

Space City supported the [Texas Ski Council Youth Foundation \(TSCYF\)](#) trip to Keystone by advertising it all year. I then was asked to take over the leading of this trip for the TSCYF when the Lubbock Texas Twisters decided to go elsewhere for their Spring Break trip. I accepted because I am currently the V.P. of Marketing and I believe the future of our club depends on bringing in younger, new members to experience our club and eventually be our future leaders. I felt I could run it under my marketing umbrella. We ended up taking a total of 57 participants!



Forty-one were SCSC members and of those, 21 were brand new SCSC members, most under the age of 40. Among the new SCSC members were John and Amy Dukes and their teens Sydney and Jonathan; Meghan Lessor and Tom Antone and teens Logan Antone, Katie Lessor, Colin Lessor and Olivia Roach. Leslie Ward reconnected with her old friend Janet Bridges and talked Janet and Bill into bringing their son, 6-year-old Colton, who learned to ski. Curtis Smith joined to bring his son Joshua who was in ski lessons much of the time. Louise Wyatt joined SCSC and brought her son Joshua. We had 19 teens and 6 under the age of 12. We had a set of triplets (Kaley, Trinity and Neo Curry of SCSC) and two sets of twins, (Ski Jammers' Nia and Nyla Huelett and two of SCSC's Kansas representatives, Peyton and Weston Moore.) What are the odds of that? Oh yes, and the other reason I said "yes" was because I knew I could ski with my nephews, Andrew, Peyton and Weston....and my brother, Rick, too!

Besides SCSC, we had two condos full of Los Amigos, 5 Ski Jammer members and one new Armadillo (Keely Armstrong) on this trip. Ski Jammer Dudley Washington brought his snowboarding daughter Chering-Joi (we called her C.J.- much easier!) Among the Los Amigos contingency were Billy and Sandra Lynum who brought Lucy and Steve Dominguez and little Maddy and Isabella Dominguez. It was a family affair! John Salinas rejoined SCSC after a hiatus to ski with us and "party." Hmmmm... how come I rarely saw him at the parties? Did he totally wear himself out on the slopes every day?

The Southwest flight was not only an early flight, but it

was also the morning after "spring forward", but everyone showed up early as recommended and the flight to Denver went relatively smoothly. When we arrived at the Denver Airport, we met up with the rest of our huge group who opted for the very inexpensive charter bus transportation. We had a huge 57 passenger bus and we took off in search of food and drink at King Sooper and Applejacks. After an hour stop there, we were off again and arrived at Keystone a little earlier than expected.

Everyone checked in, got settled and most rented skis. John and Joe Burk, Kaley, Trinity and Neo Curry, Amy, John, Jonathan and Sydney Dukes, Louise and Josh Wyatt, and Keely Armstrong, all took advantage of the arrival date free night skiing. Later that evening, a big welcome party was held in my condo with lots of food, drinks and mingling. After a bit of a delay from sorting out the many vouchers ordered, lift tickets, lesson and rental vouchers. These were distributed and everyone went to bed.

The first full day of skiing had blue skies, a high in the 40's and great snow. Many embarked for lessons. Most of the teens and kids had lessons that day, taking advantage of the TSCYF \$50.00 a day per youth reimbursement from the TSCYF. Adults also like to learn and improve, so SCSC's Meera Raghavendra and Los Amigos' Nicolas and Cynthia Cantu took lessons that first day as well. That same afternoon we were welcomed by Keystone Resort with a free pizza Après party in Mountain House Lodge. The pizza was excellent and plentiful: A Keystone rep gave us all the info we needed to get the most out of our two remaining ski/board days. There was still no sighting of our shadows: Sharon Goodwin and the Huelett twins! Tony Curry played ambassador meeting them Monday morning to hand out their lift tickets and vouchers as they were very late getting into Keystone.



At the end of this festive event we took a group shot of our many teens at that party.

Tuesday brought us another phenomenal ski/board day. My brother, nephews and I all skied together for the first

time that trip and conquered a very slick, hard blue in the back call Mozart. Later that day we heard they reclassified it to a black due to the conditions. We ate on the picnic tables at the BBQ at the bottom and took a break lounging in the orange chairs. That night we had the big BBQ dinner party in my



condo with tons of beef brisket, buffalo sausage and turkey with great sides and mac and cheese for the kids. We also had a big BBQ dinner in Tony Curry's condo for the kids and teens. After playing hostess at the "adult" party for a while I meandered down there to give out the medals to the kids and teens who took lessons, only to find a very fun party going on down there. They were playing a guessing game and my nephew Weston was amazing everyone by being able to tell which of the three things about each person was a lie! He was a virtual human lie detector! After some prodding, we all then were serenaded by our own very talented Sydney Dukes and Joshua Wyatt! I hope those two budding stars remember their old trip coordinator Cindy when they are rich and famous! The party really rolled into high gear as we did some John Denver and other sing-alongs and then decided, what the hey, we have technology! Why don't we just flash real Karaoke up on the big screen T.V. and do it up right! Once that got going it was really hard to leave, but I had the adult party still going on in my condo, so I thought I had better go back. I found out the teens can out party the adults as when I returned there was a total five people left, including me, my roomie Keely, and my condo-mate brother Rick. The other diehards were... take a wild guess... John and Joe Burk! (Or had I just been gone THAT long?)

Wednesday really split up the TSCYF group. Some stayed at Keystone to ski or board. Some continued taking more lessons. John and Joe Burk, Keely, new member Curtis Smith, Kathy and Alex Quigley wandered over to Breck to ski for the entire day. George and Teofila Ramirez and Cynthia and Nicolas Cantu had a blast on a horse drawn sleigh ride on Wednesday. Feeling guilty that I missed the Après ski on Tuesday due to having to prepare



for the party, I hurried over to the Après ski at Dos Locos Cantina. I waited for an hour by myself, and finally started group texting, "Is anyone coming?" It was a little boring all by myself. Teofila texted back that her condo was on the way so I stayed. The only other taker was John Burk. So let's see... Out of 24 Houston adults of drinking age on the trip we had one other SCSC member show up besides me. Out of 8 adult Los Amigos we had 4 Los Amigos show up. The tiger tails win the party animal award for the Wednesday Après paws down! From this experience I learned that Après are not a big deal on a family trip!

Tuesday night I dreamed up a hot tub party at my condo complex for Wednesday night. This would be a perfect way to attempt to consume the rest of the wine and beer that we still had. So the word was spread and we had a small, but fun, group consisting of Joan Waddill, Meera Raghavendra, John Burk, Curtis Smith, Rick Moore, Peyton, Weston and Andrew Moore with cameo guest appearances by Pete Mathieu and Kathy Quigley. We were all quite "happy" as we made our way back to our respective condos. SCSC took the tails for the evening partiers! And while we were in the hot tub a romance was brewing elsewhere. Rumor has it that two young adults that met on this trip have been sighted together every weekend since!

Thursday morning arrived and we had to be on the bus early for the sad ride back to the airport. We were on the bus at the assigned departure time. I was calling roll by reading off the names. Pete Mathieu? Pete Mathieu? No Pete. His daughter piped up, "He should be here by now. He was right behind us!" I called him on his cell and Pete said he went back up looking for the rest of his family and was roaming around lost. (I have to admit, Keystone looks a lot different when it is dark and everything is closed.) I told him what signs to look for and said I would go way out into the plaza area and look for him. I finally spotted him and escorted him to the bus. He was very concerned, "Where ARE they? I thought they were with me, then I couldn't find them, I went all the way back into the condo. I told them we had to get to the bus." I replied, "Are you talking about your family?"



He replied, "Yes!" I said, "They are all on the bus!" He then laughed and got in to join them. (This was Pete's first SCSC ski trip with his daughter, Margot Vossler, his son-in-law, James

Vossler and his grandkids, Jay and Hannah.) We could finally take off! The bus ride back and the flight was smooth sailing for the short trippers. But meanwhile....back at Keystone....

We left two condos (The Quigley/Burk condo and the Curry/Smith condo) who elected to stay 6 nights! Thursday, Kathy and Beth Quigley, Curtis Smith, John Burk and Joe Burk packed up the vehicle and went to Beaver Creek for the day. Friday was St. Patty's Day. If you have ever been skiing with John Burk over St. Patty's Day, you know he will NOT get pinched or get his toes stepped on from not wearing green! In fact, not only was he sporting his usual green ski attire, but there was also a visit from above....could it be... is it...gee, it looks just like the Son of God himself? Yes, it must have been the Son of God with us on this trip because out of 57 participants we had ZERO injuries, and THAT makes for a happy, successful trip!



A "quickie" note from Laura Carmin, 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.