



# The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

Vol. 32 No. 2

JUNE 1999



MEMBER  
Texas Ski  
Council



June Meeting Dates:

**No General Meetings during the Summer**

Next meeting September 13th, 1999

**Happy Hour June 17th at Boogie Nights**

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The Sitzmarke is published monthly by the

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

Printed by

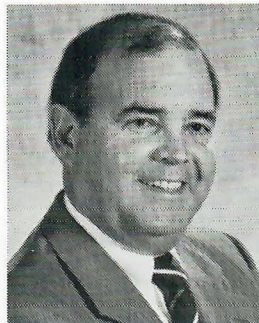
HOLLYPRO GRAPHICS

Volume 32, No 2

June, 1999

## Head of the Lifeline

by Richard Hall



Renew your membership! May's Sitzmarke had an application insert, and so does this one. All officers have applications. Just ask. This will be your last Sitzmarke if you do not renew. Send your application to John Rice. John's May 1 Golf Tournament was fun. Lucile & I played with two lovely ladies, Linda Guice & Sara Brown. Linda was a good putter and Sara hit some good shots with her gorilla driver.

Watch for these summer activities: Memorial Park Fun Run, Peer Gynt Ballet, Brazos Bend Bike Ride, Windsurfing, Bridge Party, "Grease" Miller Outdoor Theater (MOT), White Water Rafting, Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" MOT, Wine Tasting, Comets Basketball, and "No Business Like Show Business" MOT.

Well, did you attend the May Meeting, greet new members and guests and introduce them to your friends at the meeting? In my May column, I urged members to do this. If so, what were the results? How did you feel about the experience? Some people come to SCSC to meet new people. Some come to enjoy the events. Let's go out of our way to welcome them!

Do you have a favorite activity? Do you like to exercise your management skills? Stacy Ronczy and Kim Page are looking for activities for club members and Activity Coordinators. Kathy Young, Jane Orr and Arlen Isham are looking for Assistant Trip Coordinators. Contact them at the addresses and phone numbers to the left of this column.

It's been a year since John Weber died. He was a class guy. I'll see you at the Happy Hour, June 17, 1999.

### SCSC Activity

## June Happy Hour



6100 Richmond

*First drink free*

*Happy hour prices*

*Complimentary Buffet*

*Door prizes for SCSC members*

June 17th

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

713-781-6560



## Features

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14-15 .....	Alaska

**Don't forget to renew your membership.**

**Otherwise this is your last Sitzmarke!!**

**We would like to thank our meeting sponsors for the following donations:**

### May

1. Set of 4 C&W cassette tapes provided by Equilon via Susan Blome.
2. Minit Man Car Wash
3. Ski snow man - Sandra Mueller

**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.hic.net/scsc/scsc.html>

## CALENDAR

### June

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		

### June

- 12 ..... Predict Time 3 Mile Run  
 12 ..... Houston Ballet - Peer Gynt  
 19 ..... Brazos Bend Bike Ride  
 17 ..... Happy Hour - Boogie Nights

### July

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

### July

- 15 ..... Happy Hour - Wiedeman's Brew Haus  
 17 ..... Windsurfing  
 18 ..... Bridge Tournament  
 20 ..... "Grease"  
 20-26 ..... White Water Rafting

### August

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				

### August

- 7 ..... Wine Tasting  
 13 ..... "Shakespeares' Twelfth Night"  
 14 ..... Comets Basketball Game  
 19 ..... Happy Hour





Guess what??? I AM EXPECTING A BLESSED EVENT IN AUGUST. Now, that I have your attention.....

Yes, I am getting ready for single parenthood!! In about two more months, I will be mother to about thirteen exciting new ski trips for the 1999-2000 season. Of course, I jest when I say single parenthood because it doesn't just happen without hours of behind the scenes work and dedication by countless volunteers. By the time you read this, all TCs and ATCs will be in place busy securing the best lodging, airfares, and party locations as well as finalizing all the details that will make your 1999-2000 ski trips pleasurable. Giving birth to all these trips is hard work, but when you see our babies, we'll be so jubilant that we'll totally forget all the labor

Of course, my two DOTs, Uncle Arlen Isham and Aunt Jane Orr, will be assisting in delivery. I could not do this without assistance. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Arlen and Jane, as well as my TCs and ATCs and all the other volunteers for their time, commitment, and willingness to help the club.

Everyone is just so pregnant (pardon the pun) with great ideas that I am really looking forward to working with all of them this season.

Here is just a hint of what buns are in the oven. Some of the possible names that we have chosen for our prospective trip children are Vail, Telluride, and Banff to name a few. For Snowmass, the TSC Traditional, we are expecting triplets (three trips). The litter will also include Snowbird, Winter Park, little Red River, and hopefully a few surprise trips now in the works.

Don't forget to renew your membership this month so that you can participate in the mail-in sign up this August and stay tuned for the birth announcements. Have a great June.

## SCSC Activity

### Brazos Bend Bike Ride

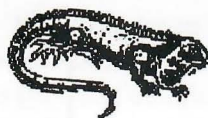


June 19th  
2:00 pm  
\$6:00

(Plus \$3:00 Park Permit payable at park entrance)

Twenty miles of hike and bike trails through one of Texas most scenic state parks, featuring wildlife, birds and plants. We will spend the the afternoon hiking and biking and have a picnic dinner in the evening.

Mel Tawney 713-784-9163  
mtawney@ix.netcom.com  
11250 Briar Forest; #210  
Houston, TX 77042



Final Payment: 6/7/99

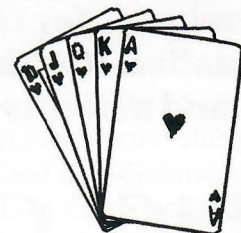
Adults Only

## SCSC Activity

### Bridge Tournament

*Sharpen your bridge skills and have  
fun doing it*

July 18th  
1:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
\$10.00



AC: Sara Green  
4238 Bayglen Ct.  
Houston, TX 77068  
Home: 281-5376056

Final Payment: 7/9/99

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# The Houston Marathon

by Cind Moore

On January seventeenth of this year 1999, just one year from the big 2000, 40 or 50 SCSC members participated in one of the biggest volunteer based activities in Houston, The Methodist Health Care sponsored Houston Marathon. Some of you remember it as the Tenneco marathon. This is a great volunteer activity, you not only are invited to a number of parties, but you get free T-shirts and other give aways. You learn about other groups in Houston that are into volunteering. It's fun, socially redeeming and not a lot of work. Shirley Lang and I were co-mile captains for mile 26. Cindy Moore was co-chairperson of the wall committee. Now how many of you know what that wall is? I bet VP of Trips Barb Ehrlich does - she was a runner, finishing with a most respectful time.

The duties of our volunteers were not spectacular, but important. We had to be responsible for our mile markers. At mile 25, Barry Norman held his position despite the tremendous urge to visit the HHHH and get beer, but he wasn't alone. Sherry Abplanalp also shared the duties watching beer procurement. The rest of us had to cheer and clap without any beer vitamins. All along the last mile, which ran down Lamar you could hear SCSC cheerers. We started out sort of organized but that doesn't always work. These SCSC people jumped in and helped wherever



they were needed. To name a few - Steve Teoh, Camille LaRoe, Craig Campbell, Sandy Cox, Dana Wardell, Jose Araujo, Jill Kovar, Lee Swords, and Gerry Simpson (he had to help an exhausted runner to a medical tent). This was our reason to be there, to help the runners and protect them. Continuing with our volunteers, Gunar Heyne, Christine Riseley, Stan "The Man" Broniak, and Pam Smith provided music right in the middle of our mile in front of Foleys. Rick Wasson, Karen LaVelle, Susan Faherty, Roger Holzman, Sean Obrien, Joe Quigley, Laura Frieson, Eddie Bayersdorfer, Linda Beebe, Sholeh Safaeian, Lee Swords, Karen Holt, Patti Maudslay, Mark Vela, Sandi Veala, Joe Walker, Joyce Bayersdorfer, and Markanne Pearce helped cheer on the runners. The year 2000 Marathon will be held in January. It's a great way to help the community, make SCSC more visible, and have fun.

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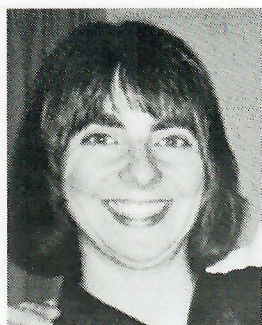
Hotline: 281-498-8185

or Susan Wicker for Schedules



## V. P. Programs

by Stacey Ronczy



Stacey Ronczy

It's that time of year! Time to thank all the volunteers from last year and time to coerce, or I mean ask, all of you who have never volunteered before to step forward! Ok, all of those that have volunteered before take one giant step forward too. We can always use an experienced hand to run an event, but there are many people who have not run an activity before who would be great at it. Some activities take a little more time than others do, but I am confident we can find one to fit your time budget. This club is what you, the membership, make out of it. So come give me ideas on activities and also help the club be what you want it to be by volunteering some of your time.



Kim Page

I want to thank **Jerry Sadler** and the numerous behind the scenes and in front of the scenes people that made the follies happen this year. Once again we have proved that there is nothing we won't spoof!

The volunteer party on the 23<sup>rd</sup> was a smashing success, yet again. **Linda Beebe, Jaima Grana, Cindy Moore**, and of course **Sue Salvage**, provided us volunteers with another peerless party! Just another PERK of being a volunteer, someone else throws you a party!

### Upcoming Events:

June 12 Predict your time fun run - Arlen Isham  
June 12 Attend the Ballet - Kay Mckeough  
June 17 Happy Hour - Boogie Nights  
June 19 Brazos Bend Bike Ride - Mel Tawney  
July 15 Happy Hour - Wiedeman's Brew Haus  
July 17 Learn to windsurf - Steve Jaeger  
July 18 Bridge Party - Sara Green  
July 20 Reminisce with Grease at Miller Outdoor Theater -  
Nora Montgomery  
July 20-26 White Water Rafting in Idaha - Bill Bomberger

Aug. 7 Bring Your Own Wine and a Guest - Joe Daleo  
Aug. 13 Miller Outdoor Theatre - Shakespeare's 12<sup>th</sup> Night -  
Dana Wardell  
Aug 14 Cheer on the Houston Comets - Joanne Fore  
Aug 19 Happy Hour  
Nov 5 Check out "There's no business like snow business"  
at Miller Outdoor - Nora Montgomery

### Events in the works:

Bowling, Paintball, 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala, Octoberfest,  
Balloontest in Alberquerque, Astros Baseball

## Superbowl Party

by Peggy Schillinger

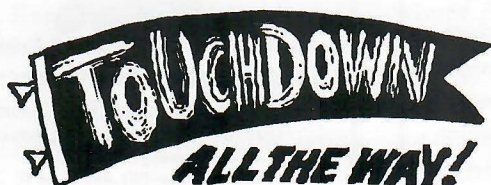
Nearly 45 people attended this years Superbowl Party where the Underdogs - Atlanta Falcons played the formidable Denver Broncos. It's not every activity where most partygoers arrived with their own chairs. Since there was a lack of "bleachers", this was the next best thing. The only problem - not everyone took their chairs back home with them.

**Sue Salvage** and **Steve Amy** saved the day and a lot of bucks, when they brought their own TV's - all three of them, plus loads of other useful stuff.

The only time partygoers were quiet was during the TV

commercials - and I'm sure that could be disputed!

**Dana Wardell** did a great job of supervising the football pool. The biggest winners of the night were **Kayleen** and **John Rice**, who had to be happy that the score did not change between the second and third quarters. **Susan Bloome** won the first quarter and **Dennis Stockton** will be spending lots of money after the forth quarter turned out well for him.



The Sitzmarke needs a photographer to take pictures at Ski Club events. If you would like to help with photography, please contact Darlene Hirasaki at 713-662-2946.



SCSC Activity

## Comets Basketball Game

2 Time WNBA Champions  
Going for a 3rd Championship!

*Comets vs. Minnesota Lynx*

August 14th  
2:30 pm  
\$16.00

Group dinner after the game

AC: Joanne Fore  
6018 Hummingbird  
Houston, TX 77096  
Home: 713-723-4707

Final Payment: August 6, 1999

Adults Only

SCSC Activity

## Predict Time 3 Mile Run

Predict how long you will take to run  
one loop of Memorial Park

First 5 to predict closest times win  
Food, Snacks, Awards  
Optional Breakfast at Bubba's after run

June 12th  
8:00 am - 9:30 am  
\$6.00

AC: Arlen Isham  
12803 Peoria Street  
Houston, TX 77015  
Home: 713-455-4858

Final Payment: June 1, 1999

Adults Only

SCSC Activity

## Houston Ballet

# Peer Gynt

Follow the adventures of a hot blooded young  
peasant as he travels the world, romancing many a young  
maid in the process.

June 12th  
7:30 p.m. @ the Brown Theater  
\$47.00

Optional Drinks After  
Performance

AC: KayMcKeough  
4025 Essex Lane  
Houston, TX 77027  
Home: 713-622-2715

Final Payment: May 17, 1999

Adults Only

SCSC Activity

## Wilderness Adventure Main Fork Salmon River Idaho White Water Rafting July 20 - 26, 1999



\$1611

(Limited Participation)

Full Package including Meals on the River

Deposit \$100 Cancellation \$50

AC: Bill Bomberger  
12119 Alston  
Meadows Place, TX 77477  
281-495-8668

w.bomberger@worldnet.att.net

Final Payment: May 17, 1999

3 Openings  
Available



SCSC Activity

## Beginner Windsurfing

**"It's just like skiing  
only wetter!"**

**July 17th  
11:00 am - 5:00 pm  
\$20.00**

**Includes Lunch**

**AC: Steve Jaeger  
8318 Polished Stone Circle  
Houston, TX 77095  
Home: 281-855-7630**

**Final Payment: July 1, 1999**



Adults Only

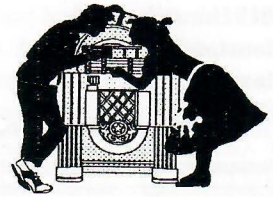
SCSC Activity

## "Grease"

**Miller Outdoor Theatre**

***Come Out and Relive the 50's!!  
Reserved Seats  
BYO Picnic Dinner/Drinks***

**July 20th  
7:30 pm - 11:00 pm  
Free**



**AC: Nora Montgomery  
Home: 281-282-0922**

Family Optional

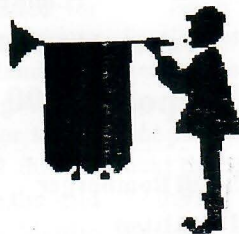
SCSC Activity

## "Twelfth Night"

**Miller Outdoor Theatre**

***Picnic on the lawn then  
enjoy Shakespeare's Twelfth Night***

**August 13th  
7:30 pm  
Free**



**Bring your own picnic  
dinner/drinks**

**AC: Dana Wardell  
Home: 281-497-8552**

Adults Only

SCSC Activity

## Wine Tasting Party

***Wine tasting  
Light hors d'oeuvres  
Bring a bottle of your favorite wine  
Bring a non-member at 1/2 price***

**August 7th  
7:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
\$10.00**



**AC: Joe Daleo  
5510 Cactus Forest  
Houston, TX 77088  
Home: 281-897-1727**

**Final Payment: July 22, 1999**

Adults Only



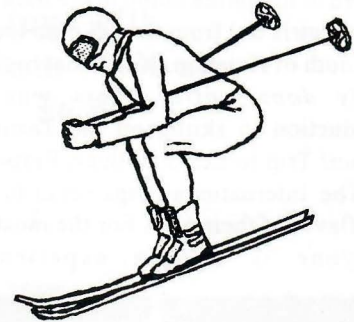
# TSC Delegates Report

by Jeff Sarff

The TSC finished its 1998-99 year in grand style -- as usual -- with the SkiBidFest which was held April 8-10th at the Holiday Inn Riverwalk in San Antonio. For those of you who have never attended, the annual "bid meeting" is as much a party as it is a business meeting, as the approximately 35 SCSC members who attended this year can attest. Our delegates this year included Susan Blome, Merrel Smith, Kathy Young, Barbara Ehrlich, Jim Edwards, Richard Hall and yours truly.

The principal order of business was to choose next year's TSC trips. The decisions this year were unusually difficult because of the many strong bids that were submitted, and after a long deliberation the final choices were as follows:

Fall Roundup	Snowbird/Alta, Utah	November 23-28
TSC Traditional	Snowmass, Colorado	January 8-15
Texas Expedition	Söll, Austria	January 28/29-February 5/6
Winter Shootout	Winter Park, Colorado	February 12-19
Final Showdown	Sun Valley, Idaho	March 11-18



The delegates also elected TSC officers for the upcoming year:

President	Anne Myers
VP Marketing	Karen Mann
Secretary	Sandy Ellison
Treasurer	<b>Gary Butler</b>
VP Fall Roundup	Tere Ayson
VP Traditional	Ray Harvey
VP Winter Shootout	James Mershon
VP Final Showdown	<b>Peggy Montgomery</b>
Expedition Coordinator	<b>Kayleen Kill</b>

As you can see, SCSC is well represented. **Gary Butler** and **Peggy Montgomery** are both returning for their second consecutive terms, and **Kayleen Kill** is new to her position.

Like everything else in the Council (and in SCSC), the bid meeting is run by volunteers, and it is a big undertaking. Between industry representatives, delegates and guests the attendance probably totaled close to 300. **Marti Toomer** chaired the Bid Meeting Committee this year. Other Committee members from SCSC included **Kayleen Kill** and **Nancy Sarff**. All three deserve our thanks for a job well done, as do the many other SCSC members who pitched in and helped with registration, security, the silent auction and all of the other facets of the meeting. A good time was had by all thanks to their hard work!!!

Before closing out my year as your TSC representative, let me urge all of you to become more active in SCSC and in the Texas Ski Council. The two organizations complement each other -- neither is as strong on its own as they are together. AND, both are completely dependent on volunteers, so please pitch in and help out whenever you can. This is one instance where each individual can make a huge difference!

## Texas Ski Council Sponsors 1998-1999



Don't forget to renew your membership now.  
You can not do early trip sign-up unless you are a member.  
Get on the trip you really want by renewing now!



# Les 3 Vallees, France

by George Flournoy and Barb Penkala

"I think we are right here" claimed **Barbara Brescian** as fellow skiers **John Brescian**, **Brent Mc Gibbon**, **Bill Bomberger**, **Don Ballentine** and **Robin Shaw**, eyed the stick man like French language map. Since the area in question covered the sum of all of the ski areas in Colorado it became important to know how to get home!!! Trips back to home base could cover two or three hours of the most scenic skiing imaginable. No one wanted to hitchhike home in the dark, like the two girls did from the ski club located just south of Houston. It was that big. *Size really does matter.* This was our introduction to skiing on the *Texas Ski Council Trip to Les 3 Vallees, France.*

The International trips seem to take on a flavor of their own. For the most part everyone is a very experienced,

"Deshabiea Tiou M a i n t n a n t" (Translation: Please, disrobe now). Roger was also seen wearing a sign. "Will sleep around for change, Merci Bon Coupe" Rumor has it that he ended up owing money.

So with this **EXPERIENCED** group of travelers

why did **Don Ballentine** get his luggage thrown off of the plane? And what about **Tommy Thompson** and **Patty Baker**? Tommy claimed that his boarding passes were HIJACKED prior to arriving at the gate. The gate attendant would not let



them board until the missing passes were found. So, the gate attendant performed a magic trick; she waved her magic wand over their ticket envelope and s o o o o ... t h e boarding passes m y s t e r i o u s l y appeared. Of course there is always the administrative snafu, so **Gene Soo**

**Alex Krawtzow**, a near first-time skier, went to Meribel for some good green runs to practice before taking a private lesson. Last heard, Alex may have twist i his knee – but the real skinny is that we think he just boogied too much. Speaking of injuries Ace Skier **Martha Davenport** tore her ACL on the upper part of a run. It



independent traveler. So half of the group left Houston with ATC **Barb Penkala** a few days prior to the main trip for some site seeing in Europe. **Gai Lynn Marshall**, **Nelson Messinger** and **Elizabeth Scarborough** headed for Lyon to dine in the finest restaurants and shop for silk, while the rest of the group headed for Paris. **Joe Walker** joined the Paris group from 8 days in Scotland, England and Holland. **Bruce and Marsha Kilgore** had been in Paris for a few days prior to our arrival, and they scoped out all the hot spots in town. They led a group to the wild performances at world famous Moulin Rouge and The Crazy Horse Saloon where **Bill Kirk** learned the meaning of detante as in de tante touch!!! **Brenda Reusser** helped us all in learning the French language, most of it not printable here. **Roger Holzman's** first French words were

a.k.a - Eugene Soo (official name) had to cunningly convince customs and immigration that he was not a notorious international crime figure since his is real name was not "Gene" but nevertheless, they still made him ship separately his trusty pocket knife.

**Sean O'Brian** is still upset for not getting both he and the Eiffel Tower in one picture. So Sean, next time try for the \$10.99 camera. Perhaps everything will fit in the viewfinder if you step up to a "big money camera". **Bill Spenny** was on a mission to get some





# Les 3 Vallees, France

by George Flournoy and Barb Penkala



is only speculative that after the accident **Denis Davenport** made her ski another 200 meters. Rumor aside, we are all glad that Heroine **Charlene Fleming** was along to assist with the skis and give aid and comfort. If any one should have received aid and comfort it was **Mike Fleming**. Both he and Charlene travel very lightly. These two are truly minimalists when it comes to luggage. So when half of the group's luggage did not arrive, guess whose luggage could not be found for an extra day. Never fails. Skiing with this group, the balance of the week, was no other than **Kurt Schidlowski** aka "The Goldslager Kid". Kurt brought his cousin from Munich along. Even though Cousin **Klaus Sterma** could not ski due to a leg injury, Kurt always managed to entice Klaus to supply and carry food up the mountain for lunch.



Both **Karen Schidlowski** and **Honey Sterma** quickly admit to being related to Kurt **ONLY BY MARRIAGE!!!**

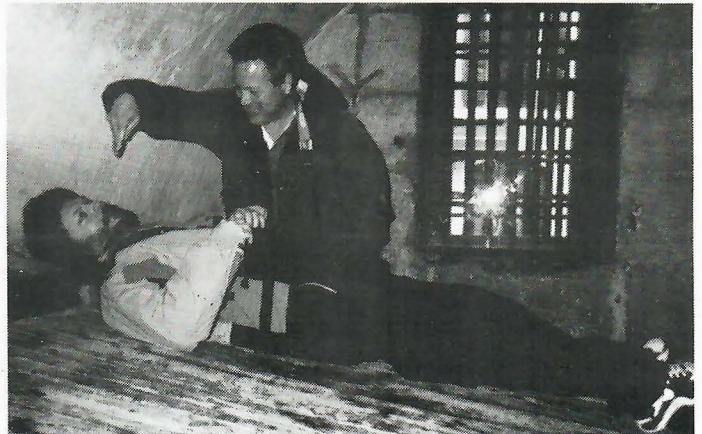
**Warren Schroeder** showed his true talent as a film maker....as in photographing every beautiful girl in sight. However, a beautiful policewoman challenged his camera talent on the streets of Lyon. So Warren, tell the truth, it really was the handcuffs that you liked, wasn't it? **Joe Kulpinsky** acted as the pathfinder in Brides delighting everyone with his uncanny ability to find great restaurants. New members **Sue Bean** and her cousin from California **Cathy Littell** joined the group for their inaugural SCSC trip.

What great new members!!! Just don't offer to carry their luggage!!! If there is ever an award for effervescence in this club it should go to **Carmen Mikhail** and **Gloria Lopez**. Throughout the trip they kept everyone entertained and informed. Trusting friends **Eric** and **Carol Timmreck** joined with these two world travelers to jointly gallivant around Paris together. None of the four admit to anything. Suspicious behavior at best!!!

**Linda Day** did indeed save the day by helping everyone with her wonderful extent of the French language. On the last day she told all of the weather hesitant skiers, that she spoke with a Frenchman who described the conditions on top as clear. She must have forgotten to translate the phrase "clear as mud". It was a good thing that **Margaret Walker** was along to take up for her!!!

The TSC hosted a great party ending at 2:00 a.m. Several trip members had to catch a three a.m. bus to Geneva. (Party straight to the bus).

But not **Paul Ginzburg** and **Olga Krivosheina** and the **Ryvkin's**, **Alex** and **Maria**, they were clever and departed early missing the festivities. One who did not miss the party was none other then **Anne Flournoy**. Formerly known by her alias as the "party puppy" after her continuous photo snapping at the party, with a broken nose, inflicted on the first run of the first



day, she is now known in France as **Les Catue "P"** or the four P's. AKA, "Pug, the Poperatzi Party Puppy".

A TC could never ask for a *finer group to travel with*. Thanks everyone..... **Juan Claude Jorge!!!**

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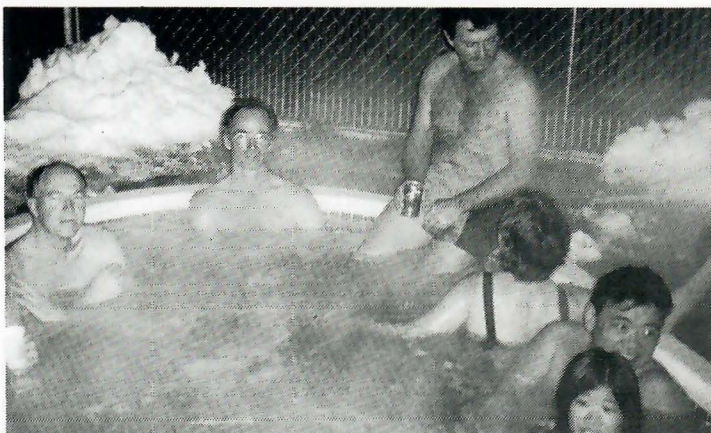
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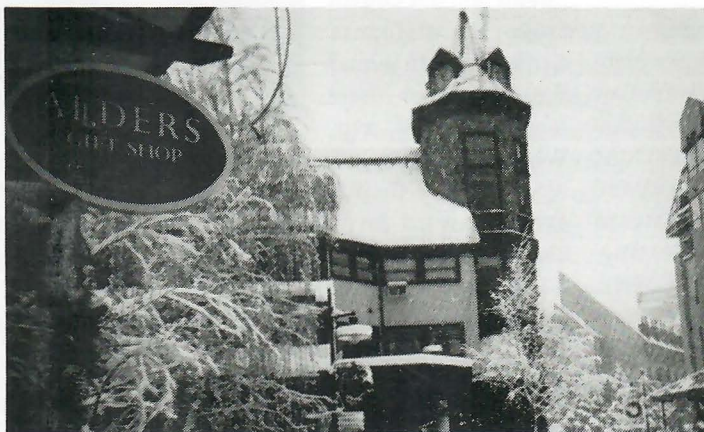




This past Christmas of '98 had become only a memory for the 41 participants who met at Intercontinental at 7:00AM on Saturday, the 26th of December, bound for a New Year in a friendly foreign fantasyland, Whistler, Canada. As this was a Space City family trip, the group included four children, and of the 37 others who claimed to be adults, some could have never proved it. We arrived late on Saturday to an 80-inch snow base, which at the time was more snow than anywhere in North America. The fresh snow began falling at daybreak as we awoke for our first full day, and continued nearly non-stop until the fifth day there. When it was discovered on the first morning that the local forecast was predicting such an enormous snowfall, **Barb Tuley, Marianne Pearce, and Jean Hoepful** were overheard trying to sell their lift-tickets! Dreadful reaction!

The serious dumping had other effects, such as causing our NASTAR race to be postponed by the local race attendants. They groomed the course at daybreak, only to have ten new inches by 10:00am. The race officials decided it was too dangerous for our novice skiers, all seven of the twenty who showed up. These conditions couldn't discourage the appearance of **Lou Kleinman, Rick Wasson, Ken Mach, Chuck Bridgeman, Willi Murski, David Cikvasvili, Jim and Patty Fitzpatrick, and Mike Biroski**. We all readily agreed a reschedule would have been the most logical course of action, knowing we were missing most of our

allow a gold medal to be won by the speedy **Chris Goll**, a silver to each of the nearly as quick **Mike Biroski** and **Jim Fitzpatrick**, and bronzes to the slower but sure-footed **Patty Fitzpatrick** and **Rick**



**Wasson**. Also racing, although missing medals by only scant minutes were **Judy Katany, David Cikvasvili, Kathy Young, Charles Bridgeman, and Lou K**.

And what is a Space City trip without a few awards? Clearly the award given for the most miles skied this week would have gone to **Brent Langford**, although a close second would have gone to **Susan Gaucher**, who spent an entire week doing a great job of staying up with him. Did anybody find out where they were going in such a rush, anyway?

The next award for the most distance covered while

elite racers anyway. Even the race director, **Steven Teoh**, and his hard working assistant, daughter **Jacqueline**, somehow took the wrong course and were listed as missing for the activity. By the time the race day arrived, the weather had improved enough to

standing on a snowboard goes to the helmeted and padded **Lee Swords**, who dressed 20, talked 30, and skied 40. This category had no runners-up. The award for taking care of a sick condo mate went to **Ron Schmidt** for taking care of **Willi M**. After Willi recuperated, they could be seen together in many of the local pubs. Now that's friendship! The final award, which was for skiing in total disguise, ended in a four-way tie: **Ron and Sharon Geedman**, daughter **Tanya Sherbin**, and **Andy Sloan**. They were so well masqueraded, no one except **Mary Kay Kitchens** or **Bill Whitehead** could recognize them on the slopes, or could claim to have skied with them. It was even said they could not even recognize each other. Is there any truth to any of this?

An unexpected thrill for **Rick W.** came mid-week at noon when what began as a routine gondola ride up from the base of Blackcomb in a nearly empty six person car turned into a shoulder to shoulder encounter with **Bill Murray** from *Saturday Night Live*!! What does one say during such an unexpected encounter on the way up to someone of such notoriety, you ask? "Mr. Ackroyd, you were great in all those films!" I exclaimed. "Well thank you, Mr. Starr!" he replied without hesitation. Well, I asked for that one! He was very polite, made a few jokes, and we talked about our favorite ski areas as we glided up the panoramic, tree-lined, Canadian Blackcomb Mountain. An hour later in the Horstman's Hut, a small 50-seat European style cabin near





# Whistler

by Rick Wasson

the top of Blackcomb Glacier, fellow skiers **Bob DeBell, Sandra McCunis, and Linda**

The Wednesday lunch for 25 of us on the mountain was a delightful grilled Salmon dinner with all the trimmings, white tablecloths, all with the glacier in full view for all to enjoy. The Whistler-Blackcomb staff did a fine job presenting this experience for us. This was a pleasant mid-week social event. I am proud to report that there were neither



Skinner spotted Mr. Murray eating lunch only a few feet from their table. They had just finished telling Rick W. that they did not believe his Starr story, but soon became convinced it was true. This was the planned Space City lunch meet-up, and these four were the only ones who showed up for lunch on this geologically correct Glacier. Maybe conditions made the journey up too rough for the others. At dinner in the Whistler Village one evening in the most Italian restaurant Canada has to offer, Jo Ann Jordan, Kathy Y., Jim and Patty F., Rick W., David C., and Sid Eaton not only spotted Bill Murray, but also ate twenty feet away from him for two hours. This seemed exciting for those of us who don't get out much.

This destination had something for everyone, including the non-skiers and children. Shirley DeBell, Randa Holasek and son Damon, Peter

MacDonald, Fran Kleinman, Ken M., Sandra Lehman, Sandra McCunis, Marianne P. and ATC Barb T. all boarded a van at daybreak on New Year's Eve to tour Vancouver and all the mountain-lined bays between there and Whistler Village. All those who shared this journey had many compliments for the natural beauty that the Canadian countryside presented.

injuries, nor losses of companions or luggage to report during the two plane rides up and returning. But an unnamed source did explain why we were held up at an airport checkpoint in Calgary on the return flight home. One of our Texans apparently forgot he was traveling with a *gun* in his carry-on, and the watchful eyes of the local authorities detected it. Not only was he detained, but also the whole crowd of passengers in line behind him was cleared back and closed off behind a locked door until this incident was cleared up. The airline people elected to allow the gun to remain in



the possession of the flight captain until departure in Houston. It was later explained that this weapon was only a plastic toy that belonged to Nat and Michael Margolis, although the father of the two, Lou K., was regularly seen playing cops and robbers with this pistol in Whistler Village!

By the time this article goes to press and finds its way to your mailbox, the shining spring sun in Houston will have all Space City members yearning for that next winter ski vacation, longing for all those white powdery first track breakfasts, and all the social happenings and unexpected events that a Space City ski trip is certain to provide.

## SCSC ANNUAL DATES

### Meetings:

Summer - No Meetings

September 13, 1999

October 11, 1999

November 8, 1999

December 13, 1999

January 17, 2000

February 21, 2000

March 13, 2000

April 10, 2000

May 8, 2000

### Happy Hours:

June 17, 1999

July 15, 1999

August 19, 1999

September 23, 1999

October 21, 1999

November 18, 1999

December 16, 1999

January 27, 2000

February 17, 2000

March 23, 2000

April 20, 2000

May 18, 2000

Subject to change, check your Sitzmarkes Monthly



# Alaska - The Great Land

by Nicky Minear

On March 20<sup>th</sup>, 43 SCSC members boarded a plane bound for "The Last Frontier". We arrived at Anchorage International Airport greeted by Ted Widmer (who had left Houston on Wednesday), our San Francisco participants **Susan Black** and **David Cikvasvili**, and Tim with The Magic Bus Company. We all headed for Alyeska



Resort in Girdwood for a week filled with fun, partying, skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, flight seeing, and any other exciting activities. Before boarding the buses we bid **Lynda Henry** and **Jim McLaughlin** adios until the next day. They opted to spend the night in Anchorage and rent a van. Shortly after checking in **Sue Behnke** managed to lose the screen from the window in her room! Some of our trip members were recipients of door prizes sent by the Alyeska Resort for our pre-trip party. The lucky people were **Sandra McCunis**, **Donna Berglund**, **Eugene Walker**, **Barbie Miller**, **Frank Stanley**, **Susan Wilson**, **Sue Rund**, and **Judy Katany**.

Sunday morning we were greeted by Lynn Glatz and staff from the Alyeska Resort at a buffet breakfast with news of everything there was for us to do. Those taking advantages of

the Flightseeing were **Gary Haley**, **Elaine Sokoloff**, **Rex Henderson**, **Bud and Susan Wilson**, **Joe Walker**, **Ann McIntyre**, and **Marsha and Bruce Kilgore**. Marsha, Bruce, Ann and Joe flew over the avalanche sight right after it happened. Others of the group hit the slopes or ventured around Girdwood. **Ray Davis** tried snowboarding at the Alyeska Day Lodge with **Bobbie Sellers** watching.

Monday brought the adventure of para-sailing. **Carol Buck** and **Ann McIntyre** used their skis with the guide steering them to safety. **Marsh Kilgore** came down sans skis. Marsha had done this in New Zealand The weather got too bad for anybody else to try this. **Elaine Sokoloff** and **Nicky Minear** hopped on the bus for an afternoon with **Todd and Brandy Haley** and baby **Nicholas** (Gary's son and daughter-in-law and grandson) in Anchorage. We managed to have some

wonderful halibut and salmon for lunch. Do ask Elaine about the Beanie Babies!

Tuesday morning we all boarded the buses for Seward and the Resurrection Bay excursion and toured the SeaLife Center with a stop at the Summit Lake Lodge for hot chocolate and pictures, then were stopped by the Alaskan

road crews while avalanche blasting was taking place. After the SeaLife Center some of the guys hit the bars while some of the gals went shopping. During our rough outing we were able to see Orca (killer) whales, sea lions, otters, and bald eagles. After the tour of the SeaLife Center some of the guys hit the bars and the gals went shopping. **Sue Behnke**, **Jay Rosel**, and **Lotty and Karl Gautschi** walked from the SeaLife Center to Ray's by the Water where the rest of us met them to enjoy dinner. Those not staying for dinner toured the Wildlife Center on their way back to Girdwood. We left **Bobbie Sellers**, **Terri Thomas**, and **Dan Conery** behind to hold up the fort for us.

Wednesday we were fortunate that **Norm and Sue Rund** allowed us to use their suite for our club party. Gary also rented the adjoining room so we could have enough room. Enjoying





# Alaska - The Great Land

by Nicky Minear

our imported (from Texas) goodies and partaking of fine beverages (including Tuaca compliments of Carol Buck) were Tim Malone, Maria Tramontin, Susan and Frank Stanley, Roger Holzman, Sherry Outlaw, Carolyn Burris, David George, Donna Berglund, Eugene Walker, Nancy Staples, Nancy Meier, Barbie and Jack Miller. Those of us who needed more



shoeing, and Nicky Minear made the awesome ride up the tram and checked the happenings at the top of the mountain. Later in the evening Susan and Bud Wilson, Nancy Meier, Elaine Sokoloff, Carolyn Burris, Sherry Outlaw and Nicky Minear all had dinner at the Double Musky getting out last

partying after the club party was over went downstairs to the hotel bar.

Thursday we finally got to go snowmobiling. Gary, Elaine, Nancy Meier, and Joe Daleo were the first group to go. Gary almost fell in the creek and Elaine ran into a rock instead of a tree. Nancy spent 15 minutes trying to learn how to ride a snowmobile before catching on. She has moved to Denver and will probably be able to use a snowmobile. Marsha, Bruce and Nicky went in the afternoon. Marsha and Nicky sank in the snow every time they had to get off their snow mobiles. Bruce managed to tip his over sideways. Nicky managed to run into the tree that Elaine missed! Eugene Walker decided to twist his knee so

was put on the injured list for the rest of the trip. He did join 23 of us at The Glacier Brewhouse for a tour and dinner but was in pain. Enjoying the Alaskan seafood were Pat Pease, Nancy Staples, Janet McKenzie, Tim Malone, Maria Tramontin, Sandra McCunis, Ted Widmer, Leona Schroeder, David George, Marsha and Bruce Kilgore, Barbie and Jack Miller. Some of the diehards (Gary, Rex, Maria, and Sandra) stayed in town and did a pub crawl to Humpy's and then dropped Ted Widmer at the airport for his long trek home.

Friday Elaine Sokoloff went dogmushing (racing), Joe Daleo, Susan Stanley, and Carol Buck went snow

taste of the wonderful Alaskan seafood. Lotty and Karl Gautschi, Jim McLaughlin, Lynda Henry, David Cikvasvili and Susan Black dined on the top of the mountain. Eugene Walker had a visit from some of the visiting nurses with our group - Janet McKenzie, Leona Schroeder, and Sherry Outlaw. Most of the group - Roger Holzman, Joe Walker, Ann McIntyre, Carolyn Burris, Joe Daleo, Carol Buck, Nancy Meier, Gary Haley, Tim Malone, Maria Tramontin, and Sandra McCunis spent the rest of the evening in the hotel bar dancing and partying until the wee hours. Sue and Norm Rund, and Judy Katany headed back to Houston so they could be fresh on Monday morning.

Saturday Lynda Henry and Jim McLaughlin headed to Denali and the rest of us headed for a day in Anchorage for shopping, sightseeing, and watching the basketball games on TV. We left behind Tim Malone, Maria Tramontin, Sandra McCunis, Terri Thomas, and Dan Conery at Alyeska to ski and relax. Nancy Staples and Eugene Walker stayed behind because they were sick. We bid our San Francisco participants David Cikvasvili and Susan Black good bye in Seattle and headed the rest of the way home tired with wonderful memories.

SCSC Activity

## "There's No Business Like Snow Business"

Miller Outdoor Theatre

November 5th

7:30 pm - 11:00 pm

Free

Jazz Version of Tchaikovsky's

Nutcracker

Featuring Swing & Tap

BYO Picnic Dinner/Drinks

Lawn Seating

AC: Nora Montgomery

Home: 281-282-0922

Family Optional

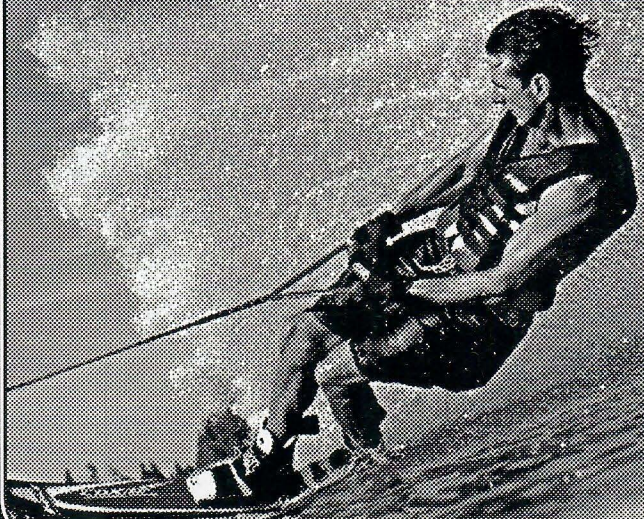


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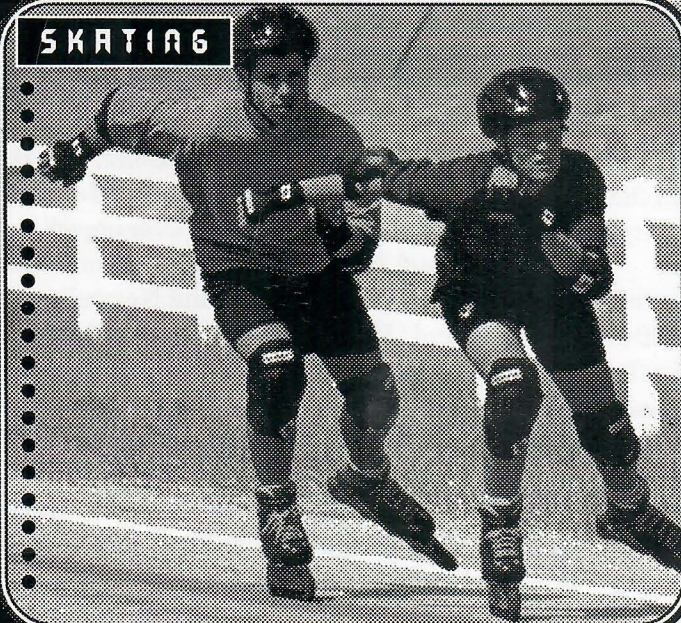
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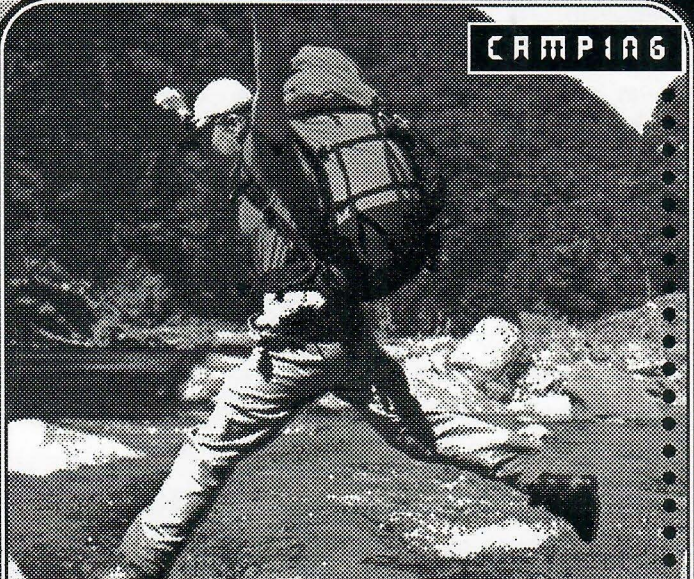
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