



# The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

Vol. 33 No. 11.

March, 2001



MEMBER  
Texas Ski  
Council



Don't you wish you went to Whistler

March Meeting Dates:

**General Meeting March 12th**

at *Holiday Inn Select* • 6:30 p.m. • 2712 Southwest Freeway at Kirby

(additional parking available at the Red Cross next door)

**Happy Hour March 22th - The Gatsby**

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### SITZMARKE

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Volume 33, No.11

March 2001

## Head of the Lifeline

by *Stacey Ronczy*



Well, I can't believe we only have a few more months as officers! The March meeting is the SCSC Annual Meeting where new officers are voted in. The nominating committee did a fabulous job picking a new slate to present to you. The new slate of officers presented at the February meeting is:

John Rice – President  
Jerry Sadler – VP/Programs  
Patti Maudsley – VP/Trips  
Debbie Bergeron – VP/Publications  
Sharon Smith – VP Membership  
Lisa Smith – Secretary  
Sean O'Brien – Treasurer

Please see their articles in this issue to get to know who you will be voting for. There were no candidates running from the floor, so these nominated officers are running unopposed.

There are still many functions that we need volunteers for and there are several ways to volunteer. You could talk to an officer at the Happy Hour or at the General Meeting. You can get on the website and email one of us. If you are on a trip, there is a space at the bottom of the Trip Evaluation Form to put your name and volunteer. Activities need to be run, new members need an ambassador and there will be new trips for next year that will need Assistant Trip Coordinators.

Speaking of next year, don't forget the bid meeting, April 6 – 8 in San Antonio. This is where the Texas Ski Council, which we are a part of, decides where the TSC trips will be next year. We, as a club, also talk to ski resorts reps to start planning our club trips for next year, so come to the bid meeting and see how the process works. You can contact myself or Jim Edwards, Susan Blome or any other officer to get the details.

Have a great March!

### SCSC Activity

#### *Grand Canyon River Rafting*

July 30 to August 5, 2001

**\$1,835 Land Package \$300 deposit**

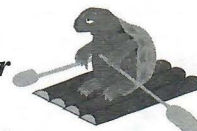
7 days, 6 nights, 190 mile guided motorized raft trip, two rafts, 24 people, awesome rapids, hikes, waterfalls, and wildlife. Price includes all meals on the river plus a scenic flight to the Grand Canyon and helicopter ride out. No rafting experience needed. Start from Las Vegas.

**Diane McKenzie**

**2138 Heather Green Miramar**

**Houston, TX. 77062**

**281-486-8944 or Dmckenzie4@aol.com**





## Features

- 2 ..... Head of the Liftline
- 4 ..... Ski Desk
- 5 ..... Trip Schedule
- 6 ..... VP of Programs
- 7 ..... Program Schedule
- 8 - 10 ..... Officer Nominees
- 11 ..... Full Moon Sail
- 11 ..... Carmen

### SCSC Activity

#### Happy Hour

#### The Gatsby

2540 Univerwsity Blvd.

(at Kirby Drive - Roof of Strip Center Village Arcade)

\$1 off Beer & Wine,  
Buffet provided

**March 22, 2001**

**5:30 pm - 8:00 pm**

**(713) 874-1362**

### SCSC Activity

#### Spring SCSC Wine Tasting

March 31, 2001

7:00 PM

Cost: \$10.00 and a bottle of wine

Home of Susan Green

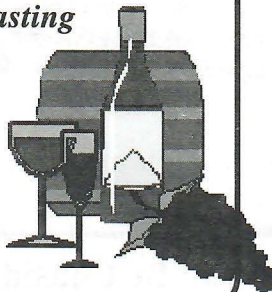
5206 Stamper Way

Houston, TX

(off Sage between Westheimer & San Felipe)

AC: Karyl Lawson - 713-465-6815

klawson@emsenergy.com



### SCSC Activity

#### Fredricksburg Weekend Outing

Car pool to the Fredricksburg Inn  
during the Wine & Wildflower Festival.

April 20-22, 2001

\$110.00

Final Payment: March 12, 2001

Cheryl Kenny

12 Eden Elm Place

The Woodlands, TX 77381

281-367-1778

Email: cheryl.a.kenny@exxonmobil.com



## CALENDAR

### March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### March

- 1-3 ..... Sugarbush
- 10-17 ..... Vail
- 12 ..... General Meeting - Fun & Games
- 22 ..... Happy Hour-The Gatsby
- 17-24 ..... Heavenly
- 24-31 ..... Big Mountain
- 31-4/5 ..... Panorama
- 31 ..... Wine Tasting

### April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### April

- 3/31-5 ..... Panorama
- 6-8 ..... TSC Bid Meeting - San Antonio
- 9 ..... General Meeting- Spring Style Show
- 19 ..... Happy Hour-TBA
- 20-22 ..... Fredricksburg Weekend Outing
- 27 ..... Radio Music Theatre

### May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### May

- 14.. Gen. Mtg.-Follies-Rocky Mtn.Picture Show
- 24 ..... Happy Hour-TBA





Hello fellow SCSCer's. Our 2001 ski season is almost over. We only have a few more trips scheduled for fantastic ski vacations. Unfortunately, we have had a few injuries so far this season. Jackson Hole proved challenging to participants Chip Stokes who dislocated a shoulder, Charles Elliott who broke a hip and Nelson Turner who bruised an arm. The Steamboat trip escaped without any severe injuries but those on the Whistler trip weren't as fortunate. Joe Hale broke his ankle and Rich Cannata took a fall that caused a blood clot. All of us are wishing you speedy recoveries and looking forward to seeing you "back in the saddle again" next year. Take care and mend quickly.

Things are already heating up for next ski season. The TSC will be conducting their bid pre-selection the weekend of March 3<sup>rd</sup> and I'm looking forward to a sneak preview of what is to come at the TSC Bid Meeting in April. We encourage you to attend the TSC Bid Meeting that is held in San Antonio the weekend of April 6<sup>th</sup>. Anyone can attend and view the presentations from the various ski resorts bidding for the TSC trips in 2002. It is very informative and can be an entertaining process as well. It will give you first hand experience on the process of selecting the destinations for next year's TSC Ski Trips. Oh, and there is a big party on Saturday night too! Always a good time! If you are interested in joining your SCSC officers and giving us your input on where we should ski next year, contact Susan Blome, Jim Edwards or any one of your SCSC officers for additional information and a registration form. **WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU THERE!**

Don't forget, we will also be looking for creative and energetic volunteers to run our ski trips next year. It is never too early to let us know if you would be interested in the great and rewarding experience.

**SUPPORT YOUR SKI CLUB, VOLUNTEER TO RUN A TRIP OR ACTIVITY!**

**Join your SCSC friends in the  
Bad Blades Rollerblade Group  
every Sunday morning**

**9:00AM - workout skate  
10:00AM - social skate**

**Call to get the weekly meeting place  
281-498-8185  
Bikers welcome**



## Members: Be Considerate



When inquiring about trips or activities, please be considerate when contacting the TCs, ATCs or ACs. Volunteers give their phone numbers to the membership to aid in the promotion of the function, but **NO PHONE CALLS SHOULD BE MADE BEFORE 8:00 AM OR AFTER 10PM!** Also, if you call a work number, be respectful of their work time.

**Remember - for the latest ski club  
information, membership inquiries,  
and activities - call the**

**SPACE CITY SKI CLUB  
HOT LINE  
713-688-SCSC**

**or  
Visit our Web Page  
<http://www.spacecity.org>**

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## Space City Ski Club 2000-2001 Trip Schedule

Trip Dates	Nights/Ski Days	Trip Destination	Cost (See Notes)	Final Payment	Lodging	No. Skiers	Status Wait List	TC/ATC (DOT)	Home Phone
Mar 10-17, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/6	<b>VAIL</b> Colorado	\$999 L\$641	12/21/00	Condos	52 L-10	52/L10 (7)	Jessica Halter Linda Beebe (PGM)	281-364-9972 713-520-9850
Mar 17-24, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/6	<b>HEAVENLY I</b> Nevada (TSC Final Showdown)	\$740 L\$353	12/21/00	Hotel	64 L-12	64/L12	Curt Frisby Christine March (RJH)	713-807-0102 281-491-1129
Mar 24-31, 2001 (Sat-Sat)	7/6	<b>BIG MOUNTAIN</b> Montana	\$796 L\$387	12/11/00	Hotel	22 L-2	22/L2	Jeff Eastham (PGM)	281-261-1180
Mar 31-Apr 5 (Sat-Thurs)	4/3	<b>PANORAMA</b> Canada	\$677	1/8/01	Condos	32	32 (8)	Christie Burke Joanne Fore (PGM)	713-465-5644 713-723-4707

\*\* Notes: L=Land Package-excludes air; certain trips excludes ground transportation C=child Call TC about Child prices on Keystone trip.

Director of Trips  
Patti Maudslay (PGM)  
713-532-1610  
pgmaudslay@duke-energy.com

Vice President of Trips  
Jane Orr  
281-835-4673  
jiorr@msn.com

Director of Trips  
Roger Holzman (RJH)  
713-461-7604  
rogholzman@aol.com

?

### Where will we ski?


Texas Ski Council  
Ski Show & Bid Meeting  
San Antonio, TX  
April 6-8, 2000

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Interested in the process of deciding TSC destinations for the 2000/2001 ski season? The TSC Ski Show and Bid Meeting is in San Antonio the weekend of April 6-8 and is open to all SCSC members. TSC registration is \$45/ person before 3/15 and \$55 after 3/15.

Golf Tournament April 6th, \$99/person 4 person scramble. T-time 10:00 AM. Come join the fun.

For more information, please contact **Jim Edwards** – your TSC Council Representative – (281) 238-9392 or e-mail jledwards@attglobal.net.




**Debbie**  
DEBBIE ABADIE, CRS  
BROKER/PARTNER  
CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL SPECIALIST  
**KELLER WILLIAMS**  
REALTY  
713-664-6400

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Springtime has begun: the trees are budding, the azaleas are blossoming and St. Patrick's Day is here. For those who signed up for "Spring Skiing", we'll have lots of sunshine and "milder cold" weather. However, at SCSC's March meeting, its time for fun and games. That's our theme for the March 12<sup>th</sup> General Meeting at the Holiday Inn Select. Be sure to attend this fun event. In April, we'll have our annual Spring Style Show to keep you "in style" for the spring and summer months. Please contact Diane Stotz if you wish to participate in this event. In May we're planning an outrageous Follies "Rocky Mountain Picture Show". Its not too late to sign up for the Follies; call Peggy Montgomery, and we'll sure you'll have lots of fun.

## Upcoming Activities

Okay, you're not skiing, but want to do something. "You'll make new friends, and keep the old" as the saying goes. Right?! So free up your "work" schedule and sign up for your "fun" schedule. Karyl Lawson is coordinating our Spring Wine Tasting event on Saturday, March 31. Bring a bottle of wine, \$10.00 and an appetite (there will be food). If comedy is your idea of fun, Shirley Lang is coordinating a group to attend Radio Music Theater event on Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Want to get out of town for the weekend, call Cheryl Kinney so you can attend the Fredricksburg Weekend on April 20 -22. And if you want to forget the hot summer in Houston, please contact Diane McKenzie who is coordinating the spectacular Grand Canyon Rafting trip in July.

Upcoming activities in the planning stages are: Blues Night, a Rollerblade workshop (for both the coordinated and uncoordinated), and a golf tournament. If you haven't seen an activity that you would like to happen, give us a call, run an activity, and make it happen.

### SCSC Activity

#### *The Follies Needs YOU!*

This year's follies version of "Rocky Mountain Picture Show" is now underway. We need actors, actresses, dancers, singers, stage hands, prop builders, lighting installers, you name it. No talent required!! (We'll find the talent hidden within) Contact the Director, **Peggy Montgomery at 281-437-5467**. This promises to be the best follies ever.

### SCSC Activity

#### *Radio Music Theatre*

2623 Colquitt  
(near the corner of Richmond & K

featuring "Lou Tell A Big On  
April 27, 2001 - 8:00 PM  
\$17.00

Shirley Lang  
281-218-8515  
Final Payment: April 9, 2001



**Jessica Halter**  
281-364-9972

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## Activity Coordinators

Space City needs volunteers to plan and run various activities in the upcoming year.


If you have an activity that you would like to run,  
**Joe Walker** (281-489-0379 or joewalk@hal-pc.org)  
 or **Diane Stotz** (713-862-9486 or diane.stotz@ey.com)

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Activity Coordinator</i>	<i>Activity Date</i>	<i>Final Payment Date</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Spring SCSC Wine Tasting	Karyl Lawson 713-65-6815	March 31, 2001	March 23, 2001	\$10.00 & Wine
TSC Bid Mtg. San Antonio	Jim Edwards 281-238-9392	April 6-8, 2001		\$45 by by 3/15
Fredricksburg Weekend Outing	Cheryl Kenny 281-367-1778	April 20, 2001	March 12, 2001	\$110.00
Radio Music Theatre	Shirley Lang 281-218-8515	April 27, 2001	April 9, 2001	\$17.00
Grand Canyon Raft Trip	Diane McKenzie 281-471-5291	July 8-15, 2001	February 12, 2001	\$1,835.00



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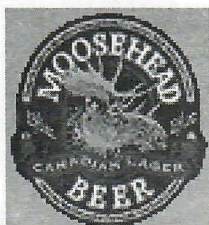
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## Nomination for President



**John Rice**

I joined SCSC way back in 1983, although there were an occasional lapse in my membership a couple of times. But I always came back to the fun and friendship that is SCSC. I met my wife, Kayleen, as a result of being a member of SCSC.

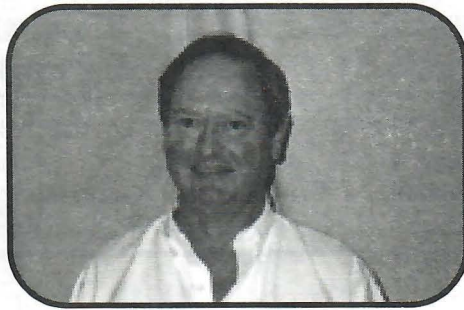
I was ATC for Snowmass in '86, TC for Breckenridge in '89, Director of Trips in '90, V.P. of Membership in '99, and currently a member of the Board of Directors. I have also volunteered to run our annual golf tournament a couple of times and always enjoy the many activities SCSC has to offer.

During my year as V.P. of Membership, I learned a great deal about the inner workings of this club. It takes a great deal of time and effort to keep this club running as smoothly as it does, but it has its rewards. My goals, as President of SCSC, are to keep up the outstanding leadership of this club and to help recruit new members.

In my real life, I have worked for Continental Airlines since 1986. No, I'm not a pilot, I work in Market Pricing at the headquarters downtown. When asked what I do at Continental, I like to say that what you pay is what I do.

I look forward to the challenge of the coming year, to keep our current membership strong as well as supply the leadership this club deserves. Thanks in advance for your support.

## Nomination for VP Programs



**Jerry Sadler**

I give many thanks to the nominating committee for providing me this opportunity to be considered by the club for the position of Vice President for Programs. I seek your vote at the March 12 meeting even though I will be absent that day while on the Vail trip.

Since joining SCSC in 1992 I have taken advantage of a wide range of SCSC activities as a participant and as a volunteer. I am looking forward to going on the Grand Canyon raft trip this coming summer. I assisted in the 1998 Follies and I was the producer of the 1999 Follies.

I have lived in Houston most of my life. My present day job involves work in and related to property management and the real estate industry. My non-SCSC interests include scuba, rollerblading, cooking, camping and archeology.

If elected, my goals for the coming year begin with accepting the challenge of building on the outstanding work of my predecessors in this office and end with providing a wide diversity of fun, non-ski programs and activities for you to take part in as a participant and as a volunteer activity leader. With your help, I will work hard and do my part in the leadership of your club for another successful year.

## Nomination for VP Publications



**Debbie Bergeron**

After joining Space City in 1983, I participated in many enjoyable activities and ski trips over the first few years, then began to discover what can happen when you decide to REALLY get involved with this great organization. I assisted with golf tournaments and coordinated a Style Show and Comedy Club Night, but it was in about 1988 while running a Road Rally for the Club, standing on the tailgate of our SUV giving out rules & guidelines to 80+ participants, that I experienced an actual metamorphosis that helped break me out of my introverted shell forever. Since that fateful day, I have served as ATC for the 1990 TSC Final Showdown at Heavenly Valley, was appointed Director of Trips in 1990, elected VP of Trips in 1991 and again in 1992, TSC Alternate Delegate in 1993, and TSC Delegate in 1994. In 1995, the SCSC Board approved my application to the Texas Ski Council, and I was elected TSC VP Fall Roundup in 1995 and TSC Secretary in 1996 and 1997. I have attended TSC Bid Meetings annually since 1990, have served on the SCSC Futures, Bylaws, and Nominating Committees, participated in and assisted with several Follies productions, and been both a contributor and supporter of the December Sunshine Kids auctions.

As TSC Secretary, one job responsibility was producing the TSC newsletter, which will be beneficial if elected as SCSC VP of Publications. In "real life," I am a legal secretary at a large downtown law firm and have worked in several areas of law over the past 20 years including Trial, Wills & Estates, Non-

Continued - page 10



## Nomination for VP Membership



**Sharon Smith**

Many of you know me, some may not. I have been a member of SCSC since 1989 but due to family commitments have not been very active the last couple of years. Now that I can, once again, be involved what better position to volunteer for than membership. Mom would always tell me after meetings "what a happy bunch of people they are" and I look forward to serving as your V.P. of Membership.

Since we are supposed to write a little bio, here goes. The short and sweet of it. As mentioned, Merrel and I joined the Club in 1989 with the purpose of going on ski trips and not worry with the planning. Little did we know that both of us would become so involved. It was not immediate, but we both enjoyed the Club so much, the decision to become active seemed right. It was easy to want to give a little back to something you like. Another benefit was meeting some great people. We have made some friendships that we know will be for a lifetime. I have been on numerous ski trips, AC, ATC, TC, Secretary during the 1994/95 ski season and TSC Representative 1995/96. I have been employed by Kuehne & Nagel, Inc. since 1978 and married to my wonderful husband since 1979.

Many dedicated people have held this position and done a wonderful job. It is always the hope of every V.P. of Membership to make more people aware of SCSC and increase our membership. I hope to fulfill the obligation to the best of my ability. I know I can handle the administrative portion, however it

Continued - page 10

## Nomination for VP Trips



**Patti Maudslay**

I have been an active member in Space City Ski Club for 7 years. When I joined I only wanted to go skiing. I had no idea how many wonderful people and friends I would meet or how much fun I would have.

I enjoyed the trips and activities so much that I started volunteering. I have run many activities including the Follies. My first experience as TC was Red River. That is when I was given the name "Ski Mom". It was a trip to remember. I was also TC on other memorable trips to Copper Mountain and Winter Park. Currently I am serving as one of your Director of Trips (DOT). It has been wonderful working with everyone this year and learning many new things.

All of this experience has given me a great background for Vice President of Trips. My full-time job has given me additional experience with organization, making travel arrangements, doing expense reports and learning computer skills.

I am excited to be nominated as your VP of Trips. I will work hard to bring you a great ski season for 2001/2002. This will give me another opportunity give something back to the club for all the great things it has given me. It will also be a challenge to continue the great work of the people before me. I am ready, willing, and able to do the best job I possibly can. I appreciate your support and confidence by nominating me as VP of Trips.

## Nomination for Secretary



**Lisa Smith**

I have been a member of Space City Ski Club for more than ten years. During that time, I've made a lot of great friends and participated in many great activities. I was the Assistant Trip Coordinator at the TSC Final Showdown at Mammoth, California in 1996, Activity Coordinator for the trail ride in 1997, and have assisted with many other activities including the Follies, Sunshine Kids barbecues, golf tournaments, sign-in desks, etc. I have been on numerous trips with the club and the Texas Ski Council, and feel fortunate to be involved with such a great organization that offers so many opportunities for enjoyable social activities and meeting new people. I feel certain that some of the friendships I have made will last a lifetime.

As for my qualifications for the position of Secretary, I have been a professional legal secretary for more than 20 years, and three years ago was instrumental in the start-up of a new law firm in Houston, Rosenthal & Osha L.L.P., an intellectual property firm of diverse ethnic background and language capabilities which specializes in the worldwide procurement of patents, trademarks and copyrights. We assist clients located all over the world over in obtaining intellectual property protection in the United States and in virtually every country in the industrialized world.

My work as a legal secretary and professional assistant on a day-to-day basis is highly detail-oriented with a strong emphasis on teamwork, and I feel these

Continued - page 10



## Nomination for Treasurer



**Sean O'Brien**

I would like to begin by thanking the Nominating Committee for the confidence they have placed in me by nominating me to succeed Marvin as the club's treasurer. As a TC on a trip this year, I have worked with Marvin and he has gone out of his way to make all money related issues as simple as possible. If elected, I hope to continue to do as good job as he has done.

In 1991, the company I work for relocated me from Massachusetts to Houston. When they wanted to get an office started in Houston, I apparently possessed two great qualifications (experience and single). Therefore, I was the perfect guy to move with little or no complications. While in Massachusetts, I fell in love with skiing and enjoyed skiing multiple times per year in New England. The number of times some friends and I would decide the night before to go skiing the next day, I cannot remember.

One thing I did miss about relocating to Houston was being so close to a number of ski slopes. It took several years after I moved to Houston for me to discover Space City. However, once I did it has been great. I am beginning my fifth year in the club and have been on ski trip each year since. I have had a great time on all of these trips and have made several great friends along the way. I am looking forward to more great trips in the future.

As far as qualifications for treasurer, last year, I was the ATC for Soll, Austria trip and have just recently served as the TC for the Cortina, Italy trip. I am not an accountant by trade but I am very good

### Sean O'Brien - Cont'd

with numbers and that has always been my strength. For the last two years, I have served as the Treasurer of the Texas Association of Single Sailors (TASS). Although the main passion of SCSC and TASS are significantly different (skiing versus sailing), the administrative aspects of operating both clubs are remarkably similar. I hope to bring the experience I have gained through working as a treasurer for another club to being the treasurer for SCSC. In conclusion, I promise to all members of the club that I will work hard and do my best.

### Debbie Bergeron - Cont'd

Profit, Real Estate, Corporate, and Oil & Gas law, so I have a strong background of being detail-oriented, meeting deadlines, and working individually and in a team environment to produce a quality work product.

The continued success of SCSC depends on members who are willing to commit their time and talents to our club. Serving SCSC can bring not only challenges and opportunities to grow as an individual, but also the chance to make some incredible, long-lasting friendships. I am proud to have received this year's nomination for VP of Publications and look forward to working with other officers and members and will be on the lookout for our future potential officers to start climbing up that SCSC ladder.

### Sharon Smith - Cont'd

generally takes more than one individual to solicit our Club and bring in new members. I am open to any suggestions and/or help to ensure that SCSC continues to grow. I will approach serving our Club with dedication and enthusiasm. Thank you for the opportunity.

### Lisa Smith - Cont'd

qualifications contribute to make me an excellent candidate for the position of Secretary of Space City Ski Club. I am willing to put in the time and effort necessary to perform this function to the best of my ability, and feel honored to accept this nomination. I look forward to the next year and being able to be a small part of the Club's continued success.

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## Full Moon Sail

by Richard Hall

Forty-five brave souls gathered at the Charter Dock of South Shore Harbor Hotel for a Full Moon Sail on the "Ultra," a 53' x 26' Tri-maran, owned and skippered by Captain Bill Harris and crewed by his lovely wife, Joann. We sailed at 6:10 PM out of the Harbor, heading for the Clear Lake Channel and Galveston Bay. It was cool, but not chilly and windy enough to do some great sailing.

The deck cabin was stocked with 6 party trays of caviar, cheeses, fruit, smoked oysters, smoked salmon, canned tuna, sardines, guacamole salad, with chips and crackers, champagne, beer, wine & soft drinks. There were some Pina Coladas, soft drinks and Margaritas left over from the prior charter and we graciously accepted that offering. **Jerry Sadler, Rebecca & Kerry Hagan, Pam Smith, Stan Broniak, Joe Walker, Mary Ann Harrell Nancy Steck and Skip Lang** secured the port cushions. **Dave Edwards, Kathleen English, Lynn Burch, Sharon Inman and Lucinda Moore** secured the starboard cushions. **Tim Morton, Richard Juday, Sean O'Brien, Linda Walters and Randy Robinson** alternated on bow watch. **Grace Allison, Martha Martin, Joanie Osborn, Billie Jean Nowak, Joan McClain, Marsha Lutz, Cindy Moore, Nancy Schultz, Barbara Tully Marianne Pearce Diane McKenzie and Ann Odegard** secured the deck cabin. **Concietta Ruggiero, Todd Riggle, Sandra Yee, Sam Cornelius, Walter & Lynn Hester Marsha Lutz, Joan McClain, Ellen Bush & Jeff Eastham** secured the stern and **Gene Soo, Mike & Nora Montgomery**, the upper deck.



When we exited the mouth of the Clear Lake Channel into Galveston Bay, the Captain reported the Wind was out of the east at 21 knots. We raised the Main Sail first and the Jib second. We never rigged the Spanker Sail. We turned 90 south and sailed towards Baycliff. The Full Moon came from behind the clouds and shown on the Bay. Then we turned 180 and sailed north about halfway to Red Bluff before turning back to Clear Lake Channel. The captain reported our best speed was 11 knots. The temperature was cool, but nice. The winds were great. The Ultra was a real pleasure. People brought tapes to play their favorite music. The food was great! The Guacamole went first, then the meat, then the cheese and condiments. The crackers were the slowest movers.

Some folks wore bare body suits and we all danced and sang as we sailed by the Kemah restaurants. On the way back to South Shore Harbor, we toured Watergate. Those are nice homes there! We returned to the dock at 10 PM. Billie Nowak had a dead battery, but we jumped her battery from my car and followed her to I-45 N at the Beltway 8. Thanks to Manolo Valle, my AAC. He was very helpful and gets full credit for the food and beverage. Sorry we missed the rest of you!

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## Carmen

by Dana Wardell

On Wednesday, November 8, 2000, thirty intrepid Space City Ski Clubbers braved the blustery, cold winds and torn up downtown streets to see the Houston Grand Opera's production of CARMEN. Before going to the Wortham Theatre, a group of us met at the downtown location of Kim Son, which is only a few blocks from the theatre. Among those eating at Kim Son were **Shirley Lang, Vicki Faulkner, Linda Licarione, Billie Nowak, Roberta and Ron Rambin, Chuck Holder, Gai-Lynn Marshall, Jose Araiyo, Joe Walker and date, Dorothy Miller and Marvin Volz, Kathy Young, Carolyn McGinnis, Dan Battarbee** and yours truly. The food was good and we had a great time visiting before going to the performance.

Joining the group at the Wortham were **Lotty Gautschi, Ann Odegard, Concietta Ruggiero, Tulin Sobay, Janet Pickell** with three of her friends, **Manolo Valle** and date, and **Maria and Paul Pavlik**. We had tickets in the Grand Tier and got to check out the new camera system they had just installed at the Wortham. You could watch the action on stage at close range via a couple of television monitors they had just mounted in the Grand Tier.

The singing was wonderful and the music familiar to some of us new opera aficionados since it is a very popular opera. All in all, it was a wonderful evening!





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