

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

The Vail trip was a powder skiers' paradise! We had 22 inches of snow in the course of the week. It snowed so much that Vail pass closed several times during the week.

Kasia Rezmer, Melinda Hughes, Andy Smith, Beverly Roberts, Lauren and Kevin McCleary took advantage of the heavy snow conditions by taking a private group powder ski lesson.

SCSC acrobat of the year award goes to Melinda Hughes who received a 9.5 out of 10 for her somersault down the mountain making a perfect landing on her feet. Way to go Melinda!

The diehard award goes to Steve Ying! If you want the scoop on why he won this coveted award, ask him! I am sure he will tell you.

The hot tub queen award goes to Shari. "Shari Clark showed up at the hot tub with a basket containing a "teapot" of hot water, cocoa and peppermint schnapps making Kevin, Don and Lauren thin mint cocoa drinks tub-side.

The down home funny award goes to the Cashio's. Andy and Leslie were planning to ski with Ron Rambin so Leslie called him at 8:45 Monday morning and said, "Hey Ron, this is Leslie, are you about ready to go?" The reply was, "Where am I going?" She then realized that she had called her brother-in-law in New Orleans, also named Ron. So funny!! For the rest of the week Andy and Leslie sent him texts with photos and posts asking him when he would get to Vail. It was so funny because he played along. Thirteen hardy souls went backcountry snowshoeing over 3 miles along the Meadow Mountain Trail in the national forest. The group included: Jeanne Marie Ying, Irene Kenny, Marti

Turner, Craig Campbell, Marilyn Swanson, Larry Robinson, Donna Hathaway, Steve Samuels, Anne and Tom Thomas, Carol Oeller (guest from Clear Lake Ski Club), Bernie Clinton, and Kate MacDougall. Craig reported that he "fell in a hole snowshoeing." Fortunately it was humorous not injurious." Walking Mountain Tours provided Certified Interpretive Naturalist Guide Peter Suneson, as well as van transportation from the Landmark.

Thank you Marti Turner for coordinating the racing. SCSC showed up well taking second in overall participation with Kasia Rezmer receiving a GOLD medal! Marti Turner, Nelson Turner, and Anne Thomas received silver and bronze medals.

Dinners were great starting with pizza, salad and adult beverages at the Club Welcome party, then the SCSC optional dinner at the



Left Bank (thanks to Barry Caspar's recommendation) followed by the TSC farewell dinner at the Lodge at Vail. Hungry SCSC members lined up at the farewell buffet only to be told that the order for lining up would be alphabetical by ski club. Thus, Austin Skiers would be first. The order was quickly abandoned. Do not get between SCSC members and food or wine/beer!

We finished the week with a progressive potluck dinner serving appetizers in one condo and dinner at another. Thank you again to our appetizer hosts Randi Martin, Lawrence Chen, Irene Kenny, Laura Helmke and many



thanks to the Yings, Jose and Marguerita Fernandez, David Burrows and Martin Baker, our dinner hosts. Everyone was eager to help themselves to Robert and Leasa Clements' famous brisket. Yum however John and Cindy McGowan, Shari Clark and Joan Waddill were able to sample more brisket than the rest of us since they were in the Clements' condo.

Susan Stanley enjoyed rooming with resident nutritionist Melinda Hughes. "If daily doses of cool whip in your coffee is the only "bad thing" that you consume Susan, well, you should be okay."

Après ski at the Vail Chop house was such a success on Wednesday that we reserved it again for the Friday Apré Ski. The big draw was



Phil Long as entertainment. On Friday night Phil Long was joined by Lone Star's club member, Dave Thomas. Look at us dance while a blizzard raged outside.

Long time club member and Rhode Island transplant Diane M a c k s o u d gathered 3 more from RI to join us as new members: cheerful Dottie



Macksoud and Epic Mix medalists Patti Tribou and Barrett Clarke.

We had several other new members join our trip: Cindy and Al Brown, Jose and Margarita Fernandez, Irene Kenny, Neil Jolly, Ron Schmidt, Magdalena Huzzey. Classy Jim Walker roomed with Neil, Barry Caspar roomed with Ron and Laura Helmke shared a condo with Irene. All had a great time.

Robert Samen and Mark Clarke had fun comparing who had the best wax job on their skis; Jim Hodges tried to keep up with Marina Wang on her snowboard (or was it the other way around?); Bill Bomberger, Tom Hogle and Ron Rambin were jolly condo mates – did they stay up late telling ghost stories around the fireplace?

Frank Adams and Morris Covin had their usual great time skiing together along with their big dog leader Keith Kirkman. Laurie Haischer took a break from work, work, work to join the Vail trip. Our VP of trips, Chuck Pena, enjoyed the fruits of his earlier labor – it was nice to be himself on vacation without trip planning woes.

Assisting on the trip has its rewards: Bus Captain David Stotz was treated to a bag of almonds dipped in dark chocolate. Did he share with anyone? Hmm... Janet McKenzie, David Stotz's impromptu assistant, quipped about her volunteer service – voila! She was surprised with a hand stitched Japanese handkerchief which nipped her quip in the bud.

Bottom line is we had a blast on and off the slopes!

