



Sitzmarke

may, 1979



1979 - 1980 space city ski club

ski meeting

★ MONDAY ★ MAY 14 ★ 7:30 P.M.

Sonny Look's SirLoin Restaurant

So. Loop W. at So. Main

SHOW YOUR 1978-1979 MEMBERSHIP CARD AT THE DOOR

HELP!

SCSCers, we need your help! Attendance at our meetings is great but our PARKING SPACE IS LIMITED. Please park in Sonny Look's lot only. The security guard is on duty only during the meeting period. Don't leave your car on the lot after meetings. Most of you go home with a friend; so car-pool to the meetings and help us with the parking problems.

note:

sitzmarke contributors

- (1) Articles must be typewritten, double spaced.
- (2) Pictures should accompany written article; however, if not possible, may be turned in approximately 7 days after copy.
- (3) Black and white pictures are preferred for clearer printing.
- (4) Pictures must be identified on the back. If the persons in the picture are not identified, the picture, as good as it might be, will not be used. Please mail to:

Beth Nolen
11002 Hammerly, No. 194
Houston, Texas 77043

membership
renewal
due
now!



membership status

as of April 30, 1979
Membership Total.....1,400

sitzmarke deadlines

- June 14, 1979
- July 19, 1979
- August 15, 1979

1979 - 1980 OFFICERS

Keith Eastin.....	461-6855 (O)
President	
Easy Thayer.....	1-297-3606 (H)
Vice President - Trips	
Tom Mercer.....	663-2137 (O)
Vice President - Programs	
Tiny Aitken.....	780-4780 (H)
Vice President - Membership	
Beth Nolen.....	468-4268 (H)
Vice President - Publications	
Sheryl Rogers.....	467-0569 (H)
Secretary	
Craig Meyer.....	621-5594 (H)
Treasurer	

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Current Officers

Bob Allgeier, Chairman

Judy Allen	Sy Liebergot
Shirley Andries	Mary K. Nicholson
Jim Benefield	Bob Olson
Cynthia Lackey	Jim Plummer
	Gene Turboff

SITZMARKE STAFF

PUBLISHER	Space City Ski Club
EDITOR	Beth Nolen
ADVERTISING	Beth Nolen
	Morna Simon
	Linda Licarione
CONTRIBUTORS	Lorraine Reicherzer
	Arty Allen
	Thelda Craven
	Margie Fanette
COVER PHOTOGRAPH	Carl Gilson

MONTHLY FEATURES

Head of the Liftline	Keith Eastin
Spotlight	Vicki Schmid
POTpourri	Jan Livingston

The Sitzmarke is published monthly by the
SPACE CITY SKI CLUB
Volume 12, Number 1 May, 1979

head of the liftline



by Keith Eastin

The new year for the Club has begun. On behalf of the membership, I would like to thank this past year's officers for their excellent job. It is not often that one can have the pleasure of working with such a dedicated group, all serving without pay.

I am confident that the new officers will be able to serve the membership with this same dedication.

The only possible problems I see in the new officer corps involve **Thayer** and **Mercer**, and I pledge my utmost to keep them in line.

On a more serious note, **Easy Thayer** has tentatively arranged a schedule of twelve trips for the 1979-1980 season, including a return to scenic Sun Valley, Texas Ski Week at Winter Park, as well as visits to our usual popular Colorado spots. If any of you would like to help with trips — either running one or acting as an assistant — Easy will welcome your call.

Tom Mercer is planning an ambitious program of non-skiing events and has assured me that there will be




"some surprises" at the Summer Bash. The Bash will be held July 28 at the palacious Regal Ranch somewhere north of the Mexican Border.

We are a volunteer organization and all of our activities are organized and run by members who have donated their time. Grumbling has been heard in the past about "cliques" in the Club and "in groups" and "out groups." I do not intend to use this column to bore the membership with any arguments as to whether or not such groups exist or, if so, what can be done about them. I do believe, however, that on close examination if any such groups do exist, they are composed of members who have volunteered and are involved in the running of the Club activities. (Therefore, if you would like to be a

member of a "clique", just volunteer!) In the past year alone, over 250 members have volunteered to help in one capacity or another. You are urged to fill in the "committee" section of your membership renewal form or, if you have an interest in a particular activity, call the individual on page two of the **sitzmarke** having responsibility for that activity. If you would like to become more involved in the Club, you need only volunteer — and this is the time of the year to do so.

• **Reminder of the Month:** Our annual canoe trip on the Guadalupe River will be June 8, 9 and 10. We will fly to New Orleans for horse racing and other diversions on July 14 and 15. Sign up at the May meeting for either of these events.



Shines on.

- Continental disco for dancing
- Backgammon for conversation
- Tantalizing hot hors d'oeuvres in the early evening

- Attitude adjustment hour from 3 till 9
- Live entertainment most Mondays
- Movement, mingle, the goodtimes place

Cooter's...
just south of the Galleria
5164 Richmond Ave. Houston/961-7494

A S P E N

Two



by Lorraine Reicherzer & Arty Allen

February 24th dawned and 43 eager SCSCers collided with the "Mad Bomber" (**Warren Redmond**) in Denver to schuss on to Aspen. Despite the 205 mile bus trip, everyone had a great time — drinking, and drinking, and drinking, and occasionally a little dancing in the aisle. We were blessed with a super bus driver, Kenny, who had come well prepared with a little C&W music and a gift to us of a gallon of wine.

Ken Anderson had asked prior to the trip would there be any problems with meeting the other participants since he and wife, **Betty** were new to the Club. He was advised that after spending five hours on the bus with everyone, he could rest assured there would be no strangers.

It was nice having **Deb Serangeli** back in the SCSC fold ... welcome back, Deb! And, thanks for introducing - **Jayne White** to us and to skiing. She should be hell on wheels with poles!

Sy Liebergot and his honking pole (*this IS NOT a Polish joke!*) were everywhere.

Gail Cathey was new to skiing but unfortunately didn't get much of a chance to find out how much fun she was missing. She strained her knee the first day in lessons and that was it for the week. Well, almost. There's more than one way to come down the mountain, as she demonstrated in the "trash bag" races during the Snowmass picnic. Singles "trash bag" races were more

competitive than "mixed doubles" but certainly not as much fun! **Dale Hutchinson** and **George Hirasaki** were our winning couple. **Bob Willbanks** and **Sandra McCunis** finished the race several races later.

Sandra Palmer found a new way to use her plastic money — the local emergency room. However, at least she had brought along a good nurse. Even if **Ron Smith** did miss a couple of days skiing while playing nursemaid, his spirits were there.

Bob Copple, **Bill Barr**, **Ann McGown**, **Stan Kuper**, **Linda Read**, **Margaret** and **Stan McDonald** and **Lanette Shepherd** all enjoyed the Cloud 9 picnic and ski patrol exhibition. Several wanted to know how to sign up for next year's show. While Margaret and Stan McDonald were romanticizing about a prior Aspen picnic, Stan Kuper was on his own cloud all week.

Sue Bohnert whipped up a few

dozen eggs for about 35 hungry skiers, while **Rocky Schwartz** did a beautiful job as head waiter. **Margaret Norris** somehow ended up with KP duty. Thanks!

Arty asked for volunteers to help with grocery shopping, but **Dale Hutchinson**, don't you think cruising Main Street in a grocery cart at midnight is a little overreacting???

Is it really true that **Ken Anderson** had a birthday while on the trip or was this just a new way to get free dessert at dinner?

Bob Fried, **Butch Webre**, **Paul Whelchel** and **Bob Willbanks** cook a mean pot of chili. Did anyone ever see Butch without a boda full of Irish Coffee?

Max Langley treated **Linda McDuffie** to a birthday dinner at the Copper Kettle. We think he was trying to bribe her into disposing of her jaunty red cap.



LEFT: **Bob Copple**, **Sy Liebergot**, **Arty Allen**, **Stan Kuper**, **Max Langley** and **George Hirasaki** — wine, cheese, and ski show at Cloud 9, Highlands. RIGHT: **Bob Fried**, **Arty Allen**, **Tania Andrasko**, **Sue Bohnert**, **Butch Webre**, and **Ron Smith** at Highlands.



"Hirasaki's Last Stand" at post-trip party.

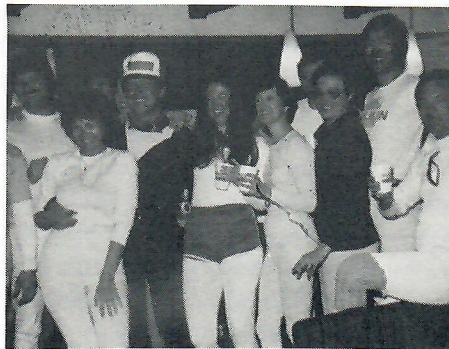
George Hirasaki added a few more battle ribbons to his screaming yellow parka, but then lost the battle to Sy and his scissors at the post-trip party. Rocky, George, and Bob Fried had a super day catting the backside of Ajax. Powder! Powder! Powder!

Tania Andrasko, Sy Liebergot, Ken Anderson, Cliff Zapfel, and Arty Allen set out on a search party on Snowmass, looking for their TC who had somehow gotten lost in the woods ... by herself!

We did pretty well in NASTAR at Highlands. Sy Liebergot won a bronze; Bob Copple won a silver; and Cliff Zapfel won a bronze.

Joe Armstrong, Gary Sliger, Steve Hopson and Rale Gideon, better known to our group as the Blues Brothers, left their mark everywhere, even on several pairs of longjohns at the body painting party.

Betty Anderson, looking charming and so chic in her pink longjohns posed for before and after pictures. What a derriere!!!

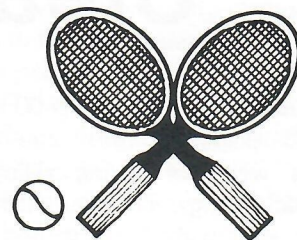


A little kinky? Not really, attest Stan Kuper, Lorriane Reicherzer, "Local Disbeliever", Sue Bohnert, Betty Anderson, Ken Anderson, Gail Cathey, George Hirasaki and Bob Fried.

The photographer from Snowmass declared he had never seen such crazy people ... riding trash bags of all things. Was he ever surprised to find out that everyone wears only longjohns to a longjohn party!

George and Donna Abdo, Peggy and Richard Karam, Suzie Matthews, and Bill Bokovoy enjoyed a quiet (?) scenic ride back to Denver, while Kruse Gribble tried to catch some shut-eye back in the combat zone! Let that be a lesson ... never sit near the beer cooler. You may get to be a bartender. Right, Rale?

A good time was had by all. We have several new converts who can't wait to get back next year.



Tennis Anyone?

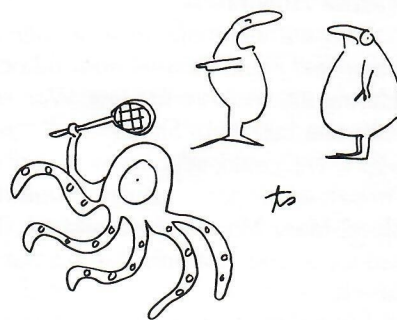
Contact

Bob Tripp
to join the
CSC Tennis Roster.

811 Heathcliff Court
Houston, Texas 77024

Home: 467-0569

Office: 236-7643



"FOOTFAULT! He's got too many of them."

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB FOLLIES



"You're a Good Skier, Charlie Brown" MAY GENERAL MEETING

Curtain Time: 8:15 P.M.

Featuring the varied talents of SCSC Members

Layna Adams, Coordinator

Steamboat Springs II

by Thelda Craven

Sunday, March 18 at 8:00 a.m. found 36 skiers on their way to a gorgeous week of spring skiing in Steamboat Springs. Trip was off to an excellent start with Continental's on-time departure and provisions for breakfast, although the pilot created the first alarm with his "good news — bad news" as we approached Denver. Good news for those SCSCers in that much snow was being received in Colorado, but bad news in that he wasn't sure we could land in Denver. After a bit of holding time we did get on the ground, only to find that the most important part of our baggage had not been delivered with the rest — two ice chests containing the Bloody Mary's and Screwdrivers for the bus ride. Continental did come through and found those as well as **Martha Huebel's** skis.

So we were off on what our bus driver said could be a six hour ride considering the snow conditions. With that, everyone started hitting the drinks before we could even stop to get ice. Those who got **George Sanford's** Blood Mary Mix #5 were wishing they had ice to cool not only the mix but the mouth.

It seemed that we had a very sedate crew on board the bus: **Carolyn Lowrie** tried to get a party going but to no avail, although she did get along famously with the bus driver?? **Gerald Davis** finally got things going with his joke-telling ... and joke telling, and joke telling!! Never knew anyone who could tell jokes nonstop for so long and then say he was saving some for the return trip.

Monday was great with plenty of snow and sunshine, although **Randy Allen** managed to ski 10 minutes too long and on his first day ever on the slopes, broke his leg and spent the next couple of days in the hospital. **Roger Fisher** — couldn't you be a better den mother than that?

Jay Mulligan was amused as he saw **Frank Riesenberger** along with **David Warren** being led by **Ed Chambliss** on a stroll through the woods. Frank says he will never follow Ed again and David, why were you hugging that tree? There was something

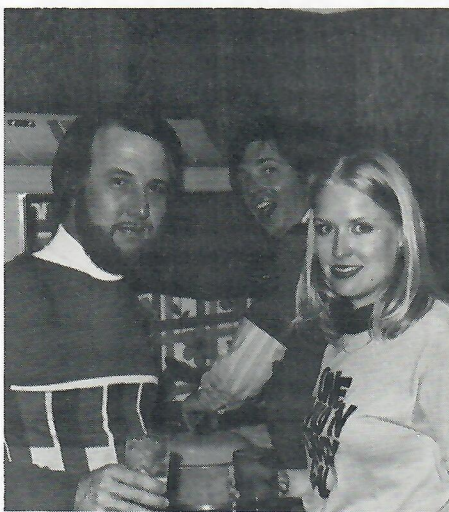
very appealing about the trees — seems that **Carlyne Kelley**, while trying to give a ski lesson to **Linda Lechliden**, fell off a catwalk and also found herself in the trees.

Kathleen Young, how do you explain your statement of never having been so terrified, in so much pain, so exhausted, and having so much fun in all your life? Was that all ski-related or did **Ryan Morris** have something to do with it?

Did anyone ever solve the mystery of how the snow bank managed to be in front of **George Sanford** and **Jim Smith's** door when they returned from skiing?

While **Don Roper** was out meeting Billy Kidd and getting Larry Mahan's autograph, **Bob Dillon** was making his film debut, although he did share top billing with our TC **Thelda Craven**. **Norma Stone's** "sit and slide" method of getting down "Big Meadow" seemed to be quite popular as several others, including **Susan Siegel** and **Sherri Warren**, adopted it.

Wednesday night everyone enjoyed the culinary talents of ATC George with his delicious spaghetti and meat sauce dinner along with **David Warren's** fantastic Bananas Foster.



Ed Chambliss and Carolyn Lowrie awaiting "Chef" George Sanford's Spaghetti Surprise.

After dinner **Jim Smith** and **Charles Lechliden** caught on very quickly to the

technique of spoon-hanging as taught by **Carolyn Lowrie**.



ABOVE: George Sanford, John Erb, Judy Hutton and Martha Huebel living it up at the wine and cheese party. BELOW: Is this any way to race NASTAR? Thelda Craven, Clif Currin, Carlyne and "Kelley", and David Warren.



It wouldn't be an SCSC trip without a train race, right? So, after the NASTAR race and wine and cheese party on the slope Thursday, three trains were seen choo-chooing down the hill. The race was won by the expert train racers **John Erb**, **Judy Hutton**, **Martha Huebel**, **George Sanford**, **Jim Smith** and **Courtney Bryan**. However, no one seemed to master the "leap frog" routine quite like **David Warren** and **Ed Chambliss**. But then it did take them many falls and almost a week of practice. In preparation for the Thursday NASTAR race a make-shift course was set up which of course could never have been recognized as that, but that

may have helped our race results. For the total trip two silvers (**David Warren** and **Ed Chambliss**) and nine bronzes (**Clif Currin**, **George Sanford**, **Ed Chambliss**, **David Warren** and **Thelda Craven**) were taken.

Cecile Roeger and **Stella Heuschke** really got into the cross country skiing, spending most of the week with it. Is there something y'all aren't telling? **Jeanne Masey**, couldn't you find out on your day out with them?

Carolyn, did you request any more songs as suggested by George after "Rub Your Neck and Body All Over My Face" by Buffet? **Ralph and Courtney Bryan**, what were you doing those mornings you weren't on the slopes? **Thelda**, what is your recipe for yellow snow?

Friday night's sleigh ride was quite a success, although those sitting in the

front could have done without the horses' making the mountain more Texan. **Chris Bahm** and **Jack Bub** enjoyed all the Houstonians at Steamboat — even a couple who weren't on the trip! **Deb Montgomery** and **Frank Riesenberger** were very instructive in the heated pool after skiing on the hand squirt (water, of course) with **Jim Smith** completely attentive.

The enjoyment of the NASTAR race may have been questionable for **Michele Hughen** but wasn't winning the championship Hearts game worth the price, Michele? Speaking of paying the price, when's your next NASTAR race, **Chris Lacke**?

Gerald Davis put the finishing touches on his trip Friday when **Beverly** joined him and they were married. **Bud Dealy**, don't you think you could be more creative in your excuses for an

evening in?

Jim "Kelley" Kelley thought it appropriate that the official trip turkey award be presented to **Randy Allen** for his sterling skiing performance and on the return bus trip he was presented with his official turkey hat and champagne.



Official Trip Turkey.

Snow conditions couldn't have been better. If only the week hadn't had to end. But there's always next year and some were already making plans for that.

More on Our 1979-80 Officers



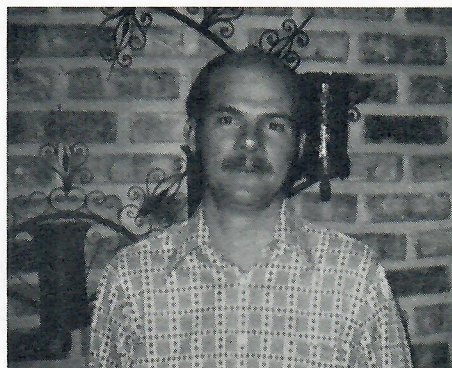
SHERYL ROGERS

Sheryl Rogers has been a member of Space City since moving to Houston from Kansas City four years ago, where she was a member of the Kansas City Ski Club.

Sheryl has been on five SCSC trips. She served as ATC on the Jackson Hole trip in 1978, and as TC of the Park City trip this year and has participated in many other SCSC activities.

She has adapted to the Texas lifestyle, loves camping, canoeing, bicycling and tennis. She feels SCSC is a rather unique club to offer such a variety of outdoor activities along with excellent ski trips, and she looks forward to serving as next year's secretary.

Professionally, Sheryl is a dress buyer for a chain of specialty stores here in Texas.

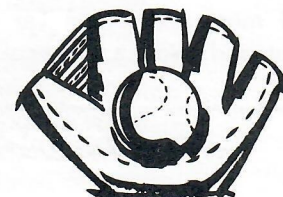


CRAIG MEYER

Craig has been an active member of the Club since 1974, serving as Trip Director under the office of the Treasurer, and Trip Chairman on last year's Vail Spring Trip. He has gone on ski trips to Salt Lake City, Steamboat Springs and Crested Butte.

One of Craig's other interests is entertaining SCSC members at his Bald Eagle Bar.

As Treasurer next year, he is looking forward to working with the new officers and serving the membership of SCSC.



**BREAK OUT
YOUR
GLOVES & BATS!**

**SUMMER
SOFTBALL**

**Every Sunday
beginning May 6**

Bering Field

Woodway at Bering

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

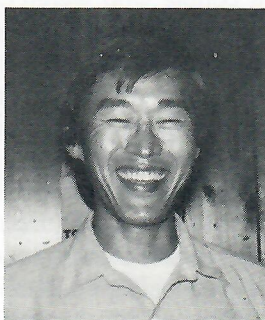
\$1.50 Beverage Fee

Meet the 1979-1980 sitzmarke Staff...

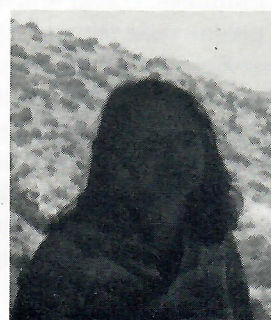
Beth Nolen, Editor



George Hirasaki



Linda Licarione



Vicki Schmid



Morna Simon

EDITOR'S NOTE: The staff of this year's **sitzmarke** is eager to provide the membership with an informative, high-quality publication. In order to attain the most satisfying variety of ads, articles, and activity coverage, we encourage the cooperation of all interested or concerned members. We welcome your requests, recommendations, complaints, and literary and/or pictorial contributions.

Vicki Schmid, who will be writing articles on members for **Spotlight**, has been in the Club two years. Her first trip with SCSC was tubing down the Guadalupe and is still one of her best memories. Vicki works in the graphics department of Shell Oil Co. The type of work fascinates her, but she loves vacations to go new places.

After more than ten years of membership in Space City, **George Hirasaki** is a stranger to very few. He has skied more areas than we have room to list, and enjoys a variety of hob-

bies (some of which most of us have never heard of). But photography being one of them, George has been chosen to act as next year's official **sitzmarke** photographer. If anything is happening worthy of filming, invite George and his camera.

Morna Simon is completing her second year of Club membership by utilizing her degree in music to act as music coordinator for the Spring Follies. In addition to participating in last year's Follies and summer softball, she has taken ski trips to Vail and Salt Lake

City. As a member of this year's **sitzmarke** staff, she will be repeating her last year's duties of recruiting clients for advertising revenue. If any of you know of someone or some place that wants publicity, call Morna!

Employed by the Department of Energy, **Linda Licarione** audits oil companies. She travels quite a bit with her work and last year went to Ruidosa with SCSC. It was her first year in the Club and she flavored it assisting the Club on the audit committee. Linda will be in charge of invoicing advertisers in the **sitzmarke**.

An SCSC

WHITE WATER EXPERIENCE

JUNE 8, 9, 10

Canoe, Raft, or Kayak the Guadalupe River

A midnight, moonlight raft ride from Greune Crossing after dancing.

Entertainment by **DON, GARY AND "SHADOW"**

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Address: _____ Apt. No. _____ Zip _____

Phone Number: (Home) _____ (Office) _____

\$79.00 — FULL AMOUNT DUE

Limited to 36 People

Volunteer Appreciation Party

Saturday, May 19, 1979 • 7:30 P.M.

Layna Adams	Colleen Fitzgerald	Bruce Maughs	Lanette Shepherd
Tiny Aitken	Tom Fitzpatrick	Joe Mayeux	Denise Sherman
Arty Allen	Jim Franz	Marcia McElravy	Maxine Silverman
Judy Allen	Harry Gaston	Rick McFarland	Morna Simon
Leona Allen	Carl Gautschi	Jim McIntyre	Allan Simpson
Bob Allgeier	Lotty Gautschi	Sam McKnight	Jim Smith
Jacque Anderson	Marilyn Geller	Pat McLaughlan	Ron Smith
Shirley Andries	Chris Ginn	Tom Mercer	Sandy Palmer
Joe Assad	Jan Livingston	Craig Meyer	Patricia Sowa
Jim Baker	Mo Granda	Darwin Miller	Linda Steele
Margaret Ballenger	Don Greene	Andrea Miller	Judy Steinkamp
Graham Barnes	Sharon Griffin	Jeff Miller	Ellie Stern
Jane Barnes	Nancy (Ainsworth) Gross	Jan Mouche	Ronald Stevenson
Bill Barr	Steve Gucker	Debbie Mylius	Dennis Stockton
Dorothy Bell	Jim Guild	Michael Neff	Judy Stuckey
Anne Benefield	Gerry Hagerman	Mary Neff	Sandra Swackhamer
Jim Benefield	Merlyn Harger	Roy Nice	Theresa Sweeris
Donna Berglund	Dave Hargett	Mary K. Nicholson	Ed Taylor
Gail Bitterman	R. J. Hartberger	Beth Nolen	Rozelle Teplitsky
Sue Bohnert	Bill Haskins	Margaret Norris	John "Easy" Thayer
Lee Bollinger	Jim Heald	Ralph Norton	Karol (Klopp) Thayer
John Boynton	Jim Hendrix	Bille Nowak	Grace Trapolino
Claudette Brandon	George Hirasaki	Bob Olsen	Duff Trimble
Bill Brooks	Eric Holm	Bobbett (Cross) Olsen	Bob Tripp
Lynn Burch	Shirley Holm	Bill Owens	Sheryl Rogers
Linda Calderera	Ron Honefenger	Tricia Page	Ray Tully
Art Camero	Martha Huebel	Bill Penick	Gene Turboff
John Cameron	Mike Hughes	Bob Petner	Bruce Turner
Billy Carter	Gil Igo	Janet Pickell	Bev Underwood
Larry Casey	Cindy Igo	Bill Pipes	Merrilyn Vernon
Betsy Chalmers	Janice Jamail	Ann Pipes	Colette Wagh
Ed Chambliss	Rebecca Johnson	Jim Plummer	David Walter
Penny Chancey	Jerry Kearby	Richard Prestridge	Linda Weathers
Jerry Chiles	Jane Kearby	Holli Pretti	Jo Anne Weaver
Robert Chramosta	Jim Kelley	Jerry Pyle	Texas Tim Webb
Russ Coffman	Carlyne Kelley	Gail Quenneville	Merriam Webster
Judy Combs	John Kelly	Carol Ragan	Pat Webster
Wayne Cook	JoAnn Kerr	Susan Rehder	Jim Weiskopf
Jane Cook	Spencer King	Lorraine Reicherzer	Margaret Weiskopf
Ann Cornish	Joyce (Jenkins) King	Dave Reitze	Peggy Widaman
Joe Cotrone	Lida Kinser	Joseph Reventas	Ted Widmer
Thelda Craven	Barry Kumins	Shelly Richardson	Penny Wiggins
Fran Crawford	Don Lackey	Frank Riesenberg	Brant Williams
Linda Crawford	Cynthia Lackey	Linda Ross	Debbie Willis
Bill DeLaGarza	Max Langley	Rhonda Ross	Gerald Wilson
Ken Dominy	Linda McDuffie	Jane Russell	Sondra Kay Wilson
Bill Doolittle	Bert Lary	George Sanford	Christine Winn
Marjean Doucette	Sy Liebergot	Mary Jane Schmidt	Bruce Woolley
Charles Dutton	Tania Andrasko	Vicki Schmid	Nancy Worst
Keith Eastin	Carolyn Lowrie	Lucinda Schoppe	Diane Yarberry
Bill Eldridge	Ellie Lynch	Steve Schoppe	Cliff Zapfel
Margie Fanette	John MacDonald	Leona Schroeder	Joe Zuback
Hank Faulkner	Linda MacFarland	Lou Schultz	Spring Follies Cast & Crew
Beverly Fecel	Bob Marwin	Mary Scotty	May Workers
Stan Ferguson	Marty Matras	Vicki Shafer	

If your name was accidentally omitted, please contact the officer for whom you worked.

the evolution of the ski binding

From toe straps to plate binds — the age-old quest for ski safety

The first ski bindings were a simple form of leather straps which buckled over the toe of the boot. A skier slipped his toes in and out, and nothing really held his foot firmly to the skis.

As skiing progressed, there was a need for better stability at higher speeds. Long leather thongs, wrapped repeatedly around the ankle and back through the ski, combined with a fixed metal toe-piece, offered the ultimate in control. Unfortunately, such bindings were tough to get into. It took a long time to wrap each ankle with up to eight feet of leather strapping. Also, they were impossible to get out of in case of a fall. This "bear trap" binding helped to give the "broken leg" image to skiing.

The cable style of bindings evolved next, possibly due to military influences. The ski troupes needed a binding which was easier and quicker to get into and out of, and metal cables which passed around the heel of the boot helped make this possible.

Better ski boots eventually eliminated the need for ankle support, formerly provided by the long thongs, so cable bindings represented a great leap forward in skiing. The negative side of the plain cable was that the new ski bindings would not release in a fall; therefore, it also broke legs.

As the popularity of skiing increased, so did the number of leg fractures. These injuries pointed out the need for some type of "release binding." The early attempts at developing release bindings were crude in comparison to today's bindings. The first types released only by twisting off at the toe.

Such bindings generally incorporated some type of toe-piece which could swivel and would, usually — but not always — "release" the skier from the ski. There is no question that these first release bindings helped to prevent many injuries.

One of the next stages in binding evolution was a safety heel cable, which would release the boot heel upward during a severe forward fall. This feature, combined with the twist release at the toe, expanded the protection available to skiers in this era by then giv-

ing them two directions of release.

A still newer binding combined a fixed toe-piece which opened up for a sideways release at the toe and a heel unit which broke upward to let loose the heel. Similar to the cable release bindings, these "step-ins" were much more convenient to use and they did work more consistently than the front release cable bindings. The new breed of binding eliminated much of the "forward pressure" caused by cables, which frequently prevented toe release due to their in-line tension.

Many of the "step-in" models required special metal toe and heel adaptors to be permanently affixed to the ski boots with screws. Many still do. Because they tended to be slippery, these metal brackets were hazardous when skiers walked on hard surfaces. They did, however, provide more consistent release due to the metal-to-metal contact.

Most early models of step-in bindings required notching and/or the grinding off of the corners on the toe of the boot, or some other form of ski boot modification to make the boot compatible with the particular make of binding. In fact, to this date, one of the primary problems with many step-in models is boot/binding incompatibility. Unless some modification is performed on the boot, the binding will not always release properly. According to many of the accepted authorities on modern ski bindings, these modifications are extremely important if most step-in bindings are to function without fail at all times.

In spite of these problems, the step-in style of binding reduced injuries in comparison to the earlier types, and "step-ins" have dominated ski binding design for the past decade or more.

In recent years, one of the persons most knowledgeable about ski bindings, Gordon Lipe, often referred to as the "Ralph Nader of the ski business," decided there were still far too many ski-oriented injuries. Several years of investigating actual injuries and studying different makes of bindings, coupled with modern test procedures, convinced Lipe that the number one

causes of injuries involving modern step-in bindings was *friction* between the boot and the surface of the ski.

In the classic forward, slow-twisting fall, the major portion of the skier's weight is on the ball of his foot. This weight generates tremendous friction between the sole of the boot and the top surface of the ski or foot pad. Sometimes this friction is great enough to totally prevent lateral release at the toe. In other words, even though the binding was designed to release sideways at the toe, friction between the bottom of the boot and the top surface of the ski was often so great that the boot could not slip off to allow the binding a quick release.

The result was continued injuries.

Pinpointing friction as the villain spurred the design and production of anti-friction devices. A few designs, such as the Lipe slider, were developed for universal adaption to most types of step-in bindings and did reduce friction-caused injuries substantially. Certain binding manufacturers designed their own devices to be used exclusively with their particular product. Some were mechanical devices, others simple Teflon or plastic skid pads. All were designed to help reduce friction and most of them did aid in further reducing ski injuries.

However, professional ski shops were still being plagued with the problems of boot/binding incompatibility and necessary modifications to insure that various step-in styles worked satisfactorily with the many different ski boots available. Step-in bindings generally depend on the rigidity of the boot sole to function properly. Because of the wide variety of materials used in boot soles and their various types of construction, different bindings tended to function differently with different boots, thus creating another incompatibility problem.

Also, most conventional step-in bindings still only released in two directions. Sideways at the toe and upward at the heel. As such, these "step-ins" were unable to recognize injury causing forces in directions other than up at the

heel or laterally at the toe, or combinations of the two. Thus, while safer than the bear-trap or cable release bindings, the step-ins were still causing many leg injuries.

The next, and obviously the most significant, breakthrough in the evolution of ski bindings was the "sole-plate" concept. Sole-plate bindings are the fastest growing type of release system today, and there are a number of good reasons for their great success in so short a time.

There are already a wide variety of brands using the sole-plate method of release, and many producers of step-in bindings are presently working on their own types of sole-plates in preparation for coming demand.

Today, many manufacturers feel the future of ski bindings may lie with the sole-plate concept, and in a short time the step-in binding will probably fade into history like the bear-trap binding and cable binding before it.

Most sole-plate systems eliminate the problems of step-in bindings. As mentioned, step-in bindings depend in part on the shape and the rigidity of the boot sole to function properly. The sole-plate concept totally avoids this interdependence between the boot and binding. The plate does not bend or compress or vary in shape as many boot soles do. The condition of the boot (whether or not there is dirt and gravel imbedded in the sole) has no effect on the release function of the sole-plate binding. Consequently, the release functions of sole-plate systems are usually more constant — and therefore more reliable — than conventional step-ins.

When a fall occurs and the binding releases, the plate remains attached to the boot. To ski again, the skier simply steps onto the ski, engaging the plate back into position. On most plate systems, no boot modification of any kind is required and no plates or attachments need to be mounted on the boots. The sole plates may be repeatedly refitted to different boot brands or sizes without removing screws or remounting the binding.

It is important that sole-plate bindings do not rest directly on the ski surface, but instead are supported on the ski at two or three points of contact made of Teflon or other plastic with

minimum frictional properties. In the case of the Besser binding, the sole plates are raised from the ski so that less than 2 percent of the surface area is in contact with the anti-friction plates. The result is controlled friction, especially when compared to conventional step-ins where a much higher percentage of the boot sole actually contacts the ski, or binding platform.

Conventional step-ins, which offer only sideways releases at the toe and upward releases at the heel, also can be classed as fixed pivot bindings; i.e., because they must release laterally at the toe, they must always pivot at the heel.

When the fixed pivot point is at the heel and the weight is forward, as in the most common forward twisting falls, the toe of the boot must slide sideways across the ski in order to release. But the friction between the boot and the ski and between the boot and the toe unit can hold the boot onto the ski for a split second, thereby transmitting all of the twisting force of the fall to the leg and resulting in injury. The toe piece of the binding cannot feel the injury-causing twist because of this friction. Only in a backward twisting fall, when the boot rotates over the pivot point, is the general step-in binding able to recognize the injury-producing forces and release properly.

To demonstrate this to yourself, have a friend stand on a hard floor on just one foot and place all his weight on the ball of that foot — lifting his heel off the floor. Take his shoe in your two hands at the toe and heel and twist his shoe on the floor. You'll find you are able to rotate his foot quite easily despite the weight. Now, try to push his shoe sideways at the ball of the foot and you'll find it very, very difficult. You can reverse this test by weighting the heel and have the same result. It is easy for the foot to rotate as long as the weight is directly on the point of rotation.

The ideal release binding, therefore, constantly shifts the pivot point to the place of weight and rotation, virtually eliminating the role of friction and allowing lateral release at either the toe or heel. Thus, the binding can quickly respond to abnormal forces from any direction and break loose before the leg is injured.

For example, the Besser plate

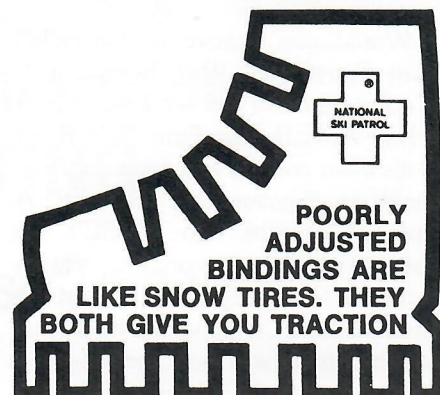
binding has a floating or infinite pivot point, which constantly changes according to the skier's stance and eliminates fixed points of friction. Such a "floating pivot" thereby enables a broader range of release than the basic fixed pivot of most "step-in" bindings.

If the skier is weighted heavily at the ball of his foot, when a release becomes necessary, he will pivot on the ball of his foot and release sideways at his heel. If he is weighted heavily at the heel, when a release becomes necessary he will pivot on his heel and release sideways at the toe.

Fixed pivot bindings may also sacrifice other angles of release (i.e., *deceleration shock absorption, deceleration release and some lateral shear angles*). Take the case of sudden deceleration. Most binding experts agree that when a skier jams a ski tip into a mogul, or hits an unexpected obstacle, deceleration release can prevent an injury. A certain percentage of ski injuries occur when bindings will not respond to a "shear" force, such as a forward lateral collision with an obstacle or another skier. The typical sole-plate binding releases when encountering a lateral "shear" force, but fixed pivot systems cannot release sideways in the area of their pivot.

Remember, no one can accurately predict what direction of force will be levered by the ski in an unexpected tumble. During any sudden fall, a good release system must recognize all directions of force and protect the leg from any of them.

Since the goal of "fixed pivots" (*eliminating inadvertent release*) has now been accomplished by the plate binding system, and because the design offers other advantages, it would appear that the sole-plate may well be the ski safety binding of the future.



Re:MARKES



BY AND
ABOUT
OUR
PEOPLE

• CONGRATULATIONS TO:

• **Dale and Sue Allbritton** on the birth of a 7 lb. 14 oz. daughter, **April Leigh**, on Monday, March 26.

• **Dave and Darlene Hargett** on the arrival of their son, **Eric**, born on Friday, April, 20.

• **Joe Cotrone** and **Sue Long** who were married on Saturday, April 28.

On April 19, the Houston area was deluged with heavy rains and many of the streets and freeways were flooded, leaving homeward bound motorists marooned. Fortunately for those stranded in the southwest Montrose area, SCSC's community-minded **Don Greene**, proprietor of the conveniently located Whitewater Experience (canoe rental) used his equipment to assist in rescue efforts and donated canoes to otherwise immobile parties in exchange for their driver's licenses. Our hat's off to you, Don!

Some people have all the breaks. But that's not necessarily advantageous, is it **Penny Wiggins**? Two breaks in as many years (*a leg in Europe, and now an arm in Canada*) has got to be a record. We know you have a hard head, Penny, (*that's what broke your arm??*), but maybe your luck would change if you'd stay in the States!

Would you believe a chili called "Trash Can Chili?" Well, believe it...-that's the name of the winning chili of the Bay Area Refuse Firm (B.A.R.F.) and it's even cooked in a trash can (*lined with an 8 gallon cast iron pot*). A couple of months ago, SCSC's **Sy Liebergot** was asked to organize a team to compete in a chili cookoff held at the Johnson Space Center where he works. The competition was local, limited to 22 teams made up of his fellow workers.

SUMMER OF '79

"Coming Attractions"

- Summer Softball
- Guadalupe Canoe Trip
- Bike & Hike
- New Orleans Horseraces
- Summer Bash - Regal Ranch
- Hilltop Herb Farm
- Bridge Party
- Western Dance
- Big Bend Raft Trip

Volunteers are needed. Call **TOM MERCER**.

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One of the BARF team members, **Conley Perry**, automatically became the head cook when he came up with a great recipe which was subsequently "honed" by fellow team members. All this resulted in BARF winning first place in the chili competition and another first for best music. Yes, folks, BARF even has a band called the Trash Can 5 (TC5).

Encouraged by all this, BARF entered the 8th Annual Houston Chili Cookoff three weeks later and out of 105 teams, managed to finish in the top 10 in showmanship along with a ninth

place trophy for their Trash Can Chili. SCSC members **Ron Smith, Sandy Palmer, Dave Reitze, Graham Barnes, JoAnn Kerr, Jim Plummer, Theresa Sweeris, Carolyn Lowrie, Easy Thayer** and **Karol (Klopp) Thayer** were all in evidence at the BARF cooksite.

BARF has found a sponsor, Jason's, and plans to enter at least two more cookoffs. Onward to Terlingua! We hope Sy's wife, **Tania Andrasko**, is up to all this.

Few years will offer a second chance at seeing an annual event, but such was the case for Buffalo Bayou '79. Rained out on its original date in April, most of the events were reset for Sunday, May 6. Hope the opportunity didn't pass you by to witness this Tenth Annual Reeking Regatta. Thanks for a job well done to Regatta Chairman, **Carl Gilson** and **Don Greene** of The Whitewater Experience. Watch for it again next year.



Sy Liebergot at the opening of BARF cooksite.

PARK CITY, UTAH

3.2 COUNTRY

by Margie Fanette

*In Utah liquor is sold by the Mormons you see,
And in 3.2 beer they really believe!
Quite a burden it put on the thirty of us,
As we are accustomed to much more gust.
But during the week we did prevail,
A wonder some of us didn't end up in jail.
You see, Rick, our assistant trip chairman,
Served "spruce trees", who knows what was in 'em.
We only know that Bob Davis on the next day,
Attacked every spruce that got in his way.
Speaking of trees, Rick, 20th Century has called,
Asking for my film of the tree you did maul.
Perhaps you are destined for fame and glory,
But let's forget that and get on with our story.
Rumor has it that four on our trip were from Galveston way
But, they never made it to 328, I think it is purely hearsay.
But I can sympathize as Becky and I were constantly accused,
Of never skiing, only showing for the parties and the booze.
Back on the slopes I understand Jupiter was the place,
If you traversed (Bob and Sheryl) you were in disgrace.
In the injury category we did not lack,
As Cary forgot she was supposed to tack.
She wrenched her ankle and knee quite severe,
And ended her first ski trip with a limp and a tear.
Now, Ginnie, an experienced nurse,
Found chairlifts, as a specialty, her worst.
She broke her ankle while ascending,
And spent the rest of the week mending.
On Friday we all gathered for wine and cheese,
With the Virginia Ski Club if you please.
We started a snowball fight to get some action,
It is a wonder we did not all end up in traction.
You see Peter was packing them harder than most,
And Virginia seceded unhappy with the Texas folks.
Not all were unhappy with our southern hospitality,
Frank, I understand you rescued some ladies with a jalopy.
You aided them back to Salt Lake City at 2:00 A.M.
Next to be seen asleep standing up at 3:00 P.M.
Now most of us skied all week long,
Larry, you ran into your instructor, head-on?
I almost forgot the night spot we found --
The Silver King Club, like no other around!
The favorite song played by the band,
Was "YMCA" which was acted out by hand.
A lot more happened and I could procede,
But the best thing was the snow that we skied.
If you've never skied Utah, light powder you've not seen,
Thanks Sheryl and Rick, your trip was really keen.*



Becky Hamerick, Bob Morris, Peter Hamilton and Bob Tripp.



The Injured: Ginny Walker and Cary McDonald.



Carol Weise, Peter Hamilton, Bob Morris, Ken Moredock, and Bob Copple.

by Vicki Schmid



Sue Bohnert

Sue has a B.S. from the University of Houston and is the Accounting

Manager of HERCO, an accomplishment with which she is quite pleased, considering that she is only 28 years old. She admittedly likes her reward, the money, but also obtains her motivation from the challenge of the work involved. Since an accounting career has not fulfilled her personal goals, Sue expressed a desire to eventually become involved in clothing or fashion design, possibly some day owning her own boutique.

Space City's 1978 Aspen Traditional ski trip was Sue's first experience with the sport and being on the adventurous side, she really got into it. This year on the Aspen II trip in February she was going to the top of the mountains and skiing with the club's old-timers. Practice must have made perfect, since this year she has also skied Montana and Steamboat Springs.

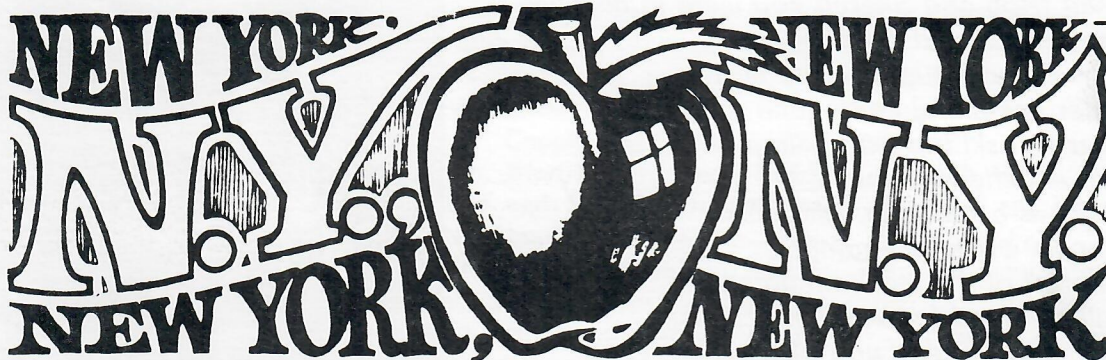
Activities with Space City Ski Club will almost always include this exuberant member. Pre-trip parties, bashes, camp-outs just wouldn't be the same without Sue. She says it's the two-legged sports that she thinks are the most fun. Was she talking about softball

or dancing in the Follies? It was last year's experience with the Follies that brings moans in Sue's voice. Seems the cast met at the Galleria Roof before the show for some instant stage fright remover and by the time she went on — well, I think she had to be told later of her performance.

Sue was a Liftiliner for the Club this year, an assignment truly easy and natural for her. If you haven't met her personally, you've probably seen her throwing her arms around someone as a greeting. What a way to make someone feel welcome and accepted. It's because she cares.

Having once thought of entering the field of psychology as a career, Sue developed her own ways of figuring someone out. It's the eyes, she says, and actions, that let you know what's behind a person. Sincerity — that's what she's looking for. And what, Sue, do you look for in a man? Honest eyes and a nice kiss.

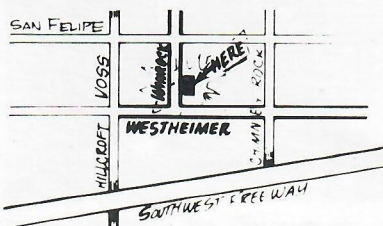
When asked what further comments she had, Sue answered, unabashedly, and with her recognizable laugh, "*Is there a male in the audience?*"



PIZZERIA and SALOON

KEITH EASTIN, PROPRIETOR

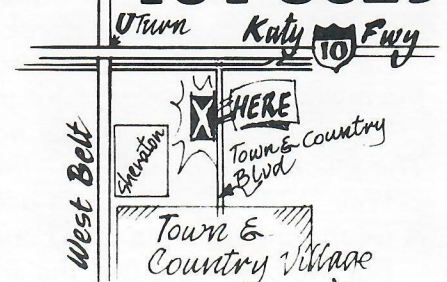
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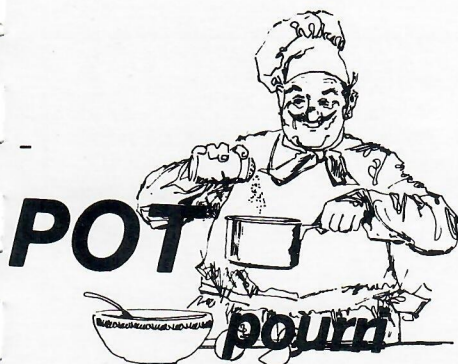


464-8629



901 Town & County Blvd.

(Behind Sheraton Hotel)



by Jan Livingston

It is very easy to debate which restaurant in Houston serves the best Mexican food. Likewise, it is easy to spend hours extolling the virtues of the "perfect" Margarita. Being from a border town (Brownsville) has exposed me to culinary delights and cooking methods that you will not find in your local Monterey House.

A recent visit to my favorite Mexican food establishment, **Spanish Village**, was just as consistently good as the first time I went there five years ago. Spanish Village, 4720 Almeda, is located just outside of the downtown area, close to the Med Center. A pleasant patio atmosphere is a welcome change from the numerous fast food chains that serve the standard orange grease for enchiladas.

The decor of the "Village" is what you might call "electric mexicano." Strands of Christmas lights provide a fiesta atmosphere, and fresh roses (in season) adorn the tables that are encompassed by unmatched chairs.

The roses are the product of much care given by the efficient assistant manager, **Jim Smith**. He is not a newcomer to the Spanish Village and his pride in the service and food quality is very apparent.

Besides good service, the Spanish Village is the only place in town where I have been that fixes "fajitas" in the manner that is true Mexican. For you gringos, "fajitas" is a cut of beef that is taken from the skirt of the beef ribs, marinated in lime, onion and peppers, then charcoal-broiled. It is served with a side order of guacamole, and "frijoles a la charra" (beans with onion, tomatoes, and cilantro). Another specialty of the house is "Tacos Al Carbon". The true Mexican taco is a flour tortilla with goodies inside. The "Tacos Al Carbon" are filled with yummy marinated beef that makes Ninfas take a backseat.

Not to be forgotten are the exquisite, fresh, tasty Margaritas. Jim Smith tells me that they are made from fresh limes, squeezed only when a drink has been ordered. My drink not only had lime pulp in it, but was served in a monster-sized glass.

Prices are reasonable, ranging from about \$4 to \$6 per dinner order; Margaritas, \$1.60. The only bad thing about the Spanish Village is that they don't take checks or credit cards. Take money. Reservations are not necessary, but if you're planning to have a crowd, it would be nice to let them know they're going to be invaded.

Collecting bars is a favorite past-time and can get time consuming once a good one is found. **Houlihan's**, on South Post Oak, next to Loew's Saks, is an easy place to put in "regular" status. There is a huge wooden bar with plenty of barstools, signs and such on the walls, and tables for groups. The bartenders are friendly and if you come around enough, they will put your drink in front of you when you first walk up to the bar.

Tuesdays and Thursdays are especially good days. From 6 to 7, drinks are a dime, but only for the ladies. We've harassed management about discrimination; alas, to no avail. Each day there is a drink of the house, from exotics like amaretto pina coladas to ordinary Irish coffees.

The month of March was a continuous celebration at Houlihan's. From the 1st until the 17th, the bar was full of green balloons, bag pipers, Irish dancers, and inebriated patrons — all in preparation for St. Patrick's Day. It can also be a place to go for a nice, quiet drink and conversation.

Next time you want a spot to meet someone after work or before dinner, try Houlihan's. It could become a favorite bar.

.....

POT-pourri is a selective guide to dining and entertainment in the Houston Area. Listing reflect the opinions of the contributing editor and other SCSC members. This publication accepts no advertising or other consideration in exchange for including any business enterprise in this column.



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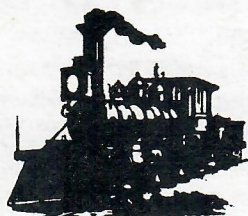
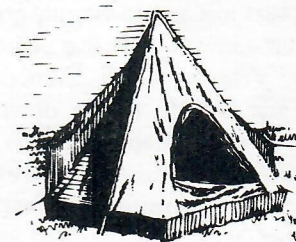
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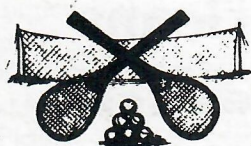
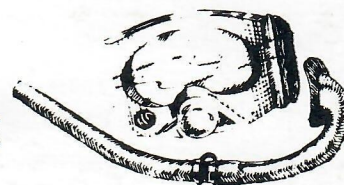
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Houston, Texas 77027

PLEASE PRINT**APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETE TO BE VALID**

NAME

LAST

FIRST

MIDDLE INITIAL

OVER 21 YRS

YES

NO

SPOUSE'S NAME

(If Applicable)

LAST

FIRST

MIDDLE INITIAL

SPOUSE OVER
21 YEARS

YES

NO

ADDRESS: (Street)

APT. NO.

CITY

STATE

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(Office)

(OFFICE - SPOUSE)

OCCUPATION - ENTER THE NUMBER CLOSEST TO YOURS

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01 Engineering

02 Legal

03 Medicine and Health

04 Education

05 Writing and Publishing

06 Art and Photography

07 Entertainment and Recreation

08 Accounting and Auditing

SPOUSE

10 Secretarial

11 Sales - What

12 Transportation

13 Draftsman

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NUMBER OF SKI TRIPS TAKEN WITH CLUB:

1977 - 1978

1978 - 1979

SPOUSE:

1977 - 1978

1978 - 1979

CHECK (✓) THE COMMITTEE(S) THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO WORK ON.**(Male - Left / Female - Right)**

M F

TRIPSA ☐ ☐ Trip ChairmanB ☐ ☐ Assistant Trip Chairman**PROGRAMS - SPECIAL EVENTS**C ☐ ☐ Style Show/SkitsD ☐ ☐ Sport ActivitiesE ☐ ☐ Non-Ski TripsF ☐ ☐ Safety/EducationG ☐ ☐ Social ActivitiesH ☐ ☐ Photographs/Slides/Movies

M F

MONTHLY MEETINGSI ☐ ☐ Membership Check-in and
Guest RegistrationJ ☐ ☐ Pins, Patches, DecalsK ☐ ☐ Drink Ticket TableL ☐ ☐ Lift LinersM ☐ ☐ AuditN ☐ ☐ Audio System/Lights

M F

PUBLIC RELATIONSO ☐ ☐ Sitzmarke/PhotographerP ☐ ☐ Sitzmarke/ReporterQ ☐ ☐ Club Directory/Scrap BookR ☐ ☐ Ads for PublicationsS ☐ ☐ Will Help Where NeededT ☐ ☐ OTHER. ☐ ☐. ☐ ☐**MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 1979 - 1980****RENEWAL DATE MAY 1st - AUGUST 1st****SPONSORS- TWO REQUIRED**

If new or after August 1st

1. _____

2. _____

NEW APPLICANT**DUES RECEIVED AFTER AUGUST 1**

--

\$14.00 Single

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\$19.00 Couple

Dues subject to increase after August 1

RENEWAL DUES BEFORE AUGUST 1**SAVE \$2.00**

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\$12.00 Single

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\$17.00 Couple

(THIS APPLICATION SUPERCEDES ALL APPLICATION FORMS PRIOR TO MAY 1, 1979)