

Space City Ski Club 1980-1981 Season



Calendar

General Meeting - November 12 - Houston Racquet Club - 7:30 p.m. Annual Style Show

Night at Gilley's - November 21 - See ad on page 6

Country & Western Dance Lessons - Start November 17 - See ad on page 6

Thanksgiving Trip - November 30

1980-1981 Officers

President: Linda MacFarland Simpson- 665-7088 (H) Vice President-Programs: Bob Petner - 926-4703 (O) Vice President-Trips: Anne Benefield - 780-4019 (H) Vice President-Membership: Marty Matras - 681-9315 (H)

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Sy Liebergot
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Editor: Vicki Schmid Faulkner

Head of the Liftline: Linda MacFarland Simpson

Contributors for October Issue:

Merriam Webster Layna Adams Karol Klopp Thayer Cover Photo: Sy Liebergot

Published monthly by Space City Ski Club for its members. Address any correspondence to: Editor, *The SitzMarke*,

P. O. Box 61674, Houston, Texas 77208.



The members of Space City have long been noted for their "style". That fact will be especially evident at the November meeting as Club members model the latest in ski fashions and innovative attire for the slopes. Whether you need basic ideas for your first ski trip, want to see what's new for the season, or just want to get in the wintry mood, be sure not to miss the fashion show sponsored by Sporthaus-Lindner of Aspen.

For your ski attire to look good is easy enough. Now we need to approach the problem of how your skiing looks ... and the enjoyment you get from it. In large measure, this is dependent upon your "conditioning" level;

Editor's Note ...

The cover photograph was taken by Sy Liebergot last year at Angel Fire in New Mexico.

but you can make the most of your very first ski trip or even your first of the season by regular exercise. I have found that a routine of stretching, limbering, and strengthening exercises are excellent for increasing strength and stamina. Preconditioning is especially important for those of us who ski only one or two weeks of each year, so get into your exercise program now!

As you are aware, our club members in the past have been active in supporting various community activities. One member in particular, **Bob Olsen**, sponsored his 4th Annual Halloween Party for the benefit of the U.S.

Ski Team. Thanks for another great effort, Bob.

Upcoming social activities for November include a Western Night at Gilley's — but you need not go inexperienced, since dance lessons are available. Check your SitzMarke for details and future activities.

All but the most recent club members are aware that SCSC has won the Texas Cup for the past three years during the annual Texas Ski Week. In honor of our consecutive wins, Texas Ski Council has donated funds for a banner to be on display at future Space City meetings.

See you at the Style Show.

See your fellow SCSC members model the latest in ski fashions.

ANNUAL STYLE SHOW

November General Meeting
November 12

All ski wear provided by Sporthaus Lindner

Special thanks to Eric and Irmagaard Scott of Sporthaus Lindner for their great help in putting on the show.

1980-81 SCSC Trip Schedule

Trip	Trip Dates	Cost*	Final Payment Date		ip Chairpersons and Assistants	Home Phone	Office Phone
Salt Lake City	Nov. 26	\$385.	Oct. 13	TC	Judy Combs	444-2835	224-8941 Ext. 32
Thanksgiving	Nov. 30			ATC	Pete Bauman	688-3497	654-4400
Crested Butte I	Jan. 11	\$415.	Nov. 12	TC	Carol Yeager	667-8383	651-2609
Texas Ski Week I	Jan. 18			ATC	Mac McAnelly	780-8725	524-2424
Crested Butte II	Jan. 14	\$333.	Nov. 12	TC	* Steve Gucker	981-6663	523-3697
Texas Ski Week II	Jan. 18			ATC	Shirley Smith	476-4067	471-2771 Ext. 1410
Aspen Traditional	Jan. 24	\$409.	Dec. 3	TC	Bruce Maughs	861-2037	236-6706
	Jan. 31			ATC	Pam Phillips	721-7035	
Zermatt, Switzerland	Jan. 30	\$1,199	Dec. 3	TC	Shirley Andries	972-1417	
enight foliation operation was	Feb. 7			ATC	Mo Granda	495-6794	679-3284
Taos	Feb. 3	\$299.	Jan. 7	TC	Eric Holm	448-4444	
	Feb. 8			ATC	Merriam Webster	467-4515	499-5681
Vail	Feb. 7	\$489.	Jan. 7	TC	Layna Adams	723-3236	la galana
	Feb. 14			ATC	Charles Goodrich	977-1171	654-4451
Jackson Hole	Feb. 14	\$525 .	Dec. 3	TC	Karol Thayer	499-2294	789-5450
	Feb. 21			ATC	Bob Gay	932-8125	
Breckenridge	Feb. 21	\$399.	Jan. 7	TC	Sue Bohnert	467-5027	862-6611
							Ext. 450
	Feb. 28			ATC	Glenn Bishop	729-0065	662-3132
Banff, Canada	Mar. 7	\$579 .	Jan. 14	TC	Jerry Pyle	721-7035	662-3000
	Mar. 14			ATC	Tracy Fairbanks	981-7607	
Purgatory	Mar. 22	\$465.	Jan. 7	TC	Art Camero	772-3534	662-3000
	Mar. 29			ATC	Chris Richardson	772-2657	772-7200
Steamboat Springs	Mar. 29	\$391 .	Feb. 11	TC	Jim Franz	933-9130	771-1301
	Apr. 5			ATC	Judy Hendrix	871-8284	
Park City	Apr. 4	\$419.	Mar. 2	TC	John Hargleroad	980-3000	
	Apr. 11			ATC	Margaret Norris	481-3888 466-4802	671-5548

^{*}Prices Subject to Change

Vice President of Trips Anne Benefield (H) 780-4019 Trip Director Lynn Burch (H) 465-3306 Trip Director Dave Reitze (H) 781-2957

Trip Previews

Taos

February 3 - 8, 1981 \$299



Eric Holm, Chairperson 5630 Bent Bough Lane Hm. 448-4444

Merriam Webster, Assistant 21 Rollingwood Hm. 467-4515-Off. 499-5681 Tuesday evening, February 3, forty SCSCers will be boarding a Southwest Airlines flight for Albuquerque and will arive in time to board a bus for Taos. If you've ever known the gripping horror of hydroplaning out of control on sheets of grid ice, lost all sensation in your toes and fingers from sub-zero winds or faced a white-out, you'll find conditions at Taos idyllic. Runs are long and well-groomed. The weather is clear and there is space on the slopes with six ultra modern double Swiss chair lifts.

Taos is known as a center for serious skiers. Small, intimate ski classes enhance the reputation of beginners' inhibitions vanishing as they conquer "Little Toot". Although half the trails at Taos are color-coded "Expert", there are miles of challenging intermediate slopes manicured daily by a fleet of giant Pisten Bullies and Thiokols to eliminate moguls and pack the surface for long, smooth runs. Steep, open powder bowls, glades, and chutes offer untouched powder snow protected from both wind and sun. The tree line is at 12,000 ft. (twice that of the Alps!!). The management of Taos Ski Valley has cached porrons of frozen martinis under carefully marked blue spruce trees to vanquish the fears of the not-so-advanced. If your courage falters, these ice-cold martinis are guaranteed to refurbish the aggressiveness and daring of even the weariest skier.

For a real taste of the Southwest with an expansive. Indian-rugged lobby, stucco rooms, patios, restaurant, and lounge with excellent live entertainment nightly, we will be staying at the Sagebrush Inn. It is located two miles south of Taos in the heart of the Rocky Mountains.

The town of Taos is a picturesque place, steeped in traditions and legends from its founding in 1615. Today it is one of the foremost art colonies in the country. After hard skiing during the day, several wine and cheese parties are planned for apres-ski gatherings where many SCSC legends are expected to originate!! Staying near Taos also facilitates sampling Taos' many excellent speciality restaurants. Shuttle bus transportation to and from the ski area and town are included in the total price of \$299.

Sunday afternoon, February 8, we will depart from the Sagebrush Inn which will permit die-hard skiers another half day on the slopes. A \$75 deposit will reserve your place until the final payment date of December 10.

Jackson Hole February 14-21, 1981

If you missed Texas Ski Week, be sure not to miss the Jackson Hole trip, THE ski trip of the 1981 ski season! This is a Texas Ski Council sponsored trip. Space City will once again be competing with other Texas Ski Clubs. Space City has been KING of the Mountain for the last three years; let's not give up the crown now.

Karol A. Klopp Thayer, Chairperson 611 Shady Brook Dr., Stafford 77477 Off.: 499-2294 - Hm. 499-2294 Join us on our flights from Houston to Jackson Hole via Continental and Frontier Airlines. This will be an action-packed week of the best skiing (vertical rise 2.4 miles), parties, race clinics, NASTAR races, and maybe a Broomball game or two. What's Broomball? Come along to Jackson Hole and find out!

Bob Gay Assistant Chairman 6025 Sugar Hill - 77057 Hm. 789-5450



More Trip Previews



Layna Adams, Chairperson 5610 Duxbury - 77035 Hm. 723-3236

Charles Goodrich, Assistant Chairman 3000 Greeridge - 77057 Off. 654-4451 - Hm. 977-1171

Vail February 7-8, 1981

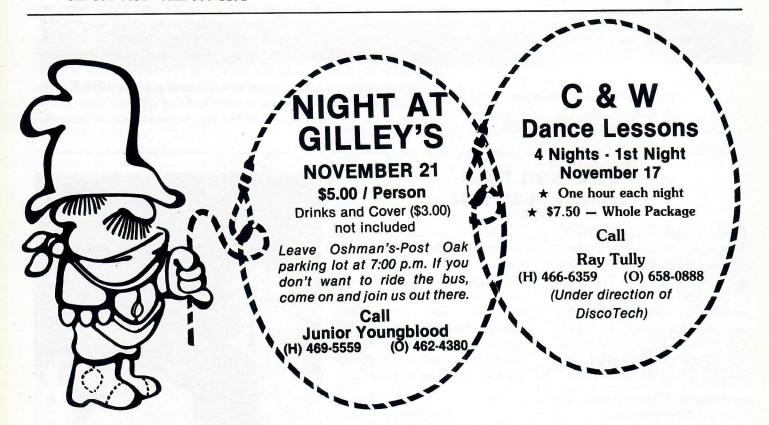
Valentine romance!! Vail is known as the SCSC Romance Trip and this season if you're going to Vail, plan for a Saturday to Saturday in February as Vail II will not be launched.

We'll leave February 7 at possible half day of skiing. Return to Houston is 9:56 p.m. on • February 14. Continental Airlines will provide meals on both flights.

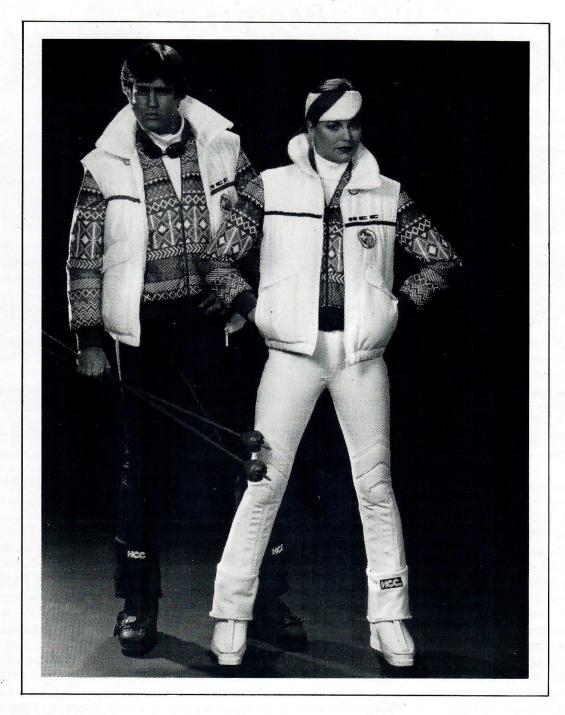
If you've never been to Vail, then it's time to treat yourself to a Valentine present of fabulous restaurants, unique shops, and a . mountain of skiing for 71/2 days. If you've been to Vail before, you know about the charm and at- • Ice Skating Party (optional).

mosphere of Vail and are probably interested only in the special items for this trip which are listed below:

- Wine and Cheese party early Saturday evening (a perfect setting for finding a Saturday night date).
- 7:20 a.m. and arrive in Vail for a Cocktail Party Monday and Thursday nights.
 - Pre-purchased 6-day Lift Tickets to assure your skiing (optional, but Vail now limits skiers on the Mountain to cut lift lines so it would be beneficial).
 - NASTAR Race with Trophies (optional).
 - Cross Country Skiing day and arrangements announced later (op-



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USSA Reorganizes

by Gar Bering

What I hope will ultimately prove to be the second most significant skiing event of 1980 did not take place on the ski slopes. In an Indianapolis hotel meeting room last June, the United States Ski Association (USSA) was totally reorganized. What used to be a somewhat chaotic collection of nine jealous organizations, nominally presided over by a weak, all-purpose umbrella organization, is now a strong and effective pair of national organizations. The two organizations are USSA Sports, responsible for USSA's programs and services to recreational skiers, and USSA Competition, responsible for the domestic competitive programs. These independent organizations have separate Boards of Directors and budgets, but remain responsible to and coordinated by a central Board of Governors. Nine into two has made one.

In order to understand how significant this reorganization is, one really needs to look at the history of USSA. USSA was first formed as a rule-making body some 76 years ago. The initial thrust of USSA's programs was aimed at developing the concepts and rules of ski competition. The organization was formed by a process of progressive amalgomation and affiliation. Clubs would start competing in a small area (usually in jumping, in those days) and would soon discover that a rule making body was needed. Thus arose first councils and then regional bodies, each as the U.S. Eastern Amateur Ski Association. Finally, the USSA came into being. However, the regional divisions remained the dominant force. Each of the divisions was roughly the size of a reasonably accessible competitive circuit and retained 90% of the dues and more than 90% of the volunteer effort. All of this worked just wonderfully in the 1950's. It did not work in the 1970's.



There were several reasons why USSA's old structure did not work in the 1970's. The most important reason to Houstonians was the effect on recreational skiing. In the 1950's, essentially everyone who skied was either a competitor, or was a strong supporter of competition. By the 1970's, most of the people who skied neither competed nor cared about competition. USSA's initial response to this development was to simply try to sell patriotism and support of the U.S. Ski Team with slight hints that there were other programs available. What happened was predictable. By 1966, recreational skiers had begun to take charge of USSA's member divisions and to divert resources to the development of recreational programs. Unfortunately, recreational skiers found it hard to attend national skiing conventions. So the competitors retained control of the national organization. As a result, USSA has been partly paralyzed by 14 years of serious political turmoil.

Another reason why this structure did not work in the 1970's is that the programs needed most by recreational skiers could not be easily administered by nine autonomous regions. For example, the most important of these programs for Houstonians is the political task of de-impeding the development of more facilities. Mobilization of a letter writing campaign to persuade the Congress of something requires a national, computerized mailing list. USSA has not had one before this year. Second, the kind of on-the-hill programs recreational skiers want are best financed through commercial sponsorship. Servicing such sponsorships requires a national newspaper, which has not existed since 1967. In other words, the petty jealousies which have kept the nine divisions apart (and, I must admit, the legitimate concerns of the competitors about the effect on the race schedule of consolidation) have really stymied the growth of USSA's recreational programs. [In view of the libelous allegations that some unscrupulous profiteers have made, let me state emphatically, that USSA has had recreational programs in being since 1942. Some of us have been trying rather hard for the last decade to develop better ones.]

The amazing thing about what happened this year is that this 15-year-old Gordian Knot was cut in one fell swoop. Both the administration and budgets of the recreational and competitive programs were entirely split into two separate, cooperating bodies. You choose which one you want to join and support. You can still participate in most programs of both, and if you want to

continued on page 14

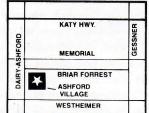


Tuesday Morning is selling men's and women's ski gear from famous manufacturers at wholesale prices and less. Save on jackets. bib pants, jacket and bib coordinates, lightweight turtlenecks, mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, goggles, etc.

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Ski jackets & bib pants coordinates	220.00	99.00	Goggles (deluxe anti-fog) The best!	32.50	16.25
Ski jackets (famous mfr. — 22 colors)		68.00	Sweaters — 100% wool ski sweaters		24.75
Ski vests (famous mfr.)	45.00	22.50	Toboggan hats — wool		4.75
Gloves (leather, down filled)	28.50	14.25	Turtlenecks — ribbed pattern	13.50	6.75

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SKIING: A BEGINNER'S PRIMER



Here are lots of tips for getting started on the slopes — but only one you absolutely need to know:

Take some lessons — First!

If you can walk, run, ride a bike or climb stairs without collapsing, you should be able to ski. But not unless you take some lessons first. Of all skiers at all levels of skill who seek advice of one kind or another, it is most important for the rank beginner.

Take professional lessons.

If you acquire bad habits during your first few days of skiing, you may never learn how to ski well. You will make far more progress in one day at a good ski school than you will during a whole week of taking advice from a ski bum friend who, after all, is likely to have his own shortcomings.

First, select a resort that uses chairlifts for instruction. Avoid ski schools that force pupils to use such stand-up lifts as rope tows, platter pulls and T-bars. Learning to ski requires confidence. The standup lifts can be frightening, because they jerk your hands, arms and legs across the snow.

Rent boots, poles and skis. Never purchase equipment until you've tried skiing at least once. That way, if you should discover you don't like the sport, you haven't wasted a major investment.

Once you arrive in the snow country, there is a trick to carrying your skis. Don't cradle them like a baby. Stand the skis upright with the tails on the ground. Grab hold of the tips with your left hand and the middles with your right. In an arc, swing the skis onto your right shoulder so the tails are behind you. Balance the skis on your right shoulder with your right hand while carrying poles in your left hand. Make certain the bindings are facing sideways so they won't cut into your shoulder. Don't turn suddenly while walking or you may clobber someone. If you plan to walk any appreciable distance, bind the skis together with the safety straps, bottom to bottom.

Before Class Starts

Find a flat area at the ski school meeting place to put on your skis. Skis should be put down gently on the snow. Slamming them to the ground isn't good for the bindings.

Before stepping into the bindings, use your poles to scrape off any lumps of snow that have caked on either the soles of your boots or on the skis. Then step into the bindings toe-first. Make certain your safety straps are buckled on the outside of your foot.

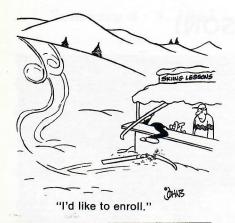
Try walking on your skis on a flat area for a few minutes before the class starts. That's an excellent way to get the feel of the equipment. Just slide along, leaving the entire ski in touch with the snow. Use your poles to push you along. Move your poles alternately with your skis — right foot and left pole, then left foot and right pole.

When ski school begins, listen carefully to everything your instructor says. At first you won't be able to get your skis, knees, legs and ankles to work in unison. But keep trying. Eventually, like the snap of your fingers, everything will begin to click for you.

Ideally, a five-day learn-to-ski week will enable you to advance from a novice to an intermediate. If that's too expensive for your pocketbook, spend as many weekends in ski school as you can afford — preferably three.

When you decide skiing is right for you, it's time to purchase equipment and clothing. There are several advantages in patronizing a professional ski shop. The salespeople in such a shop usually have proven technical knowledge. They are aware of which products have undergone detailed laboratory and field research and which products are mere imitations of quality merchandise. Most shops spend an appreciable amount of time training their

From FRONTIER, September/ October, 1980



salespeople, including sending employees to binding and ski mechanics workshops.

If your budget is limited, put priority on equipment rather than clothing. Buy equipment which is well-fitting and new. Do not buy cheap ski boots or bindings because they won't be welldesigned or well-made. They can reduce the pleasure of skiing and impede your progress. Your boot is the most important piece of equipment. I know the proper boot may cost more than you want to spend. However, you cannot control your skis with cheap or improperly fitting boots. Your boot has to be comfortable and firm for you to have the right balance, support and control on the slopes.

Buying Clothes

Every skier's concern must be safety. That's why you need to invest in the

best boot and binding you can reasonably afford. Clothing, however is merely a fashion accessory for the novice. It only needs to be warm, dry and comfortable. Make certain the parka and pants you buy are wind resistant and water-repellent. Test all zippers several times; a stuck or broken zipper on a cold day can ruin your skiing. Avoid buying clothes with plastic zippers—get metal ones only.

If you're the kind of person who is always cold, buy an inexpensive pair of warm-up pants. These are extra garments that slip over your regular ski pants. They cut off the wind and provide your legs with extra warmth. Use them on the colddest days. When the weather warms you can slip out of them in 20 seconds.

Good gloves are important, too. An icy wind or falling snow can slice right through a thin pair of gloves; the biting cold on your fingers eventually will force you inside. Mittens are bulkier but warmer than gloves.

Don't forget a snug hat that pulls down tightly over your ears. Much of your total body heat can be lost through an uncovered head on a blustery day. If you've ever had to sit on slow-moving chairlift without headgear in the midst of a storm, you'd never make that painful mistake twice.

Never rush through your shop-

ping. When trying on ski pants, crouch, kneel and squat to test their stretchability. A sudden sprawl in the snow could split your pants down the seam if they don't have enough give.

You may need to look hard to find a proper fit—but that is important too. When a man buys a business suit and a woman purchases a dress or pants suit, they don't expect these clothes to fit perfectly off the rack. Normally, they have such apparel altered. Surprisingly, these same individuals will walk into a ski shop and expect to find clothes that fit perfectly right off the rack. But many ski garments just don't come in conventional sizes. You cannot ask for ski pants with a 34 waist and 30 length and be certain they will fit. You must try on every garment because each manufacturer-especially the European ones-has a different size factor.

Getting into Shape

If you discover that none of the clothes fits you, maybe you are not yet in proper physical shape for downhill skiing. Good physical condition is particularly important for beginners because they use more energy on the slopes than the experienced skier. The novice needs the extra strength and stamina to compensate for his lack of skill. At higher elevations, it takes considerable effort and determination to get

(continued on next page)



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NON-SKI ACTIVITIES FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON!

November 17 C&W Dance Lessons begin, 1st of four
November 21 Night at Gilley's
December 18
January 3 Exercise day in the park
January 20 Bridge Night
January 22 Happy Hour
February 19
March 14 Bicycle Outing
March 19

March 21	Tennis Tournament
April 16	Happy Hour
April 25	Gimmick Road Rally
May 2 Las Vegas	"Take a Chance" Party
May 23	Hilltop Herb Farm
June	Tubing the River
	Booth, Texas
July	Horse Race Trip
	Summer Bash
August	South Padre Island Trip

Anyone interested in organizing any one of these non-ski activities, please call Bob Petner — 868-3320

SKI TIPS: A Beginner's Primer

(continued from page 11)



"First time out?"

up from the ground again and again after falling. And believe me, beginners spend a lot of time falling. Furthermore, some of the initial maneuvers on skis, such as the wedge (the old "snowplow"), require additional physical exertion.

Many other athletic activities are helpful in preparing for skiing—tennis, jogging, hiking and danc ing. But if you aren't active now, don't rush into a ski conditioning program without first consulting a physician.

One final tip:

The real purpose of skiing is to have fun, to escape into the alpine forests of America's mountains far from the troubles of your job and everyday problems. Leave your worries at home. Enjoy the thrill and the beauty of this spectacular winter pastime by forgetting about yesterday and not thinking about tomorrow.



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Wear these custom jeans, embroidered with skiing "Tex", on your ski trip to Colorado, Utah, Canada, or Europe! Special Discount for All SCSC Members! CALL & ORDER NOW CALL

USSA Reorganizes

Continued from page 8 join both it is only a slight additional fee. In addition, both of these national entities have been made strong groups in the sense that the dues are collected nationally. The budgets, staffs, and newspapers of the nine divisions have been consolidated at the national level.

In other words, most of the obvious sources of in-fighting in lieu of productivity have been eliminated. As incoming USSA President Graham Anderson put it in a recent interview with this writer, it appears that USSA has suc-

ceeded in filling up a vast new reservoir of energy to attack the common agenda of problems facing all skiers.

I believe that the changes which have been made in USSA will go a long way toward providing the kind of effective voice for the individual skier that we have needed for so long. This year will be rough. The reorganization will take a while to jell fully. However, I think that every SCSC member should show support for what has been done by joining USSA this year. Applications can be obtained from USSA, Box 100, Park City, Utah, or, I hope, from me at the November meeting.

Unsung Heros

A special thank you to those members who volunteered their time and assistance during the October General Meeting.

Membership Desk

	p =
Michael Boland	Brenda Boland
Stanley Briers	Joyce Brown
Janice Coons	Wayne Cook
Don Cherry	Lucy Crowgey
Stafford Davis	Toby Davis
Derek Hankins	Paul Romere
Betsy Romere	Leta Crow
Paula Boughter	Gail Quenneville

Graham Barnes

Pins, Patches, Decals

Penny Chancey - Chairman Dale Englefield

Liftliners

Tania Andrasco	Salt Lake
Pat Burchett	Purgatory
Ken Catherman	Aspen
Jean Crabtree	
Linda Crawford	Steamboat
Lee Eriksen	
Cheryl Foreman	Park City
Harrry Gaston	
Gloria Hodge	
Joyce King	
Spencer King	TSW II
Carolyn Lowrie	
Jan Livingston	
Bob Marwin	TSW I
Craig Meyer	
Pat Pennel	
Barbara Ring	Salt Lake
Bernd Schlickeiser	
Lori Schaeffer	Purgatory
Steve Van Pelt	
Penny Watts	Jackson Hole
Monica Williams	Taos
Roy Caviness	Co-Chairman
Pete Bauman	Co-Chairman

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MARRIAGES

Linda MacFarland & Allan Simpson — November 1st.

FOR SALE

Space in the classifieds may be purchased for only \$5/issue/insert, not to exceed 1 column inch. Contact editor if interested.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Open invitation to all SCSC members —

SKI SYSTEMS
7700 Renwick, S. 4A
Office — 668-0777
School — 668-0889
Come in for free demonstration on the "slope".
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Erik Anderson

REMINDER

Space City Ski Club General Meetings are the second Wednedays of the month, at the Houston Racquet Club, 10709 Memorial at Voss.

AWARDS

The "Wounded Pelican Award" or Brown pelican on a field of wet seaweed! It's been reported that SCSCer Dave Walter was recently seen attempting to raise the jib sail on his sailboat upside down — in the middle of Galveston Bay! The unforgettable event occurred in front of at least 200 other sailors who lowered their flags in response.

TEXAS SKI WEEK NOTICE

Any Space City member who thinks that they will be in Crested Butte for Texas Ski Week, January 11 to 18, 1981, on trips other than the two Club sponsored trips and thinks that they may want to ski, race, and party with Space City, please contact the Race Chairman, George Hirasaki at 445-2781-H or 663-2703-O. We need information from you to enter you in the races.

WANTED

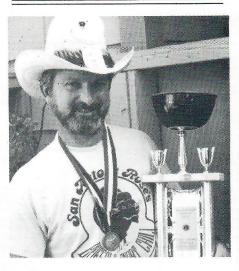
Members interested in organiing rosters for tennis players, racquet ball players, bridge players. Contact the Editor.



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CHILI NEWS

Buffalo Snort Chili Team won first place chili and Best All-Around Chili Team in the Penthathlon. Congrats, guys!



ABOVE: Sy Liebergot with 1st place Chili Trophy BELOW: Ron Smith showing Best All-Around Chili Team form



SitzMarke Deadlines

- November 12
- December 10
- January 10

Space City Ski Club

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