

## Vail 2

January 22-29, 2000

by Dana Wardell

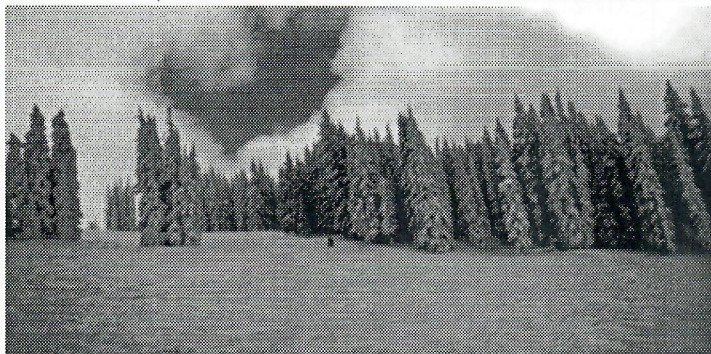


After months of wondering whether we would have any snow at all, we wound up circling Vail-Eagle Airport for an hour waiting for a break in the snow conditions. And it snowed and snowed all week. We had tons of fresh powder and we had it every single day. This group did its very best to ski on all of it!

We had a wine and cheese party at Simba Run Condos the



first night, then **Tina Williams, Jean Franks, Yvonne Guy, Ted Widmer, Rick Wasson, Jennifer Schreck, Kevin Foster** and several others went into Vail to check out the night life. Most of us skied Beaver Creek on Sunday and loved it. **Joe Cannata** fell off one of the escalators going up to the slope. He noted that it was a double black diamond escalator! A pizza party with the Vail 1 group ended a great day. Many thanks to those who helped set up and clean up! What would we ever have done without **Al Austin** who helped move coolers everywhere all week long with a smile on his face? Is there a Golden Ice Chest Award? We had



a game of finding three other people with matching pieces of a picture for a gold star. **Mike Carr** was a 3-star champion. Did you possibly have any help from **Barbara Carr**? **Rick Wasson** gave country & western dance lessons while **Joe Daleo, Carol Buck, May Ng** headed back for more nightlife in Vail. **Terry Chamness** had a run-in with his own ski (that was some steep slope!) but it didn't seem to slow him down much.



Tuesday night was our happy hour at The Club with **Steve Meyers**. You haven't been to Vail if you have heard **Steve Meyers**. **Helen Kinnamon, Linda Branum and Jean Franks** won the best singers and dancers award a couple of times with rounds of free shots for themselves and the group. Keeping right on top of the fierce competition with the Swedish virgins, the whole group lurched onwards with the **John Allen** dance. More shots for the victorious Texans!! **Eric and Carol Timmreck**



learned that Vendetta in Italian means don't try the veal. **Cliff Aymes** flew all the way down from New Jersey to ski with his childhood friend, **Lou Kleinman**. They barely took time out from skiing to catch some fuel breaks at McDonalds.

**Steve Jaeger** informed a bunch of Brits at the apres-ski at Trail's End that the Queen had entrusted us with one Brit and we broke him! Of course, referring to **John Allen's** broken shoulder that he skied with all week. Sure is hard to get up with no poles! By the way, Steve, we heard that none of your condomates would volunteer to help you put on your underwear to go to the emergency room after your shower and the broken glass incident. Maybe we shouldn't ask.



**Meghan Stevens** gave black diamond powder lessons and was figuring out how to get her skis sharpened for the Mammoth trip. We heard that **Warren Schroeder** and **Chris Larson** skied their legs off trying to keep up with her while **Jaime Grana** was having a glorious time boarding in all that powder (what was that story about you donating a bottle of wine to **Steve Slade**'s mean pot of spaghetti dinner?). **May Ng**, **Tess Ong-Barr** and **John Barr**, among others, followed Kathleen Fowler back into China Bowl and waded through three feet of powder for over two hours just trying to get back out. May should be presented the Award of Valor for going straight from her GLM lesson to the China Bowl expedition. **Susan Wicker**, our intrepid trip leader, had to dig out of a hole of chest deep snow and then locate all her equipment buried there. They were all glad to live and tell about it! **Marvin Volz** was seen blasting down the mountain in a ponytail and **Dorothy Miller** executed a perfectly symmetrical yard sale complete with a somersault. Where's Warren Miller with his camera when you need it!! **Uncle Van Van Heldorf** got back on his skis after fourteen years — way to go, Van. **Lori Matthews**, who was recovering from recent back surgery decided to return to Houston mid week due to the heavy snow conditions.

**Jill and Jimmy St. Clair** were skiing with **Joe Hale** when Jill graciously offered to take a picture of a couple at the top. How she managed to get some guy's derriere in the photo is a mystery to me — unless that was where she was aiming!!!! **Lynne and Walter Hester** were also seen enjoying the powder — Walter was one of the first boarders in Space City and said it had greatly increased the duration of his skiing career.

**Carole Moffat** won the best shopper award with two fabulous leather coats and a fur hat. **Tina Williams** gave her a close run for this award with her new jewelry. **Pamela Whitfield** gets a standing award for best-dressed skier, right down to her matching animal print sunglasses. The Betty Crocker award goes to ATC **Dana Wardell** for getting two huge trays of fresh, hot cinnamon rolls for the group as we waited for our 5:45 a.m. bus.

All in all, this was a great ski trip. Our many thanks to all the wonderful people at Simba Run Condos and the people of Vail who made our trip so enjoyable and all the wonderful participants on this trip who made it special for the TC and ATC.

