

## What a great start!!!

Boarding through the Hobby Airport, the Southwest ticket counter was flawless!! Our thanks to Anne Thomas and Chuck Pena for giving us the key tips to avoiding delays. The group executed flawlessly. Everyone made the flight. The flight left on time, connection was on time, flight arrival on time, no lost husbands or wives, bags, skis, snowboards, boots, wallets, laptops, helmets, coats, hats or backpacks! The comfortable bus was on time. It's an interesting ride to Heavenly. We started out in the desert and then moved down the Washoe Valley, through the State capital of Carson City and into the Sierras, Ponderosa pines and on to Spooner Summit for our first view of Lake Tahoe. Our driver provided an oral presentation on history, scenery and topography of Lake Tahoe.



Hotel check-in was smooth as we settled in for Happy Hour. Conversation centered on the 3 side trips, huge amounts of snow and looking forward to the full breakfast provided with our rooms. It was more than a buffet, it was a convenient, breakfast bonanza every morning. The cooks were willing to provide eggs to order and seconds were available. I'm picky on food and found everything quite good including the coffee and juice. Saturday evening was spent making new friends, renewing old friendships and trying to run Harrah's Casino into



bankruptcy!!

Sunday was a flawless Sierra ski day with plenty of sun and snow as good as I have seen in Tahoe! No Sierra cement as all trails were open. We got to enjoy the great views of the lake. It was a perfect day for me as my daughter and son-in-law came from Reno to ski with me. They are a happy pair and always racing each other. We started on the California side for a couple of warm up laps and then over to Milky Way Bowl through the trees and over to Motts and Killebrew for single and double diamonds.



Monday, everyone went into creative mode trying to find the best place to ski. Most of our gang headed to Northstar. The Northstar trip was very well attended as our skiers tried to dance through the rain drops but in the end the drops won. Most left the slopes for an early Happy Hour at Northstar. Twenty skiers and non-skiers took the shuttle bus to the cute town of Truckee, CA. for shopping, lunch at the American Bar and sightseeing. By Monday everyone knew their way around the casinos. Chuck Albright, Mitchell Rubin and others were big winners. Neil Jolly had a big smile on his face but wasn't revealing any secrets. The incomparable Lili Rubin arrived. She was joined later in the week by her children and her very cool mom.



Tuesday was a free day. Joe Zurfley, Mitchell Rubin, David Klaus and Chuck Albright took me with them on a search and destroy mission to Kirkwood. The excitement grew as we kept rising in elevation. We thought that surely the rain would turn to snow at elevation. Alas, it was still raining when we reached



the resort. We turned around and headed back to Heavenly and closed the day on the California side of Heavenly.

Wednesday was Virginia City tour day for 40 people. The sun was out in Virginia City, the shops open, the mine tour was the favorite along with a trolley tour of the old frontier town. Meanwhile, back at Heavenly, weather limited skiing.



Thursday was Kirkwood day: Another valiant effort to get to the good snow but weather turned our huge group around. It was back to the casinos for some but others played cards amongst themselves by the fire and waited for the TSC dinner.



Friday arrived and everyone was determined to get in their last runs and make up for lost time in spite of more rain. At that point Vail Resorts confirmed that our members would receive a credit for unused lift tickets. None of us have ever heard of such a credit and we were grateful to Vail Resorts Corporation for their consideration. Credits were also granted for unused Kirkwood bus tickets. Everyone got their Helly Hansen gift card and refund checks will go out soon.

Thanks to all for your patience, positive attitude and especially your kind words of support for the club. Please remember that there are dozens of volunteers in the club working extremely hard to make these trips enjoyable for everyone.

Joe Zurfley was the hero of the trip. He helped sponsor our pre-trip dinner and also sponsored a drawing for ski lessons at Heavenly. Joe is a great new member and a true asset to the club. Please look up Joe in the member directory and send him a note of thanks for his kind sponsorship.

Our post trip party is Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 2:00 to 5:00 PM at Berryhill Baja Grill in the Galleria area. Please RSVP to me at [jjjeans1@comcast.net](mailto:jjjeans1@comcast.net) and send pictures!

By Jim Jeans



**A “quickie” note from Laura Carmin,  
incoming VP of Marketing.**

Do you have an advertisement you wish to place in the Sitzmarke and/or on the Web site? I am open to all marketing ideas to help our club grow.

Text or email me -

832-215-7063 / [burtonpr@gmail.com](mailto:burtonpr@gmail.com).

