



Forty-nine Space City Ski Club members signed up for Texas Ski Council Winter Shootout Week in Breckenridge, Colorado and joined 120 other Texans from San Antonio, Dallas, Austin and Clear Lake.

It surely was nice that front desk took care of the situation, even before we complained.

All our SCSC participants joined at Ann Dorn's condo for the Club Welcome party. Appetizers, Salad and Pizza, beer and wine were provided. Jim Edwards helped Gin Knebel get ready to distribute all lift tickets and TSC Credentials while I was busy cooking and preparing food for the party with my roommate Juel Hill.

Sunday was perfect weather for skiing and some of us got together at Vista House for lunch.

We started warming up for the trip on December 3, 2018 with the pretrip party hosted by our ATC Gin Knebel at her home in Quail Valley. About 30 of us gathered to enjoy food, wine and beer. We also got to know some of our new members who signed up for this trip. Jose Fernandez, who signed up for single supplement, immediately got connected our new members Mo Rafizadeh and Farhad Bozorgmehr. This new friendship made it easy for me to assign these 3 gentlemen as condo mates. Mary Lee Heald wowed the crowd with her Ski Boot Shaped Purse - it was quite the conversational piece! After party was over, I had to call Mary Lee because she forgot to take her purse home.

The TSC Welcome Reception Party coincided with Super Bowl Game day. The Texas Ski Council arranged to open the ballroom at 4 pm, and they set up the big screen for us to watch the Super Bowl game prior to the welcome party. Most of Our Space City Club participants were very prompt and we got the best tables - close to the TV and close to the Taco Bar!

Thirty of our Space City Ski Club skiers flew together via Southwest to Denver and were greeted by Elizabeth from our tour operator Ski White Diamond. Janet McKenzie, Bill Reilly, Dale Allman from Jacksonville, Bill Voltz from Chicago and Dan Lemay from Tulsa joined us on the bus ride from the airport to our Beaver Run Condos in Breckenridge.

Monday was another beautiful day for skiing and Our Tour Operator, Ski White Diamond, offered a Mountain Tour to all TSC members. Leyla, Rita Cardenas, Deb Cini, Nick Morrone, Pete Mathieu and I joined the mountain tour guided by Jamie Alford, the owner of Ski White Diamond. Joan Waddill and Debra Moser are a few others who joined the Mountain Tour with other TSC skiers. Jamie and his staff showed great organization and communication skills during the trip planning, and amazing commitment of service by meeting all the clubs at the airport. I appreciate his efforts!

When we arrived at the condos, Steve & Jeanne Marie Ying, Anne & Thomas Thomas, Ross Baker, David Stotz, Susan Stanley, Keith Kirkman and Craig Campbell were already there. They had spent the previous week with the club skiing in Keystone, then joined us at Breckenridge for the TSC trip.

Since it is the peak season, some of our condos were not ready for us to check in. For those that had to wait, management provided gift certificates to use within the resort.



A lot of SCSC skiers participated poker challenge on the mountain and later joined for BBQ lunch provided by TSC. The same night, we had the club dinner at Ann Dorn and





We had a snow storm Wednesday in the morning. Those who were brave enough to face the snow enjoyed the freshies! Those people thought the skiing conditions were the best, but some of ladies thought it was the best day to go to town for shopping. Leasa & Robert Clements, Cindy and John McGowan, Deb Cini and Nick Marrone thought it was best day for Snowshoeing or Dog Sledding.

Thursday was TSC Race day. Marti Turner, Joan Waddill, Charles Albright, Joe Zurfley, Ashok Moza, Hugh Williamson, David Stotz and Mohammad represented our club and competed with other clubs in the extreme cold and bad conditions. We thank all our brave skiers who skied for our club!!!

Ashok flew in Monday late eve and had to leave as soon as he finished his race on Thursday to go back to his work.

Friday was our last day of skiing, the weather warmed up



and there were wonderful skiing conditions, but a power outage occurred about 8am, affecting the entire county. David Stotz was lucky enough not to get stuck in the elevator as he was heading out to the airport right before the power outage struck. The lifts were not operational, and no one was sure when the outage would be corrected. Some people got the news that chair lifts might not be running all day and decided to pick up their ski gear from ski lockers



or return their ski gear. Jim Edwards, Ron Rambin, Dan Lemay, Susan Stanley are a few who decided not to ski. Charles Albright and Joe Zurfley were about to take a shuttle to Keystone, but then the chair lifts started moving and we could ski at least 4 hours before our Farewell Party.

At the Farewell Party, Anne Thomas' nephew, Hugh Williamson, won Gold medal as best skier of All and Mohammad and David Stotz got Silver medals for their age group. After the awards ceremony we all enjoyed dinner and dancing. As always, Our Space City Club skiers are last ones to leave the dance floor. Did I not hear that our Space City Ski Club created the words to live by: "SKI HARD, BUT PLAY AND DANCE HARDER" ?

The return bus was packed with 43 participants. Beverly and Charles Roberts decided to go to Utah to ski with Keith Kirkman instead of flying back with us. Craig Campbell drove back to Houston and brought back our Club banner to the Monday club meeting for Ali Pethick to take Whitefish trip.

We had the chance to get together 5 times during the trip: the club welcome Party, TSC welcome Party, Poker Challenge/ BBQ lunch on the mountain, Club dinner at Ann's Condo and TSC Farewell Party. After two additional get-togethers for the pre and post trip parties, I feel like this Breckenridge Trip was al-



most a Big Family Trip.

We scheduled our post trip party one week after our trip since a lot of our members signed up for other activities or other ski trips. Nick Morrone graciously opened his house for our Post-Party and it was all worth it for people drive far to tour his new updated mansion and his collection of antique cars. Some of us enjoyed dancing upstairs in his private bar/ disco dancing room.

We all had a great time not only at the slope, but all the time. We all did what we wanted to do - either non-stop skiing, or easy skiing with lots of rest and enjoying the vacation.



Best group of people ever, and it would be an honor to join this amazing group again for other trip. I am already itching for next year skiing. How about you?

