



It was a small, but fun group that made SCSC's Thanksgiving trip to Keystone a memorable experience. This year, rather than the normal early evening flight, Space City went out early Tuesday morning—unfortunately leaving **Tor Lileng** behind, as he missed the flight. Fortunately, between United and Keystone Resorts, he made it in on a later flight that day, surprising his condomates **Charles Allen** and **Darlene & George Hirasaki** the next morning. When he arrived they were all asleep, but he managed to get checked in and quietly make his way to the condo. On the group's bus ride to Keystone various people volunteered to make different "fixins" for Thanksgiving dinner, so we stopped at Applejacks and a grocery store to stock up! After we left, I'm sure the store was trying to figure out who used all those coupons for free Express salads. **Jerry Montgomery** not only provided one of the turkeys, but gave us the free salad coupons. We still arrived at the mountain early enough in the day to arrange for rental of ski equipment to be ready to head out to ski early on Wednesday morning. **John Burk**, with son **Joey**, the only child on Space City's family optional trip, was seen checking out not only equipment, but ski lessons. We ended the evening with a wine and appetizer party at Christi Burke's, Keith Kirkman's, Jerry's, and my condo.

The next day, everyone skied at Keystone to get their ski legs! We caught up with our shadow participants, **Gary Kuchinski** and **Delilah Hart** that night at Keystone's Welcome Party for the Texas Ski Council. **Bob Wilbanks** from the National Ski Club Newsletter also joined us that evening, which is fortunate since he picked up grocery items that we still needed. One of which was mincemeat

pie—something George loves, but I don't care for—George and Bob claim they did not plan this, it just happened to be one of the pies Bob brought, but I don't know!! During the party rumors abounded that the snow was better at Vail, so Thursday saw Jerry, Darlene & George, Keith, Charles, **Ann Clinton**, **Denise Marks**, and others taking the TSC bus to Vail for Turkey Day. Meanwhile, **Lisa Prince** and I hung around the condos to make Thanksgiving dinner for the group. I was very glad Lisa didn't ski that day as after a morning of problems with the TSC race program I didn't stop for lunch and she offered up soup and a sandwich. Lisa, on top of helping to thaw out the "birds" also made her signature green beans for the dinner. While the turkeys were finishing up, **Van Heldorf** arrived early with an astonishing liquor supply. He certainly knew what the folks would be wanting upon their return from the slopes. Just before the party started **Bill Taylor** brought over **Liz Kinne** contribution of sweet potatoes which were terrific. As people began to arrive, Darlene brought with her a special corn casserole. Meanwhile, **Liva Bain** and **Ron Brandow** brought the pies that had been baking in their oven since the turkeys consumed both the ovens in my condo. While dinner was being served, everyone kept wondering what Denise was doing periodically going out on the back patio in the cold. Finally, we realized she had brought champagne and had set it outside to keep it cold! Guess with our group she knew leaving it in the refrigerator would be a mistake. After dinner we all had a great time playing a game about movie star trivia Liz had brought. One thing we learned from the game is that **Craig Campbell** is definitely someone you need on your team for this game. It is amazing how much he knew about the stars.

Friday most stayed at Keystone because of the TSC races. Friday evening everyone pretty much went their own way for dinner, either eating in the condos or trying out what Keystone had to offer.

Saturday brought another day where many of our group went back to Vail for a final day of skiing. Rounding out the week was the TSC Awards Party. The highlight of the evening for SCSC was to learn that while Space City placed third in the Club Races we had some individual winners. **Darlene Hirasaki** placed second in Woman's Seniors, and **George Hirasaki** placed first in a new TSC individual race division—Super Seniors—with **James Wayne** coming in second. Most disappeared not long after the awards were announced to either finish up packing or check out the Keystone bars.

Tor managed to catch the bus back to Denver, probably with the help of his condomates! Shortly after boarding the plane to fly back

Keystone: *(continued)*



Darlene Hirasaki placed 2nd in Women's Seniors!

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to Houston we all began wondering if we would make it back as we sat on the plane at the gate with "mechanical trouble"—something about a wing light that wouldn't work. Fortunately, when they finally offloaded because they couldn't get the light repaired the wait was not too long before they had another plane. Just enough time for us to gather for one last picture of the group. All were glad to get home, even if it was a couple of hours later than planned.

Many thanks to all who helped do the Thanksgiving Dinner—truly a challenge at high altitude—we weren't sure the "birds" would ever get done! Thanks also to roommates Christi Burke and Keith Kirkman—it is always difficult to be rooming with the trip leader, but fortunately both of you are volunteers many times over and happy to help out with anything!