

Steamboat Springs, January 12—19th, 2013

Anne Thomas, TC and Melinda Hughes, ATC

Steamboat Springs participants packed their bags and headed to the slopes on January 12 to the resort that had the best snow conditions in Colorado. We all arrived in our own way - some land packages, other full packages, and several shadows. Once there, the week started with a bang! Steamboat celebrated the beginning of their 50th anniversary with a spectacular fireworks display and the lighting of the caldron. This was a beautiful event for those who braved the below zero temperatures.

Sunday started a bit chilly with -33 degrees at the summit. Many stayed in to wait for the temperature to warm up to a balmy -1 while others "just did it" and hit the runs with the excitement of snow. Those who skied had to watch out for Ross Baker because of his multitasking. His goggles had GPS, text messages, e-mail, and movies to watch while he cruised the runs. William Volz took advantage of the great deal the TSC negotiated for lessons and had a great trip practicing his turns.

During the week, there were many TSC events to participate in as well as Dennis Hughes' famous poker run. Each day, participants would find him at lunch and après ski to draw a card for the grand prize! In his exuberance, Pete Mathieu powered his nose with 5 face plants during the week, hopefully, not trying to get to the poker run because Dennis was pretty flexible with the rules. Hyo and Michael Knebel were on the slopes trying to make the poker run deadlines!

In spite of the pub crawl, Korbel Wine Tasting party, club parties on the mountain, club sponsored après ski, discount drink prices, and more, the daily gondola rides can be very boring, so what better to do than have a sing-a-long while waiting to reach the top! Nancy DuFrane, Leyla Ozkardesh, Maria Mendez, Keith Koteras, John Zavala (who doesn't understand why Women don't laugh at his jokes), Bob Wray, Jana Rosenbaum, and Doug Shows sang NA, NA, NA, NA plus more 70's tunes to break up the monotony. Speaking of "Tricky" Bob Wray, he promises blue runs and the next think you know, you're sliding down a double back mogul and through trees. Hmmm, he must have had instruction from Frank Adams and Morris Covin who were skiing the bumps and trees on the Ridge and through the Shadows!

After Melinda and Dennis Hughes chased Frank and Morris through the trees, they jointed a flash mob at Four Points Hut and danced (in ski boots no less) to a Michael Jackson tune while other skiers were skiing and dancing down Storm Peak as well. It was a sight to behold. While the crew was dancing, Tom Thomas had a lot of "firsts": skied the backside of the mountain, in the trees, two black runs, raced in Nastar, and hiked in snow shoes. He made Anne Thomas proud as she was spotted skiing beside him in his famous video. Ron and Roberta Rambin were the cute couple spotted flying down Buddy's Run while Hartley Chelin skied as his wife Catherine Phillips Chelin enjoyed all the amenities that Steamboat had to offer.



Steamboat Springs cont

Craig Campbell joined Cindy Moore and snow-shoed on a ranch near Steamboat. According to Carl Webb, the guide was a naturalist and was very knowledgeable about the area. Carl also took a day off from skiing bumps and trees to learn about the area.

To top off the ski activities, Bob Olsen did a fabulous job of coordinating the Nastar race. We had over 30 people sign up to race and won 2nd in the Division at the awards dinner. Rick Levi won a silver medal in his first race ever! You go Rick!! Pete Mathieu and Doyle Hein cheered Rick on while they made a bet to see who could recruit the most new members. Pete, Doyle, and Rick were the club's mountain comedians along with Nancy Dufrane who also was a first time racer. Medals weren't the only thing won on the mountain. Brian Edmondson won two 2-day lift tickets! The cheerful Edmondson clan all participated in the trip. While many people were winning, Chuck Pena lost his snowboard while having lunch at the Bashor picnic. Check out Tom Thomas's ski race video:

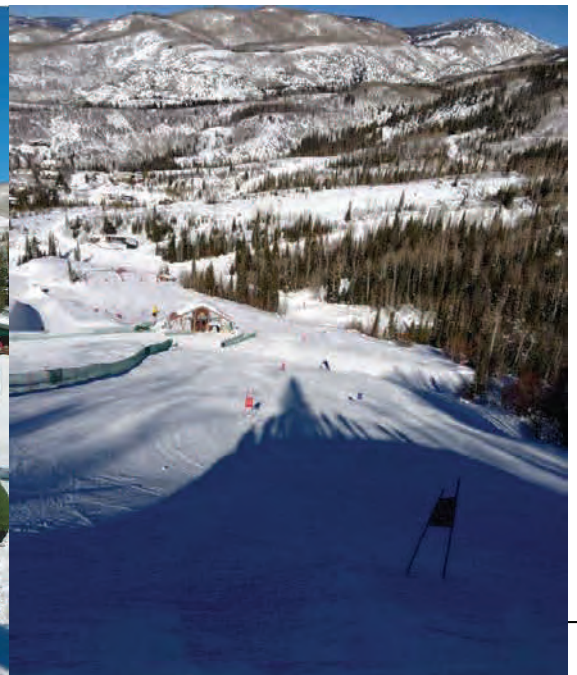
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6IKvkOWNN9o&feature=share>

Not all the action was on the slopes. Kimber Kane seemed to disappear every night "Baber sitting" while Doug Shows was demonstrating his artistic talents during a game of Pictionary. His masterpiece "Dog with a Bunch of Wheels" will go down in history as an epic game event. Native French speaking Alain Lecourt learned the nuances and difficulties of playing Pictionary. Brigitte Florschutz enjoyed returning to Steamboat again but she missed the fun of watching Ross Baker lose a game of twister because he didn't know his right foot from his left. Craig and Janine Belling are the club's official Aussies and Steamboat was their first trip with the club!

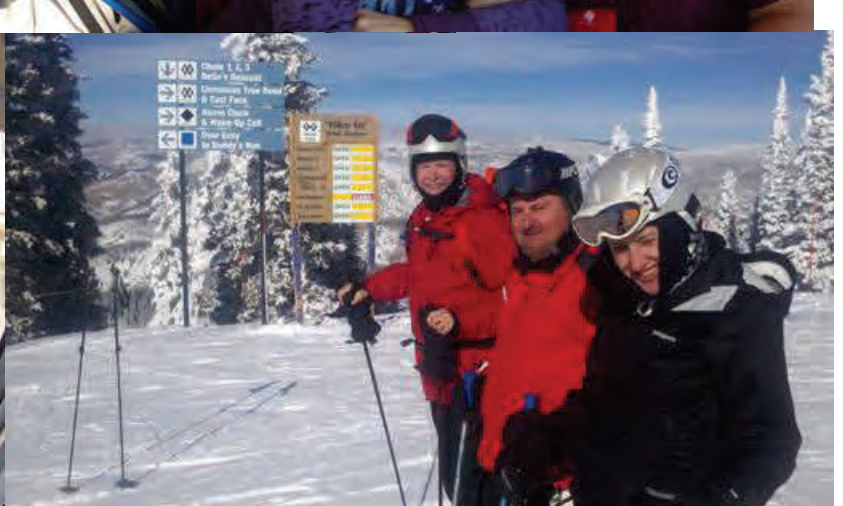
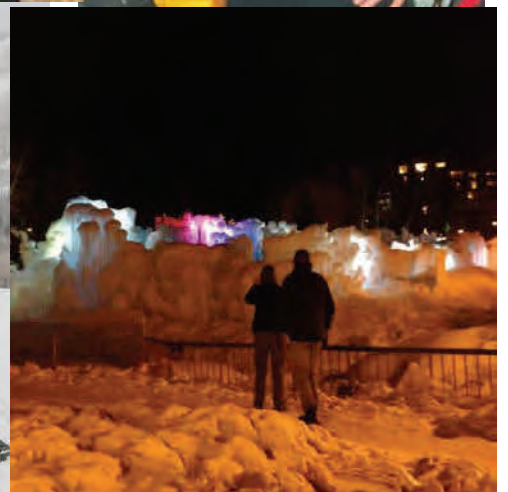
While all these crazy games were going on, Joan O'Connor and Susan Blome hitched a ride to the 8th Street Steakhouse to grill their own steak for dinner. Janet McKenzie joined them and decided that it was better to sit in a saddle while eating steak instead of the traditional method of dining. Gary Davis enjoyed the abundant food at the condo parties before he fractured his wrist in a fall on the last run of the last day!! You have to watch those turns on the last run, Gary. Chuck Britton and Alain Lecourt enjoyed their own selection of red wines in lieu of the club's economical selection.

Robert Clements, Leasa Garza, and Bruce Lowther were spotted hopping out of a Sweet Pea Tour van and were returning from Strawberry Park hot springs. What a great way to sooth sore muscles! Paul and Sandra Stalnacke were spotted making a few turns on the dance floor Friday night while Merlyn Harger celebrated his birthday on the mountain. John and Cindy McGowan enjoyed the slopes. Bob and Betty Donellan gifted half of their silent auction condo to the club and they drove many miles to ski with their SCSC friends and returned home in time for the post trip party.

The finale was the TSC awards dinner on Friday evening where we had race awards announcements, dinner, and dancing. Thank you Marsha Lutz for doing an outstanding job of coordinating the TSC event as well as Anne Thomas and Melinda Hughes for rounding up participants from our club!



Steamboat Springs



Steamboat Springs

