Snowmass I By Philip vice



The first ski trip of the new millennium got off to a rocky start (the pun intended). Mother nature was not kind to the ski resort with only a 29 inch base reported. **Joe Bruccoliere** was last seen still trying to figure out where they took that measurement. I would not be exaggerating if I said that snow could be found but you just had to look under the first lift where the snowmaking machines were located. The best part of this story is that the lack of snow did not stop 32 great Space City participants from having fun.



Just ask D'Lain Braunig who skied her first blue run. That is a whole different story that I will tell right now. Once upon a time there was a group of Space City skiers who happened upon a blue run. All of the skiers except one (D'Lain) were excited to try this new adventure. This one skier (D'Lain) who was not excited took her skies off and refused to go down the run. A knight on white skis, Bud Wilson came to the rescue. Using his great communication skills that all males have, he was able to get her to put the skis back on and coach her down the hill. Trying to reach their destination at the bottom of the hill, the group came upon another blue run with rocks. Having used all of his communication skills on the last run, Bud was exhausted. Gary Haley then demonstrated the superior male communication skills that I previously mentioned and was able to help D'Lain inch her way down. The End.

Steven Teoh and Beneta Scribner reported that they thought our TC, Karen Mozisek, had improved her skiing abilities when

after the first day the wedge had disappeared. That thought dissipated when they all decided to go down a blue run (darn those blue runs!) and Karen's wedging skills immediately reappeared while at the top of the hill. They all laughed about it because it was all in her head. After that run she could not wait to get on another blue run. Phyllis and Robert Reichek became first

time snowboarders and declared, bruises and all, that they would do it again. They made this statement even after one of our members, JR Ronczy, broke his arm snowboarding. The grapevine tells the story that JR was attempting his patented triple somersault flip on a double black diamond catwalk when something went wrong! On the bright side, JR was lucky that

he brought his private nurse, Stacey Ronczy. Stacey did a great job taking care of JR and even packed their luggage for the return trip. We all know that men are just big babies when they are sick or hurt and a good nurse (your better half) is a must. Get well soon JR!

Ron Rambin, playing the part of the perfect husband, gave Roberta Rambin a matching silver/gold heart shaped necklace and earrings for her birthday. Roberta then turns around and gives a gift to Darlene Hirasaki by finding her contact lens in windblown snow. The gifts continued to fly on our trip when Debbie (Crofoot) Morley received a fur coat from her honey. Not to be

outdone, Debbie buys Bill Morley new skis. Personally, I think Bill got the best of that deal. Eric Ploeger thought the best part of the trip was being able to ski with different people everyday. He especially liked being one of the male members being led around the mountain by Sue DeWitt. Down boy, down! Ron Flowers was designated blowman in the jacuzzi. Who ever provided this tidbit, please explain to me the next time we meet. Ron Flowers could also be seen on the slopes working



hard on regaining his carving skills. Hang in there Ron, it will come back!

The three amigos, Joe Bruccoliere, Jon Welkey and Phillip Vice decided to ski Buttermilk. They were at the bottom of the mountain with only 30 minutes left before the last bus was scheduled to leave. Jon and Phillip decided to make one last run for the day. It was literally their last run as they ended up stranded on an unmarked trail with the lift closed. They had to call ski patrol and be driven down the mountain in a van.

Tuesday evening was the TSC Prom Night. Several women and men dressed in prom attire for the contest. Space City had it's own finalist in Ermalina Torkay (aka Mitch Gaspard, Snowmass II). She wore a blonde wig, pink dress, matching fuschia gloves, shoes, handbag and wrist corsage.



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Finalists were chosen by applause and Ermalina was one of the top 3 finalists but unfortunately was not crowned "Prom Queen". There was a lot of dancing going on, just ask Howard Schoenike he had all the pretty ladies on the dance floor. You could also find dancing the night away Roger Holzman, Charles & Beverly Roberts, Bob Fulwiler, Cathy Phillips, Hartley Chelin, Karl & Lotty Gautschi, Beneta Scribner, Gary Haley, D'Lain Braunig, Phillip Vice, Steven Teoh and many more. Shooters Bar was the club where all 3 Space City trips got together to party. Everyone enjoyed the free drink coupons, the country dancing, and the pool tables. You could find Roger Holzman, Beneta Scribner, Gary Haley, Susan & Bud Wilson tearing up the dance floor. While Karen, D'Lain, Steven, Susan and Jeri Wilson wore out the pool tables.

No article would be complete without mentioning the race results. Our Snowmass I lady skiers won four of the six medals for Space City. The best time for both sexes goes to Susan Wilson with a time of 29.89 and a Silver Medal. Also, in the women's division, Sarah Brown, Darlene Hirasaki and Leslie Cashio all won Bronze Medals. Congratulations Ladies! In the men's division, Ron Rambin and Kevin Bishop won the only two Silver Medals for Space City. Andy Cashio and Karl Gautschi also produced two Bronze Medals for our group. Two notable mentions are George Hirasaki and Nelson Turner. George made up for the lack of a medal from the group races by winning a Bronze medal the next day in the individual races. Ann Pearson thought she had a good run but ended up marked as DQ on the race results. Ann, yours was not the only mix up as I was marked DQ in the women's division also. Karen & I would like again to thank each of you for allowing us to run this Snowmass trip for you. We had a wonderful time and hope to see you all of you again on another trip.