

I wanted to have a Big Pre-trip party for all our participants to meet and get to know each other before our Snowmass trip. My good friend Gin Knebel and her husband Michael graciously opened their house to have a pre-trip party on November 18th, 2018. To my surprise, almost forty people showed up!! It was a great chance for me to meet our participants in person and introduce everyone. Korean Bibimbap that Gin and I prepared was a hit and the party lasted until almost 11 pm, with everyone finishing all the wine and most of the beer. Everybody enjoyed meeting and talking with their potential condo mates and ski buddies. What a fun way to warm up for our upcoming ski trip!



Sharon Simandl and Bill Bomberger were waiting for us with all our printed boarding passes when we got to the Southwest Group Check-in area, early on March 3rd. Forty-one of our participants flew on the same flight to Denver. Our plane landed on time and all luggage and ski bags made it – nothing missing!! Janet McKenzie, who flew via United Air, and Bill & Linda Reilly, who drove to Denver, met us at the baggage pick up area. Jamie Alford and his assistant from Ski White Diamond also greeted us at the baggage pick up area. Jamie gave us stickers with our condo name and numbers to attach to our luggage before we loaded the bus. This was an excellent way to prevent lost luggage or ski equipment and have it all delivered to right condo without wasting time.

at our condos.

Steve Ying helped me to prepare the salad and cook lasagna to take to our Pizza party that Ski White Diamond and Top of Village hosted for us at the Guest House. Lots of food!! Jamie and his wife were there to distribute all lift tickets and to share helpful information. I distributed coupons for 40% off Walk In Ski rental from Snowmass Sports for our SCSC members only. I don't know how they found us, but I got this offer through my email and it worked well for those who didn't rent on line.

Forty-four of us boarded a 56-seater motor coach for a 4 hour long ride to our condos in Snowmass. We stopped at the famous Apple Jack shopping center for liquor shopping and a lunch stop. It saved time and stress for me, since I ordered wines, beers and hard liquors for our group party on line one day before our departure. (GOOD PLANNING ANN!!) James Holland brought a speaker he purchased 10 minutes before Best Buy closed the night before for this trip. Cindy Moore, Chris Jennings, Steve and Jeanne Marie Ying, Deb Cini, Nick Morrone, David Burrows and a few more were singing along to 80's music at the back area of coach while some people in the front were dozing off. We stopped at City Market for our grocery shopping in a small town one hour before we arrived at our condos. Our bus driver suggested this since it will help keep our groceries cold and fresh. Thanks Mr. Bus Driver!! Several porters were waiting when we got to the Top of the Village and all luggage was delivered promptly to all condos. Stuart Travers, Dana and Gayle Dale flew to Aspen directly and arrived a few hours earlier and had already checked in when we arrived

Snowmass/Aspen had a good snow before we arrived and there was more snow forecasted for Sunday afternoon. It started snowing the exact time forecasted and it was perfect timing to finish our skiing early and head out to Venga Venga for our Après-Ski.

All our condos were true Ski-in and Ski-out even though some of us missed the condo cutoff and had to ski down



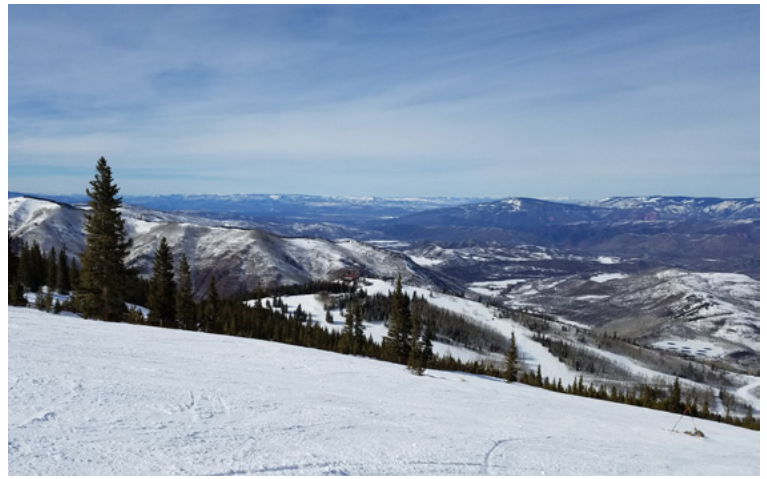
again. Evan Howell tied a white plastic grocery bag on the tree to mark his condo area and it certainly helped me to not to miss mine!!

On Monday, a lot of skiers met for lunch at Ullrhof and Stuart Travers was ready for a challenge after his boring blue and black runs. As many know, James Holland and Steve Ying are not Big Dogs, but Crazy Dogs. Stuart committed himself to ski at KT's Gulley double black diamond with the 2 fearless skiers.

Please ask Stuart when you see him at the next happy hour about his amazing fearful experience he never wants to face ever again. I did ask him to write a short article, but he only sent me a picture instead.

Our itinerary called for us to meet for lunch and Après-Ski every day, but we cancelled our Tuesday afternoon Après-Ski since our club dinner was scheduled at the Gate House and we decided to have our own Happy Hour there (including free hard liquors!!).

I learned from our Pre-trip party that our SCSC skiers are connoisseurs of both wine and beer. I made sure we stocked plenty of IPA beer including New Belgium Fat Tire and Avalanche Amber in addition to Coors Light and Bud Light. I signed up to use the Gate House for Wednesday evening for our Club dinner, but they double booked that night and we changed our event to Tuesday evening. Top of Village set up all tables and chairs for our banquet free of charge. We were supposed to have our dinner at 6:30pm, but happy hour started at 5:30PM and most of us were there and wanted to be served since the food was already set up and ready to go. The food catered from Hickory House, extra brisket cooked by Steve Ying and brought from Houston, and bulgogi, sausage and spicy pork cooked by me were more than we needed. We also shared our dinner with the manag-



er and assistants who worked at the Gate House and they appreciated us giving our leftover beer and water for them to use before we left on Saturday morning. We all enjoyed great food, drinks and great company. Some people left a little early after dinner, but a lot of us stayed late chatting, drinking and dancing with music James Holland played. What a fun night!

Lori Aubrecht took her ski lesson at Aspen Highlands and skied with Tom Kaptain there. I heard Sam Cornelius also went to ski at Aspen Highlands. James Holland, Steve Ying, Dana Dale, Stuart Travers and Beverly Vosko are some of people who went to ski in Aspen. A lot of people took off Wednesday for Aspen Shopping. Jeanne Marie took Deb Cini, Nick Morrone and me to her best kept secret resale shops and we ran into a lot of our ski club friends. Brenda and Sid Lacombe were also shopping with their group and I heard that Ron Rambin escorted a bunch of ladies including Marilyn Swanson for shopping the same day. Debbie Mossier, Joan Waddill and Sue Ann Muenks joined us after shopping and we all went to The Little Nell Hotel located close to Chair lift 9 of Aspen. We all ordered cocktails and sat outside of the bar at Chair 9 and enjoyed beautiful weather. Most of us ended up staying longer and had din-







ner at Element 47.

Lori Aubrecht and Beverly Vosko hosted several parties since their condo was up high and had a large living room. James Holland brought Rummikub, cards and chips to play blackjack and Texas Hold'em.

Beverly said she never played, but she on was a winning streak and it was a good thing nobody played real money with her.

Our party animal friends wanted to make another trip to Aspen on Thursday night. Steve and Jeanne Marie Ying, Dana & Gale Dale, Deb Cini, Nick Morrone, Lori Aubrecht, Stuart Travers, Debbie Mossier, Beverly Vosko and a few more met at Jimmy's Bodega and closed the night at Escobars.



Ashok Moza, Tom Kaptain and Joe Zurfley left a few days early because of their work. We had plenty of snow while we had 30-40 F temperature for skiing. We could not ask for any better weather! It is crazy, but James Holland wore short sleeve shirts with a vest a few days since it was too warm for him to wear a regular ski jacket.

After having so much fun skiing in the daytime and partying at nights, we had one more evening left before our departure to the airport early the next morning. Deb Cini, Nick Morrone, Sandy Oballe, Judy Clifton, Cindy Moore, Chris Jennings, James and I booked Ullr nights for Tubing and Coaster rides at Elk Camp. The Coaster Ride was fun and I do recommend to everybody if you go back to Snowmass.



Groups of people got together for a potluck dinner on Friday evening and tried to consume all the leftover food and alcohol. Diane Baker was sweet enough to bring back some of our hard liquor and cheeses for our Post Trip party. We booked our return flight in the mid afternoon so we could return to Houston in the early evening rather than late night. As much as I worried, everybody showed up on time and our bus departed 8 am and arrived at Denver airport around noon, which was more than 2 and half hours before our departure.

Then, it was time to think about our Post Trip party to continue our fun. Stuart Travers and Sharon Simandl each graciously offered their houses for the Post Trip Party. We decided to have it at Stuart's house since Sharon and Bill were possibly travelling at that time and most of the group was familiar with his house. I decided not to cook and had Olive Garden cater. Thirty six people showed up for the post party on Sunday, April 8th. Here we go again – we continued our party until all the wine was gone. Beverly Vosko brought her homemade carrot cake and it was a big hit. We got to know all our skiers better and some of them got to be closer friends after this trip. I hope it was a great ski trip experience for everybody and it certainly was for me.

