

# BIG SKY

by Barb Ehrlich

The Big Sky extravaganza was off to a great start with all flights on time. Upon arrival at Bozeman airport, we met the first part of our non-Texan contingency, **Wayne Benos** from Ohio. Next on the agenda was precision bus loading and a quick grocery stop. Were those 10 boxes **Mike Ruthermund**, **Robert Todd**, **Rod Hope**, and **Ty Smith** carried on board full of food or beer? Our group was not complete until midnight with the surprise arrival of **Dave Whitehead** and **Susan Bullen** from the U.K.

The first day of ski in/ pummel out, **Sandy Brokhausen** mistook the pummel lift for a chair. Of course she was not alone, other skiers including **Ky Griffin** were seen napping under the pummel lift. Our Mad Hatter dinner party drew some fancy head gear. Low budget clown entertainment was provided by **Jim McLaughlin** who also helped **Charlene Fleming** design the perfect hat. **Sandy** and **Ed Brochausen** actually read the pretrip information and made hats suitable only for Bourbon Street. **Helen Schilling** was more into a deck of special playing cards than hats. Few dinner guests realized the plain canned spaghetti was saved by chef **Jorge (George) Flournoy** and **Jeff Warren** who made an emergency trip to the store to buy additives demanded by the chef.

**Dr. Grant Fowler** required medical "attention" for his bruised buttocks from all his condomates: **Sandy Brockhausen**, **Billie Nowa**, and **Charlene Flemings**. How come he needed daily reevaluation from the ladies?

Snowmobiling in Yellowstone was a blast! **Indy 500 Rod Hope** and **Mike Ruthermund** maxed out at how many mph? **Maureen Irwin** was a great tour guide, if you could keep up. **George Flournoy** and **Robert Todd** abandoned **Billie Nowak** temporarily to commune with nature. **Jim McLaughlin**, **Lynda Henry**, **Barb Ehrlich**, **Marsha Lutz**, **Maureen Irwin**, **Gary**



**Quinn**, **Sharla Gibson**, **Susan Bullen** (**Indy 600 Dave Whitehead** was lost on the trail) inhaled lunch in 10 minutes and still missed the 1:15 **Old Faithful**. Hanging around **Marsha** almost got us arrested for harassment of wild life. Of course, back at the condos **Lis Kinne** and **Nancy Meier** also contended with wild life, as **Bison Bill** spent every night with them.

New and innovative skiing techniques were developed by our group. **Ron Koval** skied halfway down the slope on his back. He claims **Gwen Bremer** attacked him? **Nancy Meier** fell face first off the lift. She claims **George** and **Keith Kirkman** pushed her. **Marsha Lutz**'s only fall of the week was in front of **Clear Lake** ski club. **Wayne Benos** and **Tim McNamara** collided (they claim on purpose), to impress **Sharla**. **Alex Bunsch** skied all seven days and has no one to blame but himself. **Art Kelly** and **Linda Snyder** were concerned about warm feet. **Linda**, the electric cowgirl, has battery operated warmers. **Art**, the environmentalist, recycles his warmers. I guess no one told him they only work one day. Wednesday evening was game night. **Tim McNamara**, **Charlene Fleming**, and **Nancy Meier**, **Maureen Irwin** (with the help of **Grant Fowler**'s cheating) beat **Barb Ehrlich**, **Mike Fleming**, **Ed** and



## BIG SKY continued

**Sandy Brohausen** at Pictionary.

The Finale of this great week began Apres ski with a pub crawl. The Crazy Austrian Brothers brought out the talent in our group. **Sharla Gibson** missed her calling as a chorus line dancer. **Debbie Warren's** mom forgot to teach her it's not polite to point, which landed her on stage to show off extraordinary pig grunting and yodeling talents during the show. Next stop: MR Hummers where one of these name sake specialty drinks awaited each of us. Passing on MR Hummers, **Bruce Bain**, **Gary Pfeffer**, **Wayne Benos**, and **Tim McNamara** opted for the movies up at the Lodge. The soldiers left standing after Hummers found themselves dancing at the Whiskey Jack.

On our trip home, **Hilton Schorre** slept the whole way, he forgot his ear plugs and couldn't sleep through his roommates snoring. All in all a great time was had by all with only one casualty, **Art Kelly's** broken shoulder. We braved the cold and encountered all the wildlife we could handle in a week.

