

TSC Fall Roundup - Copper Mountain

by Tor Lileng, ATC and Cheryl Kenny, TC

The first SCSC trip of the season was a huge success. Fun was had by all, and the group enjoyed 15" of fresh powder during their trip. It snowed all day on Thanksgiving, making it hard to remember it was Thanksgiving Day instead of Christmas Day!

Bill Bomberger started out the trip as a bus driver. While **Mike, Travis and Tyler Carr, Steve Slade, Ray Villarreal** and **David Stewart** helped to get the 7 coolers loaded down with food and drink to the check-in desk at the airport, **Bill** drove **Cheryl Kenny's** van to long term parking. Everyone got checked in and to the gate area in plenty of time. Our one challenge was **Kirby Viktorin**, while she had a ticket, the airline decided that **Dad, Bobby Viktorin** needed 2 reservations, while she had none. After 20 minutes at the check in desk, we got **Kirby, Erin, Carol and Bobby** cleared for boarding.

Being a TSC trip, there was no shortage of parties. At the Welcome Reception, we had representatives from Loveland Ski area. Transportation and attractive lift ticket prices were offered for Thanksgiving Day. The conditions sounded good, so **Bill Bomberger, Steve Slade, Ellen Eastham, Keith Kirkman, Craig Campbell, Erin, Kirby, Carol, and Bobby Viktorin, Jose Araujo, and Natalia Nouel** decided to take Loveland up on their offer.

After the Welcome Party, **Jane Healey** and **Ellen Eastham** joined **Cheryl Kenny** in an apple peeling party. They proceeded to peel 15 pounds of apples to make apple crumb pies for Thanksgiving dinner. Being the pros that they are, they whipped up the apple pies in about 30 minutes. A glass or two of wine helped to make this an official SCSC event.

Some of those that stayed at Copper on Thanksgiving met up with the World Cup winners and coaches to capture a Kodak moment. As you can see in the accompanying picture to this article, **Peggy Montgomery, Steve and Cheryl Kenny, Llona Doubet, David Stewart, Ray Villarreal, and Susan Blome** got to share 15 minutes of fame with the racers. (Notice the cowboy hats the winners received.) We have **Bob Wilbanks** to thank for taking this picture. We decided this was their reward for not skiing and working on the rest of the dinner fixins and setting up the dinning room for dinner.

Tor Lileng and **Linda Walters** spent Thanksgiving in charge of making the turkeys, stuffing, and gravy. **Linda** was appointed the Master Baster. **Tor** has developed a secret recipe over the years. It calls for



wine to moisten the stuffing. Since the bird is also part of the party, it too got to drink wine. This secret recipe also prescribes glasses of wine for the cook and any assistants. We can assure you, the turkeys didn't drink alone! (Maybe that's why they missed the picture with the World Cup winners?)

Friday was our day for "Bragging Rights" NASTAR racing. We were not able to make this an official race for club points, but a

good time was had by all. Thanks to **Craig Campbell** for being our race director. Our impressive list of racers included **Bill Bomberger, Craig, Bob Olsen, George and Darlene Hirasaki, Jane and David Healey, Bonmartino Carlotti, Cheryl Kenny, Ellen Eastham, Jim Hitchcock, David Stewart, Ray Villarreal. Chuck Strain** was our sole snowboarder on the course. **Bobby Viktorin** was chastised for watching the football game instead of racing. We really need to talk to that boy about his priorities! We are especially proud of **Bonmartino** who not only got a gold medal, but had a time that was a mere 4 seconds behind the pacesetter!

This was a trip with lots of snowboarders. Most of our under 21 participants decided that boarding was the thing to do, or at least try for a day or two. **Steven Kummins** and **Brian Kenny** set up a jump area on the bunny slope so they could catch some air (and eat snow when things didn't go as planned!) **Dana Kummins, Lauren Kenny, Bill Kenny, Jessie Goff, Travis and Tyler Carr** were additional members of the shredder group. For the young at heart, but over the hill crowd, we had **Steve Kenny** and **Chuck Strain** shredding the slopes. We had a little excitement on the trip thanks to the Carr teenagers. We learned that Snowboards are a great equalizer between "big" and "little" brothers. **Travis** advanced from snowboard to ski patrol sled with a little help from **Tyler**. Nothing serious, but afterwards **Travis** decided to go back to skiing. He could be heard muttering: "Keep that maniac away from me"!

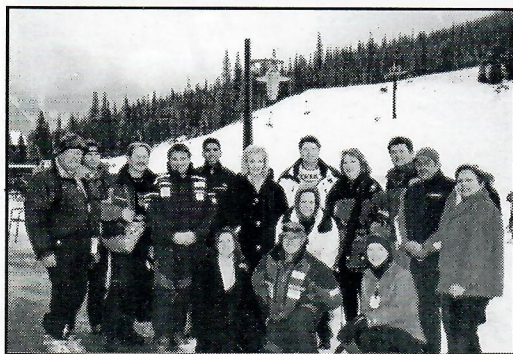
We had a "burn up the mountain" set of skiers on this trip. **Ellen Eastham, Bill Bomberger, George & Darlene Hirasaki, Bob Olsen, Bonmartino Carlotti** and **Craig Campbell** were skiing with **Keith Kirkman**. They got so tired of seeing **Keith** shooting down the slopes without ever falling, that they considered having **Chuck** wiping him out doing his snowboard thing. Luckily, cooler heads prevailed. We had a more relaxed crew on the slopes that consisted of **Marda Waters, Jim Hitchcock, and Susan Blome**. On her first day out, **Marda** was complaining about uncomfortable ski boots. By noon she was getting irritable and finally realized that something was not quite right. She made the bold experiment and switched her boots to the other (designated) feet. Not only was this a relief, but it qualified as the most embarrassing moment of the trip. **Chuck Strain** was our most adventurous boarder. He quickly abandoned green runs for blue. We did notice that from time-to-time he



could use a "This Side Up" sign on his jacket.

A number of our crew decided this was a week designed for shopping and relaxing, with skiing just being a sideline activity. **Linda Walters, Llona Doubet, and Susan Blome and Peggy Montgomery** decided someone needed to do the job, so they quickly signed up. Just goes to show that there is something for everyone on an SCSC trip!

The Awards Banquet was a time that SCSC could again show the rest of the TSC that we know how to party. **Ray Villarreal** barely had time to eat his dinner; he was so busy burning up the dance floor. While he spread himself around, **Marda Waters** and **Susan Blome** were the ladies that had the most opportunity to be glided around the dance floor in his expert arms. While he did actually sit out one or two dances, **Jim Hitchcock** was another Fred Astaire and gave Ray some real competition. **Llona Doubet** was another one who couldn't get enough of the dance floor. Cheryl used bribery as the Trip Leader to make sure she got a dance or two with Ray and Jim. SCSC was the group that danced until the end - which was no surprise to any of us.



We didn't know if it was her regular diet, or due to the elevation, but **Natalia Nouel** was constantly inhaling BBQ chicken wings. **Natalia** later confessed that after returning from the trip she

spent one week in the Betty Ford clinic to kick the habit. **Jose Araujo**, the trip's designated Latin lover, spent his time skiing, giving private lessons and taking pictures (mostly of **Natalia**). His student got as hooked on skiing as on chicken wings.

A number of people wanted to make sure that got in every inch of snow that they could. On Sunday morning before we left, **Tor Lileng, Jim Hitchcock, Erin and Bobby Viktorin** snuck in a few more runs. Reports were that this was the best skiing of the week. Groomed slopes, small crowds and nice temperatures were a perfect way to end a delightful trip. Now to think about the next ski vacation!

