

Fall Round-Up Winter Park Colorado By Cheryl May, TC

Thirty-Five of us - families, couples & singles - descended on Colorado by plane, bus and car with one big wish - please snow! And on Thanksgiving Day, our prayers were answered.

Sean O'Brien, our former President, started the trip off with style....he missed the flight. With a little luck, United was able to book him a few hours later and his rental car became an asset!

After unloading, we had a wine & cheeses party in the condo to pass out lift tickets, badges and ski lessons. All went well until we realized the adult lessons were missing, so Sean escorted me on Wednesday to secure our vouchers and everyone was set.

Doris Escobar was a first timer and a real trooper. Unfortunately, she twisted her ankle on day one, but that didn't slow her down too much. With **Jose Araujo's** expertise and encouragement, she will become a regular.

JoAnne Dougherty traveled with us for the first time. A retired RN, she was one of the first on the slopes every day. And when we were told the TSC could make "first tracks" on a section they opened during our visit....real early...I am proud to report that **Sharon**

Simandl, Bill Bomberger, and John and Laura Zavala were there...while the majority was still hugging our pillows.

Jeff Hanrahan brought his Aggie family....**Victoria** and



Patrick. Patrick spent his time boarding while **Victoria** skied. Word has it that a certain fence and **Victoria** collided and the fence won?



Kristina Ritter was skiing happily down a slope until another skier pushed her over. Mom (**Laura Zavala**) just happened by and recognizing the cry for help....climbed back up the mountain to her rescue and then everyone thought she was the perpetrator!

Race day turned out to be eventful. **Steve Ying**, a new member who I can guarantee always has more than his share of fun, was due to race and to his dismay found his skis missing at the base right before the race. Now...this is true guts and glory.....**Mike Hotho** loaned Steve both his boots and skis and Steve medaled! (Mike offered to loan his European Speedo on the trip, but none of the guys took advantage of this generous offer.) Fortunately, someone only "borrowed" Steve's equipment for the day and the skis were turned into security. Then, there was a mix-up on names, and **Elyse Turla** did not have a racing bib. However, **Tor Lileng**, who had decided to try a different ski area that day, was issued a number...so Elyse came down the mountain as Tor...and life will never be the same for "Tor" Turla!

Jason LaRosa just thought he was going skiing for some peace and solitude. He forgot to check the rooster. He quickly joined the regulars for Après Ski. **Sarah Watson-Treadgold** and hubbie **Ben** were all over the mountain with Sarah boarding and Ben skiing. They made the best of the slopes that were open.

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Lisa and Duncan MacDonald kept busy making sure their three children had all their warm clothing, equipment and lesson instructions – a full time job! Tom MacDonald meant to do a 180 on a snowboard and made a really good friend from Dallas. Alice became buddies with another child from Los Amigos club and was sad to leave her at the end of the trip. Harriet won first place in the children's race!

Keiran Brehany-Wellman (age 5) was a first time skier and had a great time skiing and eating pizza. Older brother **Kaelan** (age 11) was on skis for the second time and breezed through ski school level 3 & 4 – yee haw! **Penny**, (AKA Mom) took lessons and enjoyed every minute and Dad (Paul) enjoyed skiing with local friends. The kids won hats for racing.

All of us shared a very nice

Thanksgiving meal together at The Vintage. During the meal, the hat was passed and trip members generously contributed \$200 for

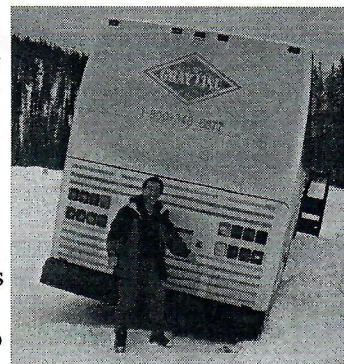


the Youth Camp promoted by the Texas Ski Council. When the children were reluctant to volunteer for Guitar Hero, **Elisa Meadow**, a kid at heart, said she would be more than willing to participate. Elisa's sister and son, **Melanie Knapke** and **Cannon Cruz** were "shadows" on the trip and we were delighted they joined us.

Former SCSC President **Marti Turner** and **Nelson** also shadowed and as usual were a big help with all. Their war stories evolved with driving blizzard conditions on the way home. Nelson states Marti is a "white knuckle" passenger.

I skied three days and boarded the final day when the snow improved. I got a brand new demo Burton for my riding pleasure. The young man filing out the forms just had to know my age and weight. Turned out, I was his "grandmas" age. Ok – so I was the oldest woman boarding that day. Just because I still think I am 18....

Thanks to my husband, **Walter**, who was Race Director and a major help to me on this trip. Between working on his laptop and playing with his early Christmas present, the Blackberry "Storm" he avoided a skiing injury, but almost cracked something on the bus as we were leaving. He hit the floor when our bus dropped into a snow-covered hole as we left the hotel. The back wheels fell into the hole and the bus was resting on the chassis. The hotel quickly dispatched a front-end loader to our rescue. Fortunately, we had given ourselves extra time so the delay didn't cause a 50-yard dash to Denver. I think everyone heard my sigh of relief as we boarded the plane to Houston.



Thanks to everyone who contributed to make this trip a great success – especially your VP Trips, Marsha Lutz and DOT, Diane Stotz. They spent hours helping me with all the details. And we all appreciate the numerous pics taken and shared by Sharon Simandl and Steve Ying!

Race Results:

Division 1 - Space City Ski Club. 2nd Place with 391 pts.

Gold Medals – 2. Cheryl May, Nelson Turner

Silver Medals – 1. Sharon Simandl

Bronze Medals – 5. Lisa MacDonald, Marti Turner, Elyse Turla, Duncan MacDonald, Steve Ying

Individuals:

1st Place – Super Senior Women. Cheryl May

3rd Place – Senior Women. Marti Turner

Children's:

1st Place – Harriet MacDonald

Honorable Mention:

4th Place - Super Sr. Men. Nelson Turner

4th Place - Sr. Men. Steve Ying