



The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

www.spacecityskiclub.org



October 2012

Member
Texas Ski Council
Vol. 48, No. 6

OCTOBER MEETING - Sports America

NEW LOCATION: The HESS Club- 5430 Westheimer

Monday, October 8th @ 6:30—9:00 pm

From Mission Control

by Sandra McCunis, President

The SCSC 2012/2013 season is off to a great start with trips filling quickly and an increase of new members joining our club. The attendance at our General Meetings has also increased since our move to the HESS Club. We had 105 members and guests at our September meeting. Dr. Jeffrey Ross gave a very informative presentation on how to prepare for our ski season and how to avoid injuries which was certainly beneficial to our members.

Sara Clemons, Groups Manager for Sports America, will be our featured speaker at our October General Meeting. She will give a presentation on "Travel Tips" to make your trip more enjoyable. It will include topics such as "How to Prepare for High Altitude Travel", "How to Get in Shape for Your Trip" and "Dealing with the Airlines & Baggage Policies". Please invite your friends and co-workers to join us at our meeting.



There was a drawing at our September meeting of \$50 for early sign up on a trip and Ron Ramin was the lucky winner. We will have another drawing at our October meeting for a \$50 credit which will be applied toward a trip for those members that refer a new member to our club. Your name will be entered once for each member that you refer to SCSC. An increase in membership will give us the opportunity to offer our members a greater variety of trips and activities so please help us to promote our club.

We are planning to extend our trips past the ski season so that we can offer our members options for travel throughout the year. We are currently considering a cruise out of San Juan, Puerto Rico in May and an adventure trip during the summer. We also plan to offer some long weekend trips and overnight activities. Our officers are working to improve our club so we would appreciate your suggestions for travel destinations.

This will be a great year to be involved in SCSC so please consider volunteering to organize a trip or an activity. We need your help and it is also a great way to meet new people, make new friends and have lots of fun!

Countdown to Liftoff

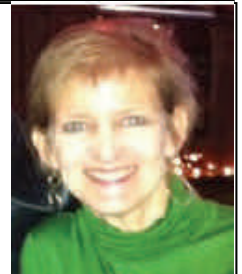
By Ann Rogers, V.P. of Trips

We have had two general meetings and the trip sign-ups are going very well. You can sign-up online using Paypal, in person at the general meeting or mail your deposit into the trip coordinator. When you sign up on-line, don't forget to complete the trip registration form and mail to the trip coordinator. This form gives the trip coordinator your contact information and your preference of a full or land package. We still have spaces available on most of our trips.

We are offering many of our trips as Land packages this year so you can use your airline miles if you desire. I would like to mention that the fare to Big Sky has dropped recently. If you are undecided, check out Kayak or Travelocity for

the best fares to Big Sky. Also, the Big Sky trip is a TSCYF trip (Texas Youth Foundation), when a child completes 3 days of the TSCYF Kid's Camp, they are entitled to a \$150 reimbursement! The Kid's Camp is 3 days of ski or snowboard lessons, including lunch. Wow, that is a great incentive to learn to ski.

So don't delay, come to the October general meeting and sign up for a trip. It is going to be a great ski season; the prediction from the weather forecasters is for a good snowfall this year. So think snow and let's get ready for a great ski and snowboarding season.



Having A Blast!

By Cindy Moore, V.P. of Activities

AC Sharon Simandl's SCSC group dance lessons are almost half way through and have been such a hit that a 6 week salsa class has been created. This will also be taught by Michael Stephens at The Dance Place (Chimney Rock and Richmond area) starting 11-7-12, skipping Thanks-



giving week and culminating in a Christmas party on the last night of 12-19-12. They will again be 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. This is sure to fill up fast again, so don't delay to sign up if interested. We try to keep the class even males to females.

Also coming up is an overnight gambling trip to Louisiana to the fabulous Paragon Casino Resort. Sandra McCunis found us a deal we can't pass up so watch for details on our web site this week. At this moment I do not have an AC for this so contact me immediately if you are interested in running this activity.

Having A Blast! (cont)

This activity will have entertainment for those that don't gamble as well, so it is the perfect, inexpensive escape for almost anyone!

The rain held off until after all outdoor tournaments were over at the Kupers for the Triple P Pool Party on 9-16-12. Thanks to Stan and Linda Kuper for their hard work and hospitality and Craig Campbell for his hard work as a successful AC! Forty paid for this activity and 36 braved the threat of thunderstorms and discovered it was well worth the effort. It was a tight race for the best cold dish but Gayle Dale's tropical salad edged out Tor Lileng and Helene Robinson. Tor won second for his homemade salsa. Betty Donellan took first over Judy Schiro in the battle of the corn casseroles for the best hot dish.

Leslie Ward's Haunted Tour of Houston on Friday, 10-12-12 at 7:00 p.m. and is full. Contact her to get on the wait list.

There are still about 8 seats for the fabulous wine bus trip to Bryan/College Station on Sunday 10-21-12 with AC Deb Cini! This bus will leave at 9:00 a.m. taking us to winery tours and tastings at Messina Hof, where we will have brunch, and then on to the Peach Creek Winery. We will end the day at the Perrine Tasting Room in College Station and eat an early dinner close by before heading back. All three of these destinations are award winning wineries! We will be back at our meeting place by 7:30 p.m. at the latest. Pay now on Pal Pal to ensure your seat on our 36 seat luxury bus with swivel, reclining captain chairs, each with its own personal TV with 2 satellite stations plus our movie of choice on the other one.

Carrying on a fall SCSC tradition, Jose Araujo and Doris

Escobar are hosting their ever popular Halloween game night party on 10-27-12, complete with full dinner, ping pong, darts, and a plethora of board and card games for your Saturday night entertainment! There will be prizes and costumes are encouraged. Contact ACs Jose or Doris to sign up.

The SCSC Holiday Gala will be on Friday 11-2-12, and Jana Rosenbaum is AC with help from AAC's Nancy Dufrane and Leyla Ozkardesh. The venue is the elegant Pavilion on Gessner in Spring Branch, and we will be dancing to both an excellent DJ and a live band. This year it is only \$27.00 if you pay by 10-25-12. After that date, and for non-members, it is \$30.00. Before 10-25-12, you will have a choice of a strip steak or a spinach stuffed chicken breast dinner with salad, twice baked potato, green bean casserole, a roll and iced tea and holiday desserts. They sell decaf coffee, ice, bottled water and set ups and it is BYOB! Bring in your favorite wine with no corking fee and no \$100 percent markup! You can also bring in hard liquor or beer. We will have special tables for singles. Our room has its own private dance floor, or dance on the huge dance floor in front of the band shared by others.

Pay now on Pay Pal, at a meeting or send a check to reserve your spot at Ann Dorn's always packed fall wine tasting party and dinner on Saturday 11-17-12. Tons of interesting wines, as well as fabulous cuisine, is included in this annual, popular SCSC social event. She usually ends the night with dancing, piano music or both! You will not want to miss this Saturday night event. It is filling up extremely fast!

Space City Ski Club goes Ghost Hunting!

Friday October 12, 2012 6:45 PM – 10:30 PM

\$48 per person (member or non-member) Haunted Tour by Houston Historical Tours

Meet at Central Market's parking lot on the east end
3815 Westheimer Rd. Houston, TX 77027

Optional Dinner at Central Market at 6:00 PM

We will depart on the tour promptly at 7:00 PM



Tour includes multiple sites of famous murders and a suicide, 2 abandoned cemeteries (1 black and 1 white), the former John Henry Kirby mansion, the Julia B. Ideson Library, the Bob Casey Federal Courthouse Building, the hanging oak tree, and 1 haunted bar. It normally has 4 stops.

Wear and bring the following for a ghost/haunted tour:

Long pants – to prevent rubbing up against poison ivy.

Closed toe, flat, comfortable shoes that you can get dirty – to walk on uneven ground in abandoned cemeteries and to minimize anything that could crawl over your feet (and really scare you).

A flashlight with working batteries – for use in the abandoned dark cemeteries.

Insect repellent – if rain has fallen within 48 hours before the tour, standing water can be present which will serve as breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

Cameras – if you like to take photos and to be able to see orbs.

Final payment is Monday September 10, 2012 (September General Meeting). This early final payment date is due to the tour company needing to confirm numbers to schedule the transportation.

Activity Coordinator – Leslie Ward Leslie.ward@siemens.com 832-863-2018

Mail payments to 5655 Yarwell Dr. Houston, TX 77096

mini-

SCSC Ski Trip Schedule 2012—2013

****Trip Price Cash/Check Discounts (Domestic)—**Subtract \$50 on Full Trip Pkgs & \$35 on Land/Short Trip Pkgs

Destination	Trip Dates	FPD	Trip \$	TC	ATC
Vail, CO—Short Trip	Dec 8-12, 2012 (Sat-Weds)	30-Oct-12	Land \$594	Judy Schiro jschiro1@comcast.net 832-689-9365	
Vail, CO—Long Trip	Dec 8-12, 2012 (Sat-Sat)	30-Oct-12	Land \$924	Judy Schiro jschiro1@comcast.net 832-689-9365	
Steamboat Springs, CO TSC Traditional	Jan 12-19, 2013 (Sat– Sat)	12-Nov-12	Full \$1,423 Land \$904	Anne M. Thomas annemthomas1@yahoo.com 713-589-3660	Melinda Hughes
Granda & Torremolinos, Spain TSC Winter Expedition	Jan 25-Feb2, 2013 (Fri-Sat)	12-Nov-12	Full \$2,127 Land \$1,115	George Lopez GJL_ASTI@yahoo.com 856 296 9399	
Zermatt, Switzerland	Feb 1-9, 2013 (Fri-Sat)	12-Nov-12	Full \$2,243 Land \$1,225	Arlen Isham aisham@consolidated.net 713-560-0187	
Telluride, CO TSC Winter Shootout	Feb 9-16, 2013 (Sat-Sat)	12-Nov-12	Full \$1,367 Land \$826	Betty Donellan bettyrelaw@gmail.com 310-775-9215	
Taos, NM Short Trip	Feb 16-20,2013 (Sat-Weds)	12-Nov-12	Full \$1,103 Land \$634	Lynda Meyer lynda_meyer@yahoo.com 713-775-9215	
Taos, NM Long Trip	Feb 16-23,2013 (Sat-Sat)	12-Nov-12	Land \$947	Lynda Meyer lynda_meyer@yahoo.com 713-775-9215	
Mt. Bachelor, OR Long Trip	Feb 23-Mar2, 2013 (Sat-Sat)		Full \$1,297 Land \$726	Ellen Eastham eeastham@prodigy.net 281-989-9935	
Beaver Creek, CO	Mar 5-10, 2013 (Tues—Sun)	12-Jan-13	Full \$1,169	Helene Robinson helenerobinson@mac.com 954-253-1681	
Big Sky, Montana TSC Final Showdown	Mar 9-16,2013 (Sat-Sat)	9-Dec-12	Land \$963	Candance TenBrink Candance@ctenbrink.com 312-543-1151	Abhi Gami
Ireland	Sept 6 -14, 2013 (Thurs-Fri)	13-May-13	Full \$1,983 Land \$1,011	Sandy Wellhausen Sandywp.ski@gmail.com 281-996-8653	Sean O'Brien

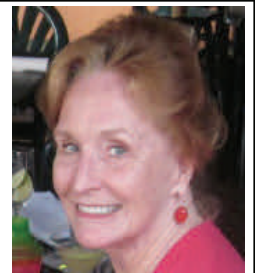
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Jan Ferrell - VP of Membership

Exciting news! We are having a membership drive in October and November. Please see the details in our President's message and stay tuned!

Volunteers to help at the membership table are always appreciated. Ask anyone who has helped in the past how great it is to meet and greet our members and guests. Now is your chance to put a name to a face and vice versa.

While the tours are 30 minutes long starting at 6:30pm, most volunteers find themselves staying longer because it is a lot of fun. So-o-o-o, if you are interested please email me at jferrell123@att.net and I will always find a slot for you.



The Galapagos Island Adventure by Melinda Hughes, TC

Our journey to the Galapagos Islands began in Ecuador's capital city, Quito. Even though the trip was a "land only" package, we all arrived about the same time and made it safely to our hotel to catch some z's before our traveling began the next day. On the first day, we all took a trip to old town Quito and the "true" equator. Old town was bustling with vendors selling their wares and beautiful 18th century churches. At the equator, there were several latitude challenges such as walking straight and balancing an egg on a nail head. Our own **David Stotz** was declared the group's egg master since he was the only one who balanced the egg.

After the day full of activities, we had a group dinner with the tour operator who briefed us on the next 9 days of traveling in the Galapagos archipelago. We took a short flight to San Cristobal the next morning and we were greeted by the tour op that is stationed on this island. Because we were divided into two groups, we agreed to name our groups. Team Girlfriend was formed while the second group was Team WE (which is an acronym for WhatEver because our philosophy was just tell us what we need to do). We were whisked away in vehicles that took us to La Soledad and we biked down through the lush highland cloud forest to Mann Beach. We then headed to La Loberia which is a beach that is home to a large sea lion colony and nursery. There was a rule that anyone who called a sea lion a seal would be imposed a beer fine. We have enough fines to last through the end of the ski season. **Diane Stotz** could not resist calling "Hey Baby" to all the sea lions and dogs present on the beach. The first evening at dinner, **Helene Robinson** was eyeing **Ann Rogers'** homemade macaroons. They were a delectable dessert that we all hoarded!

The next day, the majority of us snorkeled around Kicker Rock while **Martha Martin** and **Ray Villarreal** chose to dive. We all saw sharks, star fish, and some played with sea lions. From San Cristobal, we boated to Floreana Island which is the sixth biggest island in the archipelago and the least inhabited. Here we walked on black sand beaches and enjoyed our homemade lunch. We could hear a faint voice in the background saying "Hey Baby" while we took a short siesta on the beach. We moved on to Isabela island. Here a brave group that included **Ron and Roberta Ramin**, **Helene Robinson**, **Ray Villarreal**, **Stan Kuper**, **Barbie Miller**, **David and Diane Stotz**, **Dennis and Melinda Hughes** hiked 7 hours up the Sierra Negra volcano and back. We saw diverse terrain - lush forest and muddy trails to a volcanic desert with crushed lava rock paths. While Stan was hiking **Linda Kuper** made the smart decision to stay back, enjoy the beach, and read a book. The next day, we visited the giant tortoise breeding center where we learned about the conservation of these prehistoric animals. We walked from the breeding center to the Tinoreras beach bar and watched a game of beach volleyball while the sun sat. **Marilyn Swanson** and **Larry Robinson** were posing for vacation pictures on the beach while the rest of us sipped on wine and beer. The last day on Isabela island, we kayaked along the coastline to visit the penguins, blue footed boobies, pelicans, and other birds that inhabit the mangroves along the coastline.

From Isabela, we traveled to Santa Cruz where we visited the Charles Darwin Research Center and we met Diego the giant tortoise. He inherited Lonesome George's responsibility to populate the islands with giant tortoises. On the island, we visited a ranch, Cerro Crocker, where the giant tortoises live in a natural environment. **Barb Tuley** had her picture taken with one of these giants. On the way to the ranch, we stopped to hike in a large lava tunnel which was dark and required flashlights to augment the dim lighting that had been installed. **Ron Ramin** blinded **Melinda Hughes** by turning around with his head lamp on and asking her if it was on. She would have enjoyed the hike if it weren't for the dots that blocked her vision through the tunnel. They both had a good laugh and lasting memory of the incident.



The Galapagos Island Adventure Cont.

On the island, the most scenic beach walk was along Tortuga Bay where blue footed boobies were within an arm's length and marine iguanas that you had to step over along the path. The biggest disappointment on Santa Cruz island was **David Stotz's** tiny ham sandwich at lunch. **Eileen Teel** kept Team Girlfriend laughing with her quick wit and contagious smile. **Mary Ann Harrell** would take morning strolls on each island as well as Santa Cruz and report her findings.

We flew back from Baltra Island to Quito after a tearful farewell dinner with our new friends the natural-ist guides. They were walking encyclopedias and spent 9 days explaining the ecosystem of the islands. The guides and the tour operator did an incredible, seamless job of getting us through the islands safely. This trip was billed as a bucket list trip and that is was!



August General Meeting



Sept General Mtg & Triple Pool Party 9/16



Triple Pool Party 9/16



Calling all wine lovers!!!
"It's a WINE ROAD TRIP to
College Station!"

When: Sunday, October 21, 2012

How: THE WINE PARTY BUS!
(no driving, just fun!)

Time: Leave Houston at 9am- return by 7:30pm.

Cost: \$40.00 Includes luxury bus transportation with water and movie provided. Feel free to bring your own snacks and beverages for the bus. Lunch and dinner optional at the wineries. Final Payment Date: 9/18/12

Itinerary-

9a-11a Travel to College Station
11a-1p Brunch and tasting/tour (optional) at Messina Hof
1-1:30p Travel to Peach Creek Winery
1:30-2:30p Tasting/tour at Peach Creek
2:30-3:00p Travel to Perrine Winery
3-3:30p Tasting at Perrine Winery
3:45 to 5:15p Dinner
5:30-7:30p Travel home



MESSINA HOF, PERRINE AND PEACH CREEK all have award winning wines, both dry/sweet red/white varieties! (Tastings, tours and food are additional. \$10 tour/tasting at Messina Hof, Tastings at Perrine, Messina Hof and Peach Creek range from \$4-6 for three options, some offer discount on tasting if bottle of wine is purchased. Lunch/dinner also optional.)

More details to come!!! Hold your place now, space is limited to 36!!!

AC: Deb Cini 832-628-6125 email dcini@victoria.com





Space City Ski Club Holiday GALA!

Friday, November 2, 2012
7 p.m. to 1 a.m.

at The Pavillion on Gessner
2500 Gessner near the Tollway

Music and Dancing!

Popular Band – The Grateful Geezers

Dinner Choices:

New York Strip Steak or

Stuffed Chicken Breast

(Salad, Potato, Green Bean Casserole, Bread, Tea, Dessert)

BYOB – Wine, Beer, Hard Liquor

Bring cash for coffee, bottled water and Setups

COST

Members: \$27

Non-members and anyone after Oct. 25 \$30

Absolute Final Payment Oct. 30

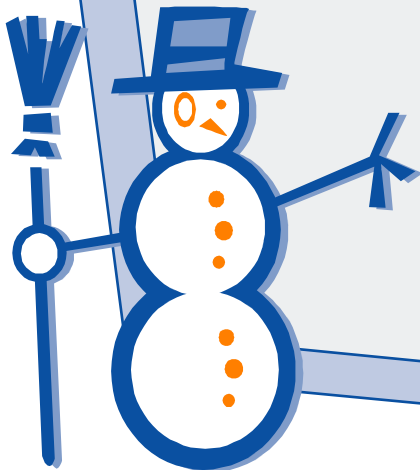
AC Jana Rosenbaum 713-294-0716

jana.rosenbaum@sbcglobal.net

AAC's Nancy DuFrane 713-494-7687

ndufrane@sbcglobal.net

Leyla Ozkardesh 281-785-2325



Trip Registration Form
FOR USE BY SCSC MEMBERS ONLY

(Complete ONE Registration Form and prepare ONE deposit check PER trip)

Each envelope must contain the registration form and deposit. Deposit is \$150 per participant (\$300 for International trips).

Make the check payable to "SCSC" and write trip name and membership number(s) (from Sitzmarke address label) on the check. Also, write the trip name on the outside of the envelope.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY—WE MUST BE ABLE TO READ THE DATA ON THIS FORM

Trip Name: Trip Name:
Trip Dates to Trip Dates: to

Participant #1

Participant #2

Name: Name:
2012-13 Membership # 2012-13 Membership #
Address: Address:
City Zip City Zip
Phone(H) (W) Phone(H) (W)
Cell Cell
E-Mail E-Mail

Please check one: Full package Land package Please check one: Full package Land package

I understand the following (per standing rules 5.1 - 5.4): Cancellations after trip sign-up must be in writing to the Trip Coordinator and all cancellations after August 1 are subject to a \$30 per person cancellation fee. If I cancel on or after the final payment date, I may forfeit the full amount paid if I cannot be replaced on the trip. Beginning with the 2004-05 season, Trip Transfers were no longer permitted.

Signature(s) (Required)

Please mail your deposit check(s) and Trip Registration Form(s) to the appropriate Trip Coordinator (TC) below:
(Remember: Include the trip name and your membership number(s) on your check and the trip name on the outside of the envelope)

TRIP NAME	TC	Street	City, State	Zip	Telephone #
Vail, CO – Long	Judy Schiro	9206 Roy Bean	Houston, TX	77041	713-939-8235
Vail, CO – Short	Judy Schiro	9206 Roy Bean	Houston, TX	77041	713-939-8235
Deer Valley, Utah	Derek Shoobridge	121 County Road 959	Liverpool TX	77577	713-501-1032
Steamboat, CO	Anne Thomas	1306 W Park at Shady Villa	Houston, TX	77055	713-589-3660
Granada, Spain	George Lopez	4642 Hickory Downs	Houston, TX	77084	856-296-9399
Zermatt, Switzerland	Arlen Isham	25114 Derbybrook Court	Katy, TX	77494	713-560-0187
Telluride, CO	Betty Donellan	P.O. Box 12013	Spring, TX	77391	281-374-2172
Taos, New Mexico Long	Lynda Meyer	12322 Moorcreek Dr.	Houston, TX	77070	713-775-9215
Taos, New Mexico Short	Lynda Meyer	12322 Moorcreek Dr.	Houston, TX	77070	713-775-9215
Mt. Bachelor, OR	Ellen Eastham	2045 Lee Road	Pearland, TX	77581	281-989-9935
Beaver Creek, CO	Helene Robinson	18445 Hwy 105 W, Ste 102-260	Montgomery, TX	77356	954-253-1681
Big Sky, Mt	Candace TenBrink	4222 Oberlin	W University, TX	77005	312-543-1151
Ireland	Sandy Wellhausen	2408 Creekridge Drive	Pearland, TX	77581	281-996-8653

Calendar of Events

- 09/12/12 **Dance Lessons** — Start of SCSC Wednesday night dance lessons with Pro Michael Stephens at the Dance Place, 3300 Chimney Rock, Suite 500, Houston, TX 77058, 8 weeks every Wed. ending October 31st with Halloween Party on the last night which is 10-31! First 4 weeks is two step/ last 4 weeks is waltz. AC Sharon Simandl; ssimandl@hotmail.com (Two step and waltz is Full; Salsa starting November)
- 10/08/12 **October General Meeting**, The HESS Club, 5430 Westheimer Rd, Houston, TX 77036, 6:30 to 8:30
- 10/12/12 **SCSC Haunted Tour**, Central Market start, 3815 Westheimer Rd, Houston, TX 77027, 7:00; AC Leslie Ward, shmrck1317@aol.com
- 10/21/12 **SCSC Wine bus day trip** to Bryan/College Station, start location TBA, 9:00 a.m. to 7:30; AC Debi Cini, dcini@victoria.com
- 10/25/12 **October Happy Hour** - First Tee Pub, 12589 Whittington Dr., Houston, TX 77077 281 556 1691 Light Snacks for our group + happy hour prices/ patio. Thursdays is Grilled Steak night at First Tee. \$12 for steak, potato and salad.
- 10/27/12 **Halloween Games Night**, 7903 Edgemoor Dr. Houston, TX 77036, 7:00 to 11:00; ACs Jose Araujo and Doris Escobar, jarauijoy@sbcglobal.net
- 11-2-12 **Holiday Gala**, Pavillion on Gessner, 2500 N. Gessner, Houston, TX 77080, 6:30 to 11:30; AC Jana Rosenbaum, jana.rosenbaum@sbcglobal.net; AAC Nancy Du Frane ndufrane@sbcglobal.net
- 11-12-12 **November General Meeting**, The HESS Club, 5430 Westheimer Rd, Houston, TX 77036, 6:30 to 8:30
- 11-15-12 **November Happy Hour** - Happy hour one week early because of Thanksgiving, Sylvia's Enchilada Kitchen, 6401 Woodway, Houston, TX 77057, One block East of Voss, bar drinks and house wines 4.00 all night for SCSC! Outdoor covered patio.
- 11-17-12 **Wine Tasting party**, 1635 S. Medio River Circle Sugar Land, TX 77478, 7:00 to 11:30. AC Ann Dorn, ann_dorn@yahoo.com

Space City Ski Club

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VP of Activities
VP of Trips
VP of Mbrship
VP of Pub
Treasurer
Secretary
Dir of Trips
Dir of Trips
Dir of Comm
Auditor

2011-2012 Executive Committee

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Cindy Moore
Ann Rogers
Jan Ferrell
Leyla Ozkardesh
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Sarah Granbery
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Susan Blome
Lynda Meyers
Keith Kirkman

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