

2003 TEXAS SKI COUNCIL SUMMER MELTDOWN

By Debbie Bergeron

The 2003 TSC Summer Meltdown September 26 through 28 kicked off to a great start with hot dogs on the grill and refreshing tropical beverages, served courtesy of SCSC member **Peggy Montgomery**, who is our Texas Ski Council Expedition Coordinator for the September 2004 TSC Cruise. Joining her was her able assistant, tropical drink Mixmaster and SCSC member, **Jim Edwards**.

A Saturday morning breakfast was held in Party Central aka the Trip Leaders' condo. After everyone got "lei'd" with tropical leis, we strategized for our various sports of choice.

Ed Cain, **Lucille Landis**, and **Marci Keller** opted for the nearby golf course. Meanwhile, the games and competition with our TSC sister clubs began. **Leona Schroeder** and **Al Austin** showed fine technique on the tennis court, while SCSC's sand volleyball team challenged Lone Star and Los Amigos Ski Clubs. Eager to escape the heat, **Ted Bergeron**, **Gary Butler**, **John Rice**, **Jeff Sarff**, **Merrel Smith**, and **Jim** soon headed for the 500-foot long lagoon style pool for water volleyball. Half a dozen games later, SCSC emerged victorious over a befuddled Los Amigos team, who were caught off guard by the skill of our determined team. (And yes, **WE DID SO** have two "girls" on our team!) After the revelry wore down a bit, the action moved to the beach for the Obstacle Course Relay Race. Along with **Richard Davidson**, **Dorothea Rasser**, and **Susan Wicker**, **Al**, **John**, and **Leona** gave a real team effort on the very tough course, but alas ended up in Third Place out of three teams. Next time, course designers **Kayleen Kill** and **Jeff** get to demonstrate first!

That evening the TSC Luau Dinner & Dance brought out

Dawn and **Ron Rodriguez**, **Sue Edwards**, **Charles Butler**, **R.J. Schroeder** and **Leona**, **Gail Blanton**, **Barb Tuley**, **Millie Jude**, and the whole gang in their finest tropical attire. Upon returning to Party Central, waiting on the doorstep was a surprise – someone smuggled the beer keg from the ballroom. So the wild and crazy late partiers were a merry band of SCSC and TSC partygoers! The gang found themselves unwillingly dispersing a bit too soon, so a small clandestine group decided that the hot tub and pool were calling. They mistakenly believed their singing in the waterfall was drowned out by the rushing water above. Not so. **Sharon Smith**, **Kay Cain**, **Nancy Sarff**, **ATC Lisa Smith**, and yours truly sought cover in the alcove behind the pool's waterfall as pool curfew neared and security guards made their rounds. As **Lisa** pointed out something dark and mysterious at the bottom of the pool that seemed to be growing larger and closer to the surface, a sudden explosion of water almost brought on heart attacks until the *Sisters Of The Waterfall* realized it to be merely a rogue Los Amigos club member on an after-hours trek down the 200 foot water slide! Not much later was heart attack #2 for the evening...as a security guard's head suddenly emerged from the side of their hiding place in the alcove to announce the dismal news that the pool was closed for the evening.

What better way to wrap up an entertaining weekend like this than with a Farewell Champagne Mimosa Breakfast? Port Royal koozies and shot glasses were awarded to the competitors. For her team spirit and reluctantly facing the obstacle course, **Susan Wicker** was presented with the

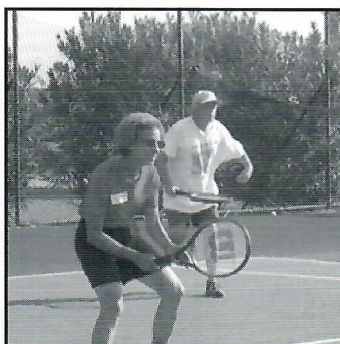
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Volleyball game in action



Lisa & Nancy float the "Big Dog," Gary



Leona & Al demonstrate form on the court



Halloween Grim Reaper Candy Dish awarded earlier to the team by the TSC.

Sincerest thanks go to the many who went above and beyond to assist with hauling of groceries, supplies, as well as meal prep and cleanup - Peggy, Nancy, Sharon, Kay, Jim, Ted, and of course, Lisa, who was a real trooper as Assistant Trip Coordinator and helped make the weekend such a success!

In closing, here are some curious Meltdown incidents to ponder.

- ⇒ Who was the only person to participate in all three major competitive events?
- ⇒ Who arrived a day late and brought a closet full of his wife's tropical outfits?

- ⇒ Whose digital camera went on its first and final snorkeling trip?
- ⇒ Who accidentally flung the now deceased digital camera into the pool?
- ⇒ Who thought he lost his room keycard in the pool, engaged a search party, and then finally found the card within the depths of his swimming trunks?
- ⇒ Which male participant wore a pink thong all weekend?
- ⇒ Who spent a frustrating hour or two untangling all the thongs in the first place?

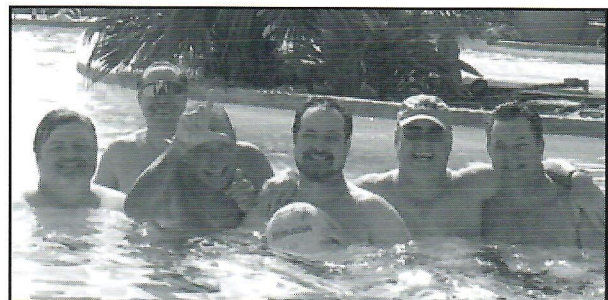
If you don't know the answers to these questions, you missed out on an awesome weekend of fun in the sun with a great group of new and long-time SCSC and TSC friends! Don't miss out on the next one!



Breakfast at Party Central with Nancy, Kayleen, Dawn, Marci, Lucille & Ed



Meltdown group chill at Port Royal's lagoon pool



Gary, Merrel, Ted, Jim, Jeff & John celebrate volleyball victory

