

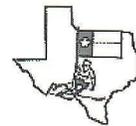


The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

www.spacecityskiclub.org

April 2006



**Member
Texas Ski
Council**

Vol. 39 No. 12

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO (TSC TRADITIONAL)

By Richard Rocque & Leyla Ozkardesh

On Saturday, January 7th, the long trip arrived in Steamboat, Colorado to a beautiful blue sky and warm sunny day. It was awesome outside! The resort had been pounded by new snowfall over the past several weeks and our party of 76 skiers had visions of "butter-like" corduroy for our opening day of skiing. Since we flew directly into Hayden, within a short period of time SCSC members could be found anywhere from the aisles of the local grocery store directly behind our ski-in/ski-out condos to the ski shops that swarmed around the gondola at the base. All within walking distance. Cool! Most of us enjoyed a few glasses of wine from Terry Sports as we checked out the latest gear. In the meantime, the airport shuttle service and condo staff had unloaded our luggage and delivered it all directly to our rooms. Sweet! Even Kayleen Kill's skis eventually made it to the resort after a slight detour.

Expecting groomers, we hit the slopes on Day One after over 10" of new snow fell while we anxiously tried to sleep. Surprise! At lunchtime, we saw that Bob Wray must have added on an additional five pounds of snow and ice that had built up around his beard as the snow continued to fall. Speaking of falling, Dan Hoffman, who snowboarded for the first time, was overheard saying that he lost count after the first 100. Along with Shelly Dunham, James Parise, and Ray Davis, SCSC had a few boarders who loved the powder days, or at the least the soft landing it provided. John Zavala won the ski demo contest after experimenting with over 6 new pair of skis...all within a few hours. Whoa!

Cindy Moore and Gaynell Blasé, arriving quite late for the Welcome Party, used their feminine wiles to make the gondola operators restart the system to get them up the mountain. Later in the week, Cindy represented SCSC very well by winning the TSC scavenger hunt which produced a windfall of prizes.

On January 10th, our short trip of 28 arrived very late, but they were

ready to ski. Totally! One by one they entered Bear River Grill for our early club breakfast at 7:30 a.m. the next morning roaring to go. We had 4" of new snow the previous day, so the mountain was ready for them. They were "Gone in 60 Seconds", tearing up the freshly groomed corduroy. Jimmy and Joanne Breeden welcomed their longtime ski buddies to join them on this trip. All the way from Maryland, Toni Thomas, Cheryl Bauer, Edward Schmidt, David Hall, and Charlie Brent had a taste of Texas hospitality and Colorado champagne powder. Awesome!



Throughout the week, many of the participants were seen taking pleasure visiting the wonderfully quaint downtown Steamboat Springs shops and restaurants, including Michael Blum, Mark Clarke,

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SCSC Sport & Social Clubs Extravaganza

April 17 - 6:30 p.m.

Chateau Crystal - 2517 S. Gessner



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Steamboat 2006
A perfect powder day!

Thomas and Chaille Hutcheson, Nancy DuFrane and Ash Moza. Susan Blome enjoyed the shopping and spa facilities as much as the snow. Knowing how to enjoy a vacation, she treated herself to a fabulous day at the spa, much to the envy of her roomie, Pat Piech. A close-knit group of friends, JC and Peggy Sha, Tony and Fei Tarn, Tseng-Pu and Kuo-Chih Wang, Edward and Corrina Huang, Thomas Chin and Isabell Sarinha always showed a great deal of enthusiasm for our club events, whether on the race course, at social dinners or the dancing floor. Tom Kaptain, dubbed the hot tub king, along with Vernon McCaw, were seen working out the muscles of many a woman during his hot tub sessions.

Speaking of racing, Race Director Don Macken and his assistant John Zavala put together a team of 35 Space City skiers and boarders who raced on January 12th. A complete run down of the winners and results was published in the March issue of the SITZMARKE.

Back to more skiing stories, Marnie Lamb and Gaynell Blasé held their annual game of "Follow the Butt Trails". Stuck on a steep blue run and not wanting to risk a fall, Marnie blazed the trail and Gaynell followed her butt trail down the mountain in like style, only to then find herself stuck in knee deep powder and created quite a show crawling out. Pilar Gonzales had quite a ceremony when she was promoted to the "Big Dogs" category. Frank Adams, Bob DeBell, Dennis and Melinda Hughes, Hartley Chelin, Cathy Phillips, Janet McKenzie, Sam and Sandra Cornelius all had a good laugh as Pilar barked when she was presented with a "Big Dog" Necklace. Morris Covin was glad nobody was around to laugh (so he thought) when he performed his "double release" skiing down a black mogul run.

There was much camaraderie amongst the Texas clubs. Members of

Lubbock's Twisters club were seen partying at the condo of Kayleen Kill, John Rice, Robert Clements, Bruce Lowther, Kenny and Carynre Prater just long enough to deplete their liquor supply, and then weren't seen for the rest of the week.

When we said wear your crazy hats to our Crazy Hats Club Dinner, people took us seriously and wore their crazeeeee hats! Judging was difficult, but in the end, the top 3 prizes went to Sue Prater, Peter Kubik, and Ray Naudain. We're not sure what's crazier, the hats or the people who wore them? Prizes also went to John Rice and Merlyn Harger. Even though the rest of the club did not win prizes, we were all treated to delicious appetizers and a very nice sit-down dinner in a quaint setting complete with a huge stone fireplace, which served Carmen Mikhail just fine.

Every good thing must come to an end, and so must our trip to Steamboat. Someone needs to show Randy Kratz how to set an alarm! In his enthusiasm to meet the 5:30 a.m. mandate to have luggage outside the door, he had his condo mates Rita Cardenas, Anne Nettles and Leyla Ozkardesh up and going at 4:30 a.m....a mistake in the setting...yeah sure.

Looking back at the Steamboat trip, we would all agree that we had some of the best conditions that the Rocky Mountains could bless us with. The temperature was moderate, we had several days of fresh powder, we saw the sun more often than not, and the hospitality in Steamboat stood up to its reputation. We had all the traditional gatherings that you would expect from a TSC trip, along with numerous group events that kept us connected throughout the day. With 104 participants, we left with no ski-related injuries and lots of wonderful memories of a fabulous ski trip.

Steamboat, "We'll be back!"