

Vail Trip December 10-17, 2011 by Pat Piech—TC

Forty-two Space City Ski Club members launched the 2011-12 ski season with the annual trip to Vail in December. This year, we decided to go a week later than usual but the snow gods were not as accommodating as planned. The group, both long and short, had a great time but the conditions were less than stellar. We spent the week dodging rocks and debris, always on the lookout for a well-covered run.

Lynda Meyer, who was a 'local' for the season did a fabulous job with our welcome party on Saturday night. Everyone is still talking about the spread that Lynda and her *compadres* put together. Unfortunately, she took a spill which blew out her knee and required surgery. Ouch!



Sunday, the group of **Chris Bryan, Bernie Clinton, and Katherine McDougal**

enjoyed a private tour of Vail mountain, while the rest of the group set out in search of snow. Daily contingents of skiers were led by **Keith Kirkman, Janet McKenzie, Ron & Roberta Rambin** among others. However the evenings were highlighted by the "hot tub contingent" of **Barry Caspar, Dayle Hein, Jim Walker, Jim Edwards, Keith Kirkman, Bernie Clinton and Kate McDougal**- a group that knows how relax and party.

Monday was highlighted by the optional trip to Beaver Creek as well as a group party at Mezzaluna. **David Klaus, Andy Smith, Roger Holzman, Tony & Mary Jo Loverdi, Chris Bryan and Steve Slade** enjoyed the day on the exceptionally groomed runs at BC.

On Tuesday, most of the group ventured to Vail village for the club's optional dinner at Up The Creek restaurant. **Ron Hayes** did another excellent job of corralling everyone for a group picture. Ron you are the best!

Unfortunately, we needed to say goodbye to our short trippers on Wednesday who included among others **Ann Dorn, Bill Bomberger, Sharon Simandl, David Gunn, Tom & Chaille Hutcheson, Kent Huzzey, Ash Moza and Betty Storms**.

Those who stayed braved the poor snow conditions as best they could including **Marilyn Swanson** who "slid" down Tourist Trip - no doubt in search of good snow. **Dale Albritton**, enjoyed the skiing, but missed his lovely wife Alice.

Andy & Leslie Cashio, Brenda Herman, Tom Huzzey, Kamron Kirkconnell, Camille LaRoe, Bruce Lowther, Pete Mathieu, Bob Olsen and Judy Schiro were among those on the long trip who enjoyed terrific weather and the light dusting we enjoyed mid-week.

Saturday was goodbye day to the mountain and the group of 26 headed to the airport for the trip home. Despite the poor conditions, I believe all had a good time and will be ready for Vail 2012.

