



# The Sitzmarke

**SPACE CITY SKI CLUB**

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[spacecityskiclub.org](http://spacecityskiclub.org)

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## WINTER PARK 2004

*By John Sims and Diane Baker*

SCSC kicked off the ski season with a FABULOUS start. Forty members along with seven children were fortunate to enjoy the annual Fall Roundup trip in Winter Park at Thanksgiving.

Our flight into Denver was pleasantly uneventful, with members getting acquainted and making new friends. We were greeted by light snow in Denver, which continued on a daily basis. When we arrived at The Vintage Resort Hotel, members made ski plans with each other while welcome packets, lift tickets, and TSC credentials were distributed.

On Wednesday morning, we awoke to spectacular views of the ski area and the Continental Divide. Fresh, powder snow was falling and we were all anxious to ski! At the complimentary breakfast, Craig Campbell, our Race Director, signed up 60 percent of the adults for racing. Afterwards, we either picked up our rental equipment or headed for the mountain. Some of the children signed up for a day of fun at the Winter Park ski camp while other first time skiers hit the bunny slope or took lessons. Later that evening, we met

skiers from the other clubs at the TSC Welcome Party. A great time was had by all, as we compared the day's experiences and socialized with one another.

Thanksgiving Day started out with more falling snow, which allowed the resort to open even more trails and lifts. After another great day of skiing, almost everyone from SCSC joined together for a fantastic Thanksgiving dinner. We took the gondola lift up to the Sunspot Restaurant and feasted on a delicious meal at an elevation of 10,700 feet. Not only was the food great in quality and quantity, but the view of the valley lights below was beautiful. It looked like a winter wonderland. Some of the group included Ross and Diane Baker with boys Matthew and Andrew; Michael and Lisa Solana-Carter with daughter Camille; Michael and Sheila Testa with daughter Madeleine; Kelly Cosby with daughter Katy; Jackie and Tom Walne with daughter and son-in-law Stephen and Stacy Reeves, and grandchildren John and Sarah Reeves. We were also joined by Stacy and JR Ronczy who drove in from Denver with Susan Blome.

On Friday morning, twenty-four members participated in the Texas Ski Cup Challenge Series races. Led by our race director Craig Campbell, our team included Diane and Ross Baker, Darlene and George Hirasaki, Barbara Della Longa, Bill Bomberger, Bob Olsen, Bob Wray, Brenda Soileau, Dale Allbritton, Evan Lowe, Gary Johnston, Jose Araujo, Keith Kirkman, Kelly Cosby, Larry Landers, Matt Sabo, Michael Testa, Pilar Gonzalez, Roger Holzman, Ron Brandow, Sharon Simandl and Tor Lileng. The race was exciting and a lot of fun even though many racers failed to realize NASTAR changed their handicap chart this year, making it harder for racers to earn medals. Nobody from SCSC won a gold or silver medal, however, eight skiers earned a bronze medal. Congratulations to Diane, George, Dale, Evan, Jose, Keith, Pilar, and Sharon.

The Individual Races were held in the afternoon and SCSC sent eight of their fastest racers to compete. The roster included Diane, George, Dale, Evan, Jose, Keith, Pilar and Sharon. In this race, Diane placed second in the Women's Open Class, George placed second in the Men's Super Senior Class, and Dale placed third in the Men's Senior Division. Congratulations on your great performances! For complete details on your race results, check out the NASTAR web site at [www.nastar.com](http://www.nastar.com). (Click on "Check Race Results", select "Winter Park Resort", select the two results for 11/26/04.)

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**Winter Park Racers**



*(Winter Park 2004 Continued from page 1)*

In the evening, SCSC had a private pizza party that could best be characterized by the contagious laughter coming from multiple tables. While the adults ate, several children chose to play in the video arcade and game room. When the pizza party ended, several groups congregated in rooms to continue partying. Tor also lead a group into town to continue the fun and thus started the infamous search for "The Bucket," noted for where you can have a beer, do your laundry and catch a flick at the same time.

Saturday morning was very special because our hard-working TSC-VP Jerry Montgomery had made exclusive arrangements for everyone in TSC to experience "First Tracks". About 15 members ventured out for this early event and were well rewarded. Matt described his first two runs as "AWESOME" while Bob said this was the "highlight of the trip". Ross commented, "We should try to get "First Tracks" included on all our trips!" Skiers simply raved about this experience!

The Awards Dinner/Dance party was a lot of fun and included a Silent Auction, music with a DJ, and dancing. As with all of the TSC functions, the food was superb. At the party, we learned SCSC racers had won Division 1. Our efforts had paid off! The competition was tough but we had garnered 659 points to Lone Star Club's 560 and Austin Club's 360. A big thanks to everyone who raced and helped our team win!

Highlights of the trip were many. Carmen Mikhail, Chau Nguyen, Larry Landers and Lisa Monroe spent a heavenly day at the Hot Sulphur Springs Resort & Spa. The 22 sulphur spring pools contained mineral water that was heated between 98° and 112°. While the pools were very soothing to



**Bob's Harem**

strained ski muscles, it was the pampering from hot stone massages that had everyone talking of going back again.

There was also the ongoing rivalries (in fun) between the die hard skiers "Cats" and "Big Dogs." The "Cats" were lead by SCSC's very own Janet

McKenzie who was nicknamed "Garfield." "Garfield" and her kitty litter consisted of Carmen, Jose, Pilar, Roger Holzman, and sometimes Lisa, Barbara, Larry and Michael. The "Big Dogs" included Keith, Sharon, Bill, Diane, Ross, Dale, Bob, George and Darlene. Unfortunately, Lisa had been skiing with the "Cats" but got separated. She decided to make several runs with the "Big Dogs" but hit some bad snow and twisted her knee. Lisa later devised some "Words of Wisdom from a Rookie." She advises that you should NEVER try to ski with the "Big Dogs."

Overall, this family-optional trip proved to have something for everyone. We had a wonderful mix of participants and welcomed 14 new members including Judy and Les Weison, Steve and Stacy Reeves, Jackie Walne, Kelly Cosby, Barbara Della Longa, Gary Johnston, Lisa Monroe, Aneela Qureshi, Matt Sabo, Michael and Lisa Solana-Carter, and Sheila Testa. We also welcomed all the children that came along. Matthew, Andrew, Madeleine, Camille, John, Sarah, and Katy loved the snow and they loved Winter Park. In addition to skiing, they enjoyed sledding down the hill, having snowball fights, and simply playing in the snow.

Winter Park has earned its status as a SCSC favorite. It's all about the snow and Winter Park had it! This was a fantastic ski trip and a GREAT TIME was had by all. Many members are already looking forward to next year's family-optional Fall Roundup Ski Trip.



**Matthew & Andrew Baker are all Smiles on this Family-Optional Trip**