

Sugarloaf

by Dana Wardell

Early Saturday morning on March 8th, forty-two excited "Maineacs" showed up for the early flight to adventure. Even ATC Barbara Weber and her wonderful husband, John Weber, were there to see us off with the coolers for all 63 skiers, even though their flight with the rest of the "Maineacs" wasn't til 9:30! That was just the beginning of all the hard work they did to make this a very special trip. Jim Halavonich and his great group of people met us with a hospitality suite and buses at the Portland airport. Steve Amy was followed around the grocery store by the manager after he was spotted putting a huge zucchini up his sleeve. (What ever became of that well traveled squash?) Upon arrival at our condos, many thanks go out to the wonderful lifting and toting done by Tim Malone, John Cook, Mike Rothermund, Robert "Toe-Tag" Todd, and others in getting all those ice chests up to the TC's second floor condo.

Sunday was a day of unbelievable skiing thanks to the two-foot dump of snow before we arrived. Kayleen Kill, John Rice, and Ron Rambin took a fast guided tour of the mountain. Unfortunately, Ron hit an ice patch at high speed and banged up his knee. But, with a couple of days rest and Roberta Rambin's TLC, he recovered well. At the TSC Welcome Party that night, the SCSC partiers were in full swing. Ask Sharon Smith, Debbie Bergeron, and Nancy Sarff about "SCSC peppering" our hosts, Jim Costello, Jim Halavonich, and Brud Folger. Didn't know you could dance that long! We also learned that Ann Flournoy filed several reports on her missing boot bag while George Flournoy combed the airport for it only to learn it was home by the back door with their dog patiently guarding it. Nancy Sarff's parents, Veda and Bill Mann, from New Jersey, joined us. We also met Dan Conery, Jr., who lives in the area and drove up for the week. Terry Thomas said Dan Conery and Dan Jr. burned about five cords of wood a night.

The snow storm Monday morning didn't slow these Texans much — Cheryl Hogue brought her snowboard and was on a mission. Gary Butler and Charles Butler were seen blasting down the slopes in their Viking hats. Lila Davis and Irma

Rosendahl headed for the cross country course almost every day and said Sugarloaf was one of the best. I heard Irma had to be rescued by a good looking guy on a snowmobile, hmmm. Prior to heading for the Touring Center for our pre-St. Patrick's Day bash, Shirley Lang, Vicki Faulkner, and Ann McIntyre hosted Jell-O shots for the "long ride". Overheard at the party, "I'm not going to lie on my back and swallow that big thing!". We had a bird's eye view of the torchlight parade, then John Moss, Nancy Richard, and Robert "Toe-Tag" Todd did a little dish skiing down the slope. The green costumes for the party were wonderful. Marvin Volz was seen later in the week wearing Dorothy Miller's bright green eyelashes. Merrell Smith was wondering why he couldn't find any urinals in the Ladies Room. During the party, we celebrated Gary Butler and John Rice's birthdays, and the anniversaries of Sharon and Merrell

Smith, Dale and A.G. Davis, Vicky and Tommy McLaughlin, and Debbie and Ted Bergeron. After our party, we headed for the TSC Casino Night where Jeff Sarff was one of the big

winners. Richard Dinwiddie and Shirley Lang jitterbugged to a rousing ovation as a group of us danced to the wee hours at The Bag. Ask Mike Rothermund and Rod Hope what happened when they tried to ski home in the dark.

Freeport and L.L. Bean beckoned many of us on Tues-day. Among the shoppers seen running from store to store were Bruce Lowther, Llona and Chip

Doubet, Jeri Hartman, Roberta Rambin, David Launarey, Nancy Sarff and her mom, Veda Mann, Patricia Synatschk, Concietta Ruggiero, Jean Dowell, Ann Odegard, and Sally and Morris Brown. These were only a few of the thirty-seven

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shopper who had a great time. Of course, **Ann Flournoy** took top honors with the most packages on the bus — she even skipped lunch! **Kim Page** and **Van Sturdivant** couldn't be bothered with shopping — they went snowmobiling and loved it.

Among the twelve adventurous skiers who skied Sugarloaf's sister mountain, Sunday River, on Wednesday were **Jerry Montgomery**, **Barb Ehrlich**, **Tim Malone**, and **Ron Rambin**. **Jerry** and **Ron** liked it so much they are lobbying to get a Space City trip to Sunday River in the near future. Meanwhile, back at Sugarloaf, someone should have known better than to post **John Cook** and **Steve Amy** as lookouts for a quick nature call in the woods. The boys must have been distracted by that big ole snowcat bearing down on them or the ski patrol standing beside them. That night the party animals went to hear the Reggae band at the Sugarloaf Brewing Co. and discovered there was more than one moon over Maine — just ask **Rod Hope**.

Thursday was cold with high winds greeting the racers. We had excellent participation thanks to race director **Kayleen Kill** and her able assistant, **John Weber**. Many thanks to all who braved the wind and raced! A cute ski patroller warned **Susan Blome** about the dangers of frostbite to her face — did he also offer to help you warm up? We were plenty warm by the time of the Down East Lobster and Clambake, although the consensus was that less grit would have been better. It was fun watching **Vicky McLaughlin** wipe off all that "green stuff" from the lobster. **Bill Clifford**, who kept on partying all week, just couldn't seem to get caught up on his sleep. The jigsaw puzzle in **Marsha Lutz**'s condo had become an obsession with **Ann Flournoy**, **Barb Ehrlich**, and **Marsha**. **George Flournoy** said that rooming with

women on ski trips is sort of like herding cats.

Pam Smith and **Stan Broniak** took a lot of teasing about their frequent nap times", so when they went to visit the **Webers** at "nap time", they managed to lock themselves out of their condo. Just whose purple underwear were those on the doorknob? Ask **John Cook** if the firemen came to have breakfast or were they just there to put the furniture back in its original configuration?

We did very well in the individual races on Friday. First Place honors went to **Cheryl Houge**, **John Cook**, and **Kayleen Kill** with **Jeff Sarff** bringing home a third place. Way to go!! The TSC Final

Awards Party was a blast especially since Space City took the trophy for First Place. Rock Star wannabe's **Marsha Lutz** and **John Rice** battled it out on the stage with inflatable guitars and were the hit of the evening. **Lila Davis** learned the Macarena and we kept on partying while it kept on snowing.

Of course, with snow all night the planes were delayed and we ended up missing our plane out of Newark for Houston. But, Continental did a good job of putting all of us up in a lovely hotel and getting us out early from La Guardia. **John Moss**, my guardian angel, went above and beyond the call of duty to get the excess baggage and me to our hotel that night. I'll never forget our wild ride through Chinatown with "Check Engine Soon". When we arrived hours later, **Barbara Weber** had everyone organized and fed with a room for their tired heads. You have my undying gratitude.

It was a great trip. The Sugarloaf crew were wonderful to work with throughout the year and knocked themselves out for us. Sugarloaf is definitely a must on our list of future ski trips even if some of em talk funny!

