

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS I

by Charlotte Lynn and Joe Cannata

The Snow Gods smiled on Steamboat in January, dumping 22 feet of snow on the mountain! Our Valentine's Day trip arrived to a 90 inch base and sunny skies, near perfect conditions which lasted all week. After a long travel day we were greeted Saturday at our condos by the resort reps with a wine & cheese party, photo ID Lift Ticket/TSC ID Badge and orientation. Our tireless ATC, **Joe Cannata** shepherded the rental group over and back before we were all ready to head out for the evening Winter Carnival Event.

We hit the slopes early Sunday morning. Shortly thereafter, **Carolyn Burris** was seen body surfing down a double black diamond slope. Maybe she should have taken the mountain tour for easy runs first? Among the early and late arrivals staying off-site was **Linda Cizek** who searched the mountain all day for any of our group. We finally connected with all six at the condos after an outstanding day of skiing or schooling (in the case of **Juanita Allen** from Virginia, on her first western mountain trip) then headed back up the mountain for a spectacular sunset gondola ride and the TSC Welcome Party.

On Monday, **Cathy Sharp** was spotted in her panda hat all over the mountain but some of us quit skiing early for the full afternoon and evening events. **Joe Cannata** led a venturesome group to the scenic Strawberry Park Hot Springs. Among the group were **Jim Rinke**, **E. J. Boudreaux**, **Mike Williford**, **Sandy Williams** and **Sandra McCunis**. We heard there was a photo of a certain lady in bathing suit and ski boots but it must be a rumor or **Sandra** paid someone off. Fun photos aside, all agreed it was a great afternoon. After dark skinny dipping was allowed. Picture that in ski boots! Meanwhile back at the condos, **Bill Simmons** and **Maynard Nussbaum** were helping heat the Venison Chile and Bean Burrito supper for our first party. TC's condo mates, **Frances McAllister** and **Charles Smith** from Coleman, were ready helpers to haul the pots to the party room and clean up afterward. Many thanks to all the members who were ready to pitch in on every occasion. After chowing down on the great meal and a salute to TC's better half, **Alan** (for cooking his prize winning recipe), we had a few door prizes. One was won by TC's daughter-in-law, **Juanita Allen**. After cries of fixed drawings died down, we all agreed a Space City scarf would be fine looking back up north.

We started another beautiful ski day which finally came to a close, being dubbed Black Tuesday. Designated so due to major injuries suffered by **Don Molgaard** and **Maria dos Santos**, both in Condo Six. Don spent the rest of the trip in the hospital watched

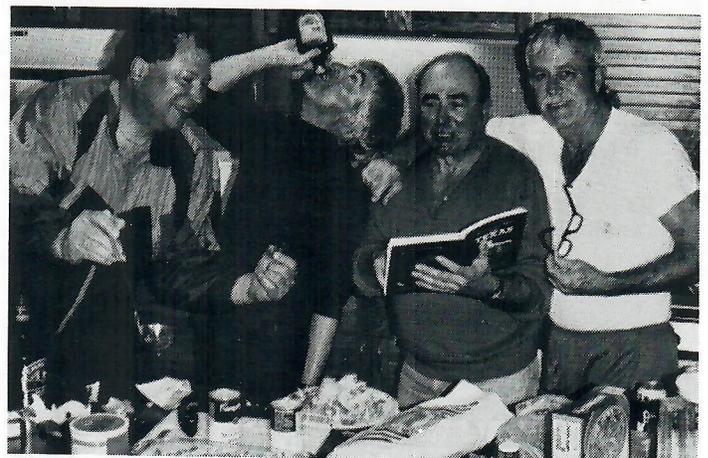
over by his bride **Flo**. While good eggs, **Kelly Morissette** and **Bill Clifford** helped **Maria** get around with her leg brace problems. The rest of us were checking out our bruises and soaking sore muscles. At least we think that's what **Kathy Young** was doing with twelve guys in the hot tub.

Wednesday evening was the Torchlight Parade down the mountain. It started at 7:00, over at 7:02 P.M. We could have used some of those folks in the club races. The short trip arrived in the afternoon and it was a great night for SCSC'ers to hit downtown or the condos for gourmet cooking. We hear **Gary Smith** served a great meal to condomates **Carol Griffin**, **David** and **Cathy Sharp**, **Louis** and **Reen Catanzaro**. Other great cooks were **Maynard Nussbaum**, aka as dear Dr. Foot, who dispensed suggestions and sympathy for many blisters and boot rubs. The **Welkey** brothers, **Jon** and **Joseph**, were also busy in the kitchen most evenings. The grateful and well breakfasted group in the TC's condo had **Charles (Mr.Mom) Smith** to thank.

Thursday we were up bright and early for the races and mountain barbecue. While silver medalists, **Joe Giammarco**, **Leslie Cashio**, **Reen Catanzaro**, **Bill Landfield**, **Charles Smith**, **Howard Schoenike**, and **Alex Potter** were all smiles, there were a few dazed folks like **Andrew Cashio** and **Keith Huber** saying, "Only a Bronze?" Also noted was the strange head banging by **Rick Kivch** who just missed a medal in spite of a great effort. The rest of us were just glad we got down alive and if we got a few points, so much the better. Our evening started with a bang as both trips gathered for a pizza party and "Show us your Heart" costume contest. Some of the prize winners were **Dave Sharp** in his Mr. Right boxer shorts over red long-johns, **Dave Pullin**, the Dirty Old Man in red long johns and **Howard Schoenike**, alluring??? in a red satin bikini. **Winnie Pullin** was a knockout in a red outfit similar to **Howard's**. Our hard working race director **Kevin King** got in late from his race work, dressed much more sedately. However, we heard later that he had his gold and silver medals pinned under his PJ's for the rest of the trip.

Friday came much too quickly. **Kevin King** must have gone over the edge. After his gold, he traded his skis for a board all day with **TC Charlotte Lynn** trailing behind on skis as witness that he really is pretty good on the thing. **Alex Potter** had been mowed down on Thursday on a family run, but thought it was minor until roomie **Jerry Smith** insisted he have it checked at the hospital.

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Seems he had suffered a broken leg and was forced to miss our TSC Awards Banquet Friday night. Flo Molgaard joined us for dinner and Chris Goll dedicated his gold medal to Don, (still being missed by all) and presented it to Flo to take back to him. After stuffing our faces on Barbecue (again??) we were delighted to accept a large, flashy second place trophy and enjoy the wonderful starlight ride back down the gondola. Having had about all the fun we could stand, we cheerfully packed up our skis (while your TC was mumbling something about a *@#* trophy on her lap all the way to Houston) and prepared for departure early Saturday. Except for the purple heart pack, this had been a truly great ski week. Many thanks to such a great group of trip members; the super mountain and sunny skies would not have made such a great trip without all of you.

