosted a happy hour at the hot tub.

After the second day of skiing, some of our group, including **Ray Herndon**, **Angie Westergren**, **Ken Feaster**, **Steve Jaeger**, **Yvonne Guy**, **Sharon Nail**, **Pat Musemeche** and **Greg Roberts** were seen

at **Buddy's Run for Apres Ski**. **Yvonne Guy** had skied with **Billy Kidd** and shared some of his secrets. However, **Steve Jaeger** didn't agree that it was good to ski without leaving a trail, because he wanted to make sure his body would be found! **Mary Ann Soto** could relate to **Steve**, because she disappeared when

skiing with **Pat Musemeche**, only to be found after going off a trail over the side of the mountain! While all skiers made it through the first day without any injuries, the second day was pretty tough on **Chris Adoue**. Even though she had surgery on her broken ankle, she seemed to enjoy all the calls she received while waiting in the emergency room! Her roommate, **Sharon Nail**, took real good care of her. Unfortunately, they missed the **Pub Crawl** that evening led by our tour guide from **Steamboat Resorts**, **Chris Sommerhoff**. The group started at the **Grubstake Bar**, then to **Slopeside**, then to the **Tug Boat**. Who was that long-haired sexy guy **Sarah** and **Angie** had their picture taken with?

A few diehards (**John & Nancy Burk**, **Lisa Kelley**, **Sarah Granbery**, **Steve Jaeger**, **Mark Chambers**, **David Street**, **Bobby Viktorin** and **TC**, **Angie Westergren**) wound the party down at a **Karaoke Bar** downtown where a few more tequila shots were shared among friends! Luckily, **John & Nancy Burk** offered to drive us home. Not so lucky for them, though, their car full of passengers, who wouldn't sing **Karaoke** decided to sing and serenaded

them with "Gloom, Dispair & Agony on Me"! This tune was a tribute to **Chris Adoue**, in sympathy for her accident that day.

Day three of skiing came very early for some of the **Pub Crawlers**. A group, referred to as the "Magnificent Seven" (**Keith Kirkman**, **Angie Westergren**, **Frank Adams**, **Morris Covin**, **Sarah Brown**, **David Street** and **John Burk**) skied some fun places in the trees. Fearless leader, **Keith Kirkman**, wasn't sure if **Sarah Brown** was still talking to him after that venture! Rumor has it that **Steve Jaeger** had a pretty tough day on his snowboard. Another great day of skiing ended with **Apres Ski** was at the **Slopeside Bar**. The **Pub Crawl** the night before couldn't slow this group down! Tequila shots were compliments of **Sarah Granbery**, due to the waitress spilling six shots on her head! Not to be outdone by **Sarah**, **Lisa Kelley** managed to get a pitcher of beer thrown at her, which resulted in a free pitcher. Like they needed it..... If that wasn't enough excitement, **Sarah** and **Lisa** then joined a group on the stage to entertain us with "Hand Jive". Could this behavior have something to do with the margaritas the entertainer made with his chainsaw blender? Some of the other folks seen at **Slopeside** include **Karen** and **Jim Icenhower**, **Ken Feaster** and **Bret Henderson**. And.... Who was that man **Yvonne Guy** was talking to?

On Wednesday, a group of 25 people took an excursion to **Strawberry Park Hot Springs**. What a perfect way to end a



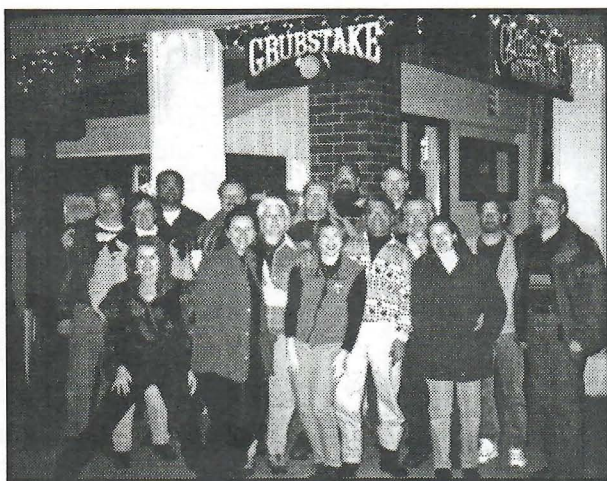
Jessica Halter
281-364-9972

Off the Record
Variety Band

Steamboat - cont.

fantastic day of skiing!!! Ann Borochoff and Marcia Resnick even got a massage while they were there. Others had fun making angels in the snow. After dark things got pretty interesting. What did ATC, Roger Sahni have hanging around his neck???? Other adventurous people in our group (Charles Kulkarni, Fran Spitzberg and Harold Kaminsky) went snow-mobiling.

Thursday was the big NASTAR event, coordinated by Race Director, Bobby Viktorin. We almost had 20 racers. Officially, it was 19. Some of our racers took a practice run, but Morris Covin wishes he hadn't because he blew out a knee trying to stop at the bottom. He was really mad because he was confident he could have won a silver medal, and of course, we're all sure he would have! There were several first time racers, including Lisa Kelley, Yvonne Guy, Cindy Jones and Michael Mangum. The races gave Lou Kleinman and Cliff Aymes an opportunity to keep their Jr. High rivalry alive. Lou contends that he has to let Cliff beat him every now and then or Cliff won't ski with him, anymore. (There was only .17 seconds difference in their times!) That evening, a lasagna dinner was hosted by the TC and ATC with the help of willing volunteers who baked the lasagna. Roger Sahni and Karen Icenhower made an exceptionally good salad, too. After dinner, Race Director, Bobby Viktorin awarded 16 NASTAR medals. BRONZE medals were awarded to Rich Cannata, Bret Henderson, Mark Chambers, Lisa Kelley, Yvonne Guy



and Donita Soucek. SILVER medalists included John Burk, Frank Adams, Cliff Aymes, Lou Kleinman, David Street, Bill Dahl, Sarah Brown and Keith Kirkman. GOLD medals were awarded to Angie Westergren and Bobby Viktorin. One of the gold medals was earned on the first run; however, there seems to be some controversy surrounding the other one. The latter one has been submitted to a peer review committee comprised of Mark Chambers, Lisa Kelley and Michael Mangum!

Friday was a tough day for several people on the slopes. Not to be outdone by Chris Adoue and Morris Covin, Michael Mangum broke his arm, and Steve Jaeger hyper-extended his elbow. It's ok to be competitive guys, but you didn't have to try and get the most injuries on one ski trip! The ski patrol gal who helped Steve was so cute that Ken Feaster started having aches and pains that he needed help with, too! Where was that pain, Ken??? That evening the group went up the Thunderhead Gondola for a Western Bar BQ, all-you-can-eat prime rib, etc. Some enjoyed dancing, too.

On Saturday, much to our dismay, it was time to make the transition from "Ski Life" back to "real life". Some skied and others spent the day shopping and relaxing at local taverns. One of the most popular happy hour's was hosted by Rich Cannata and Hope Flynn at their Timber Run condo. Luckily, they didn't miss the bus to the airport! Once at the airport, the TC and ATC gathered their group, injured and all, and headed back to Houston, knowing they would see each other again at Bob

O'Neal and Dee Cartwright's home for the post-trip party. Hey gang, where are we going next year????



SCSC Activity

Bowling

Palace Lanes-Bellaire
4191 Bellaire Blvd

Aug 27th
Final Payment Aug. 20th

\$ 15.00

Contact
Nancy Sarff
713-461-9665
jeffsarff@worldnet.att.net



SCSC Activity

Miller Outdoor Theatre

July 22th: The Who's Tommy
and Aug. 26th: The Barber of Seville

FREE



Contact
Nora Montgomery
281-282-0922
Nora.Montgomery@SW.Boeing.com

SCSC Activity

WindSurfing

Aug. 19th
Final Payment Aug. 4th

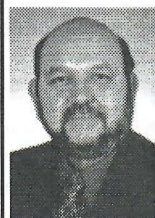
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In early March, 72 adventurous skier's headed to Banff for some fabulous skiing. The trip was smooth and check-in to Chateau Lake Louise was uneventful except for two little problems. **Robbie Adams** and **Amelia McFarland** were assumed to be a couple and assigned a single-bed room as were **Steven Teoh** and **Carmen Mikhail**. The ladies weren't too excited but Steven was liking this ATC thing more every minute!!

Most folks packed it in early but other hungry SCSCers headed to the Lake Louise Station to dine in refurbished railcars. Dinner was great except our group was held up by train robbers (**Pam Smith**, **Ann Clinton**, **Karen Kendall**, **Sandra Hand**, **Mitch Gaspard**, and **Stan Broniak**) in search of jewelry, money and, especially, food.

After some great days at the Chateau, we transferred to the Banff Springs. **Carl** and **Lottie Gautschi** checked in early and got a great room with a fireplace while others enjoyed skiing and Nastar races.

Wednesday was the Torchlight Dinner. Dinner appeared in a procession of music and lights with assistance by **Ladye Frietag** who lassoed the roast beef and road off to the buffet table. Other highlights included a limbo contest in which **Mimi Markel** showed everyone just how limber she is, while **David** and **Guri Pryce** were doing a mean conga line. Our well-fed group donned miners lights which brightened their way as they skied

down the hill after dinner. But everyone was asking, "Why were **Darlene Hirasaki**, **Ron** and **Robert Rambin** and **Carol Chaney** wearing ski goggles at night?"

Others helped boost the local economy. **Louella Stellar** seriously hit the shops while **Beverly Maurice** expanded her shopping vocabulary by learning how to say

"half price sale" in Japanese. **Dorann Valka**, fighting a bad sinus infection, also enjoyed the favorable exchange rates and still made the party functions.

Serious skiers, **George Hirasaki** and **Fred Kahrs**, got adventurous and had a great time heliskiing.

Many also relaxed (sort of!) at the Spa. **Louis Miller's** massage was interrupted by two Japanese ladies stumbling in followed, shortly thereafter, by the fire drill going off. **David George** also visited the spa as a reward for returning a lost. David wasn't sure about the spa but, after seeing all the ladies in bath robes, he has changed his thinking about spas.

Other Banff Springs benefits were rooms like **Tony Mikos** and **Lydia Kavraki** had which backed up to the bakery's ventilation pipe. Imagine waking up to the smell of fresh baked bread. Yummy!

Camille Laroe helped run a spectacular Pub Crawl on Thursday by arranging tables and promising "dances" to the guys who would save tables for fellow crawlers. **Barry Norman**, **Jill Naney**, **Scott** and **Liz Philbrook** and **Camille** finally called it quits at 2:00 a.m. - long after everyone else.

Judy Katany and **Dan Taft** along with San Francisco SCSCers **David Cikvasvili** and **Susan Black**, and Indiana SCSCers **Patty** and **Jim Fitzpatrick**

visited the pub enjoying tastings of 100 years of Port, 150 years of Grand Marnier and Scotch from 6 different regions.

At the group dinner Friday night **Mitch Gaspard**, wearing his Mardi Gras tux, hit the dance floor with **Susan Blome** and many others. Unfortunately non-SCSC tables were annoyed that "their waiter", **Mitch**, was not very attentive. While on business in Canada, **Eddie Bayersdorfer** joined us to get in some skiing and a little partying.

Heading home, new-SCSC member, **Michael Testa**, commented on how terrific SCSC trips are. Amen! This wonderful expedition was captured on film by our dear friend and resident photographer, **Ron Hayes**.



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Montreal, Quebec Canada

By Darlene Hirasaki

If you are wondering what a FAM trip is, I will explain. It is a familiarization trip to check out an area to see if we would want to run a Ski trip there. In late January, I was asked if I'd like to go to Montreal, Canada. Since I have never been to this area, I thought it was a good opportunity. There are three major ski areas and each has several mountains in close proximity to ski. I skied Eastern Townships which consists of four ski areas, Bromont, Mont Sutton, Mont Orford, and Owl's Head. It is also, and I never realized this, very close to J Peak in Vermont. Our group only had a chance to ski three of the mountains, Sutton, Orford, and Owl's Head. This was a quick trip and we were also looking at all the accommodations, restaurants, and anything else the resorts had to offer.

After visiting these resorts, I can honestly say that I would go again. They are very enjoyable mountains to ski. You would have to ski at several of the mountains in the area for a really great trip. Size wise, they are small resorts. I did discover that if you go to these areas, you either go as a group (with a bus) or you go as a small group or as a family and have a car or van. There is no public transportation around to take you to the other mountains, restaurants, town, or shopping. To fly there, we took Air Canada through Toronto and then on to Montreal. The mountains were about an hour or so away, which was not a bad commute.

Now a little about the mountains:

Bromont - this mountain is known for its night skiing. The mountain is open until 10:00 PM at night. 75% of the mountain is open for night skiing. 90% of the mountain has snowmaking ability. They have 135 acres to ski, with 2 double chairlifts, 1 quad, and a ski tow (ugh!). I

did not get to ski this mountain, but we arrive at night and stayed at the Chateau Bromont next to the mountain. What I did notice, was that the locals use this mountain after work to ski.

Mont Sutton - now this is a mountain that I really enjoyed. This mountain offers glade skiing through the trees (mechanically groomed glades cover 40% of the mountain). Skiing was fun, and different than any other tree skiing I've done (actually I don't usually do tree skiing). Since they can groom it, you kind of glide down the mountain. There are 175 with 53 trails. They have 6 double chairs, and 3 quads. I also found out that this is a family owned operation, with most of the family running it. Which means they keep a close eye on the operations.


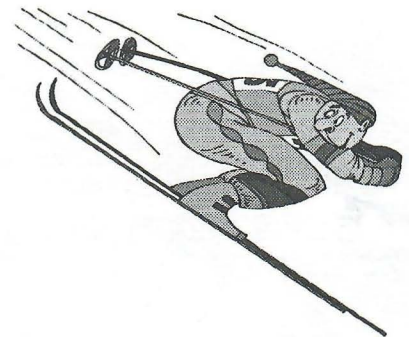
Owl's Head - This mountain has only 80 acres of skiing with 27 trails, but I really enjoyed what I skied of it. They have snowmaking on 85% of the mountain. Lifts, 5 doubles and 2 quads. My main problem with the skiing here was to get to the main quad chairlift, they make you walk up a steep hill (or take the slow beginner's chair). After lunch I wasn't thrilled with the up hill hike, but glad I did it when I started skiing.

Mont Orford - This mountain had some great open runs. There is 180 acres of skiing terrain with 52 trails and a snowboard park for those of you into that. Lifts, they have 3 doubles, 1 triple, 2 quads, 1 t-bar (Ugh) and 1 ski tow (ugh, ugh). I didn't have George Hirasaki along to verify this, but it did look like they had some challenging double blacks - like I said I only looked!!

If we were doing this as a club trip, I would recommend staying at the Auberge Estrimont in Orford, Quebec. They are

centrally located and you can easily get to the other mountains. The Auberge has many package prices for groups at reasonable prices. They own five of their own motorcoaches and will take you as a group to the various mountains. They are also willing to go for the day to J Peak in Vermont to give you even more variety. If you were going up on your own I would still recommend it. Although all of the mountains had some nice accommodations close by.

As I said before, this is a great place for Space City to go as a club. I can also give you contacts and more specific information about the area if you'd like to go there yourself.



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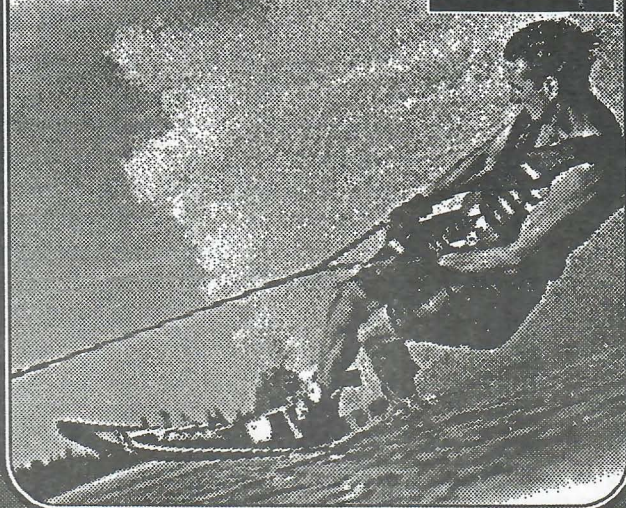
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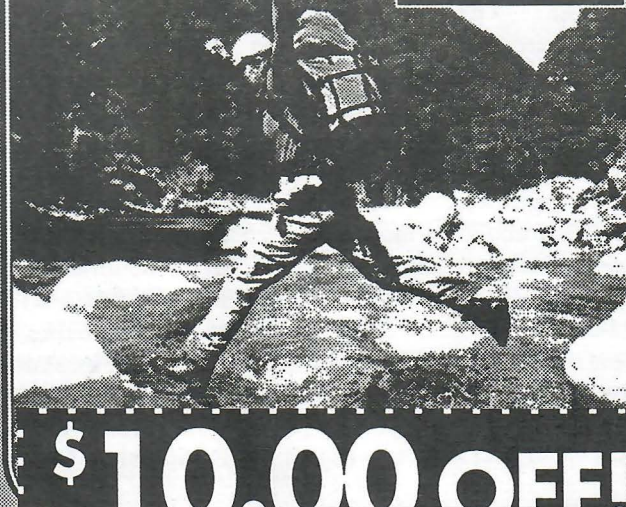
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