

Steamboat II

by Deborah Christie

SHORTUMS TO THE RESCUE -- SCSC's Cavalry Toast the Incredible Champagne Powder with the Texas Ski Council's Parties

As SCSC's Steamboat II (Shortums) short trip, we arrived just in time to replenish our Steamboat I - Longums skimates. The Longums were rapidly depleting from excess parties and "on the slope" mishaps. The Shortum's land scouts Ann and King Anderson, with Pam and Gregory Lester, left early in the week to pioneer the northern Colorado territory.

Trip Coordinator Deborah Christie (aka Purdin) greeted the Shortums with Valentine's Day cookies and sweetheart candies at our airport SCSC check-in table. Marda Waters was our "first one" at the Continental desk for our noon direct flight to Hayden airport in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Larry Kevan and Larry Christie upgraded to first class, both ways!! Here's to the frequent flyer miles and a non-charter flight!

If misadventures make traveling exciting and fun, then Cheryl Ann Harland was set. Her car quit that morning!! *Panic!!* No sweat!! She rolls in just before boarding. This girl needs a vacation!! Linda Dean had a Valentine card from her hubby, stating "Hope you have fun" and it included a whole \$1 bill. What a guy!

All the luggage arrived and everyone loaded on the bus, except our ATC Arlen Isham. The busline brought a smaller bus, and Arlen was scarified to ride in the luggage truck. When we arrived, Larry Kevan and Brian Ennemoser did some fast room swapping for separate beds. OOPS!!

Let's see? Begin with misadventure, then everything else is more fun? Right!! Just to prove it, Steamboat gave us a great Western Welcome with misdated lift tickets. Fortunately, they quickly replaced them as we enjoyed the wine and cheese party.

Most of us got an unexpected walking tour of Steamboat. Very few people knew the ski rentals were *inside* the Best Western Hotel. When we found it, the door was locked! No fear, the Shortums divided to conquer the rental's curfew, and we got them to open eventually anyway.

Night fell and now it's time to get out and party!! The Valentine downhill torch light parade's lead skier took a dive

and wiped out more skiing torches. Great sight!!

Our 1st day early bird skiers, Joe Brothers and Arlen Isham, caught the Gondola's breakfast lift. Smart move, since our agenda's first adventure was a 10 a.m. Texas Ski Council (TSC) race, oh lordy!! Several of us prepared simply by just getting there on time!! Congrats to our medal winners; Joe Brothers, Jack Miller, Larry Christie and Larry Kevan. TSC had a great BBQ lunch on the mountain after the race. At 40+ degrees, coats and sweaters were coming off fast.

We had a party every night. Thursday we joined SCSC's Longums for Valentine's with our "Show Your Hearty Panties" party. Giant Pizzas disappeared in record time. Check the pictures!! Out of over 80 participants, Joanne Fore and Linda Dean won our "Funniest Female Hearty Panties". Ladye Freitag and Barbara Niland won our "Most Risqué", and Larry Christie won our "Most To Theme" costume. You'll have to ask Cheryl Ann Harland why she could be nominated as SCSC's candidate for the next Sports Illustrated Swim Suit Edition. Maybe Dan Conery will show his movies??

Friday brought blue skies and less clothes. A guy was skiing in shorts!! Looked for the skiing bikinis, not yet I guess. Another set of early birds found Kimberly Dean, brave soul, who followed them into a mogul field. What a girl! After a morning to get our ski legs, Debra Edwards and Doug Broussard were ready to join most of us for the blues. The early birds lead the way. Wow, built some great speed as a beginning blue or black skier. Some of us girls tried Kimberly's mogul field. What a workout! Someone stated "Kimberly has balls to go into a mogul field like that!" Yep, best early in the morning so you can bounce back up when you fall down!

Friday night's TSC's Awards Party on the mountain top served up great BBQ, lots to drink, and a great band. Our scouts, Ann and King Anderson, with Pam and Gregory Lester arrived first to assure the food and live music was ready. SCSC's won TSC's second place race trophy. Not bad for race day being our 1st day on skis. Jack Miller won a pair of Ski boots, thanks to Joe Brothers putting Jack's name in for a door prize. What a great party with dancing on the tables and down the aisles.



Steamboat II continued

Saturday was another full day to play in the snow as most of the TSC groups flew home and the mountain is ours. Ladye Freitag and Sandy Reed said Saturday was the Snowboard from hell day; they didn't know if it was due to a late last night or extra boards whizzing around in the bright sunlight. Ray Davis and Bobbie Sellers took snowboard lessons Saturday. Bobbie says it was one of her more miserable days. Raysays it's great. He's a great wind surfer; maybe the moves are similar.

Victoria Valero, our "Never Ever", sees Snow For The First Time!!! After lessons every day, her instructor told her "NOT to go down the mountain and knock all the people down"! Well, by Saturday she did great with Georgette Taylor. After years off the skis, Linda Dean mastered the ski lifts too.

We lucked out with no serious injuries. Joanne Fore had a great race Thursday morning, then that afternoon some kid's helmet jumped up and hit her on the chin as she was skiing. Good thing she loves purple as she got a purple chin and a purple heart to go with her purple skis.

During the trip, Marda Waters fell with three?? poles flying-getting lost-crossed-dropped?? Ladye Freitag is weary of Sharon Broughton's "easy short" blue merging green trails after discovering it went half way down the mountain and wonders where was the green part?? Sandy Reed was seen clinging to the mountain side from a fall.

Ski lifts and ski fashion, what an alluring and functional opportunity SCSC has created. Linda Dean's white fur ear muff fell off a steep lift. SCSC's golden retriever; alias Larry Christie, slid to the rescue. Just tell your rescuer the pole number. One may think one can't hold onto one's equipment. Georgette Taylor learned the routine well; she took in a lucky occasion to allure a hero under the lift lines. Let's see...drop a glove, ask a good looking skier to retrieve it (he does), then rendezvous for a drink. Life is good. What a great idea!!

Saturday Night, we surprised our February babies Cheryl Ann Harland, Brian Ennemoser, Ray Davis and Jack Miller with birthday cake at our masked Mardi Gras theme party. Door prize movies and gifts made everyone a winner. Jack won

the Penthouse Swimsuit Edition movie; we didn't see much of the guys after that. That's OK, the girls went dancing; ask Carol Cortez about Steamboat '96 and see her eyes dance. David Corbin won a Las Vegas trip for two. Larry Kevan is proud of his Alamo Crackers prize. If a fortune teller is not around, see Joe Brothers for his hand writing analysis skills. Watch out for your Long Y's and G's, they tell all kinds of secrets.

Sunday we awoke with giant wet snow flakes keeping us inside to watch the door prize movies, relax, eat a pot luck brunch, or shop before the noon bus arrived. Freida Plemmons, with her feet up and eyes closed, just wanted to relax. She stated she had too much fun, with a party every night, along with great snow and sunshine everyday.

THANKS SHORTUMS FOR A GREAT TRIP !!!

Many long term friends have been made and memories created. I'd love to travel with you again soon. Have a great summer and I'm looking forward to seeing you in September '96.

