



After leaving the Houston airport late (not because of **Lou Kleimann's** last minute arrival!), our 40 SCSCers arrived early in Steamboat Springs. The heavy snow stopped and beautiful blue

skies were over our condos, Timber Run.

While everyone checked in, **Bill Brown** helped **Marsha Lutz** get ready for the wine and cheese party. After getting lift tickets, credentials, and wine and cheese, of course!, the group prepared for the next party – the mid-week Country Western Party. Everyone but **Sandy Perry**, **Marsha**, **John Cook** and **Scott Petersen** who had to track down a missing cooler – the one with several bottles of wine and lots of cheese! After John knocked on several doors, we found the culprit! The one Sandy had already suspected- **Stu Traver** and his accomplice, **Jim Slaughter**! Their condo mates, **Marvin Volz** and **Dorothy Miller**, didn't exactly jump up and turn them in either! We promised them they would see the wine and cheese again at the hot tub.

At the Western Party, there were fun games with lassoing, scooters, and a silent auction with nice items that went for really good prices! **Lisa Levy** and **Helen Kealey** both won bath salts – enough for hundreds of baths or a bath with hundreds! Sandy saw a lady with the Austin Skiers that she had not seen since high school. See what great things can happen on the TSC trips!

Wednesday was a great day of skiing. **Denise Marks** arrived that afternoon and quickly began catching up with everyone. That evening **Marvin**, **Dorothy**, **Ron** and **Halene Crossman**, **Cindy Ingram**, **Al Brown**, **Bill Brown** and **Rick Wasson** joined some Steamboat I participants for a sleigh ride dinner. There were stories about the bus getting stranded and some unusual mountain

woman with unusual mechanical skills that got everyone back. Others, including **Kathleen Hannaman** and **Barb Ehrlich**, tried to do the TSC pub crawl, but they got too late of a start to win. **Kathleen** and **Barb** kept getting sidetracked by these guys from New York.

Thursday was a nice day for the races with no waiting nor cold weather! Thanks to **Gary Kuchcinski** for serving as race director for both Steamboat I and II. For Steamboat II, **John Cook** won a gold medal, silver medals went to **Gary Kuchcinski** and **Robert Cloutier**, and **Scott Petersen** and **Stuart Traver** won bronze medals. **Delilah Hart** did the race on her snowboard and did really well. **John Cook** and **Kathleen Hannaman** represented Steamboat II in the individual races. Normally you would see **Gary Sequeira's** name on the medals list, but his previously injured knee held him back – but only from racing – he did ski. **Sharon Sequeira** kept up with him and a few others on walkie-talkies. "What lift are you on, what bar are you in, etc." could be heard over the airwaves. **Brenda Soileau** didn't race, but created her own style of ski competition – skiing out of bounds into trees

and snowdrifts. After **Jan Labadie** went for help, **Brenda** received aid and her "com-petition" award. The prize was three handsome strangers who pulled her to safety! That night we joined Steamboat II for a party at the Ore House. Even with a nice buffet spread at the party, half of the group stayed for the infamous steaks.

Chuck Holden and **Ann Tran** went snowmobiling and **Ann** even went into Wyoming – head first off the snowmobile at the state boundary! **John Thomsen** and **Bruce Baird** took a race clinic given by none other than Steamboat's own, **Billy Kidd**. We didn't see much of **Philipp March** or **Gunter Frankel** but they were doing what they came for - skiing. The Friday night awards party included pasta (without meat to many's dismay!), drinks, music and dance. **Ron** was recognized on stage as a founding member and first President of the Texas Ski Council. **Jeri Wilson**, **Bob Cloutier**, **Lisa**, **Sandra Wimberly**, **Helen**, **Ted Burwell**, **John Cook** closed down the dance floor. **John** even danced with more than one chair (you had to be there).

Saturday the slopes had cleared of most of the TSC skiers and we had lots of new snow! Some took the day off for shopping, movies, etc. After **Ron** and **Halene** saw the movie "Chocolat", they couldn't resist indulging at The Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory. Most of us went to dinner at The Tugboat, followed by a most unusual outing at Strawberry Park Hot Springs. In case you don't know, this place has a very natural setting and some of the locals soak "au naturale". Was it only the locals that did that? We had to change from warm clothes to swim suits in total darkness with no heat and then place our clothes in 20 identical small white garbage bags in a pile by the pool. The really hard part was after our 1-hour soak, when we had to find our clothes. Missing items included socks, underwear, gloves but all were eventually found including an extra pair of sunglasses. There were three pools, one cold, one hot and one that most thought was just right! We sipped beverages and told tales under the stars, if you could see them above the steam. **Don McGee**, our Greek mythology expert, told a story about **Helen of Troy** which we renamed **Helen of Kealey**. If you haven't done the hot springs, put it on your list for next time!

Sunday morning was leisurely for most, since there wasn't much time for skiing. **Chuck** cooked breakfast for his condo mates, and **Brenda Bennett**, **Vivian Gatewood**, among others, and was reported to be a wonderful chef. **Cindy** and **Al** squeezed in the hot air balloon ride they won at the silent auction. A lot of us were seen at the Sheraton's breakfast buffet, filling up before beginning our voyage home. Once home, it was only memories of good skiing and good company. Thanks to everyone for making it a great trip.

