

Terrific Times in Telluride

It was the best of times; it was the worst of times... Just kidding, Telluride ranked totally terrific for SCSC on this fabulous Spring Break trip!

Close to 40 of us descended upon Houston's Intercontinental airport early Saturday morning, March 9. Aaack!!! Spring Break Mania caused chaos at the Continental ticket counter. Luckily our fearless leader, **Ladye Freitag**, along with her handy assistant, **Jill Nanney**, had all things under control, (as usual). We whisked through group check-in and were on our way to the gate. We all made the flight, though Continental tried to bribe us off. Who wanted \$600 to leave a day later? NOT US... we were all ready to ski!

We flew into Montrose and then boarded the bus for a short, but entertaining, ride to Telluride. How 'bout that multi-million dollar, multi-mile long fence of Ralph Lauren's? It was nothing compared to the yummy chocolate cookies **Lori Gilliland** made and shared on the bus. Thanks, **Lori**, from the bottom of our....stomachs!

We arrived at the Telluride Mountainside Inn early afternoon on a beautiful, cloudless, bright blue day. After check-in, the group hit the town. **Jan Labadie** entertained the ski

rental group with a personalized one-hour boot fitting. **Jan**, do the shoe clerks at Neiman's give you that much personal attention?

Our first night, the trip coordinators hosted a wine and cheese party. **Jessica Halter** was relieved that box wine was not on the menu! We drank, we snacked, we drank, we talked and generally got to know one another. **Natalia Nouel** even got snowboard lessons from **Christine March** in the living room!

The next day we hit the slopes, some more literally than others.

Buzz Allen, how was that headfirst plunge down "The Plunge"? More fun than "Buzz's Run"? It might be a good idea to avoid those double black diamonds on the first day. **Carmen Mikhail**, **Camille LaRoe**, and **Jill Nanney** had a perfect morning and not just skiing. Three girls on a quad chair lift means space for a single fellow on every ride. Nothing like meeting a single, handsome Telluride judge on the first day. Girls, how could you stand up Judge Dennis when he asked you for drinks after skiing?

Luckily we all survived that first ski day with only minor aches. **Bob Knupp**, too bad you couldn't get those jets fixed in the hot tub. Oh well, cold beer in a hot tub (sans bubbles) still makes for a great time after a perfect ski day. **David and Guri Pryce** caught up with the group after having driven all the way from California to ski with old SCSC friends and to try the new Prospect Bowl. Later that night, a large group enjoyed Smuggler's Brew Pub for a nice dinner. Thanks to the wonderful planning of

our trip leaders, a group of about 20 of us marched right past the line that was waiting and straight to our tables, much to the envy of those left waiting.

On the second day, the group lunch was at Big Billie's. **Bob and Mary Simpson** praised the choice

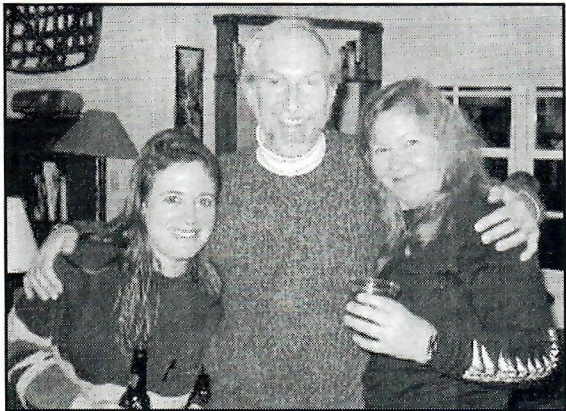
saying it was the only place on the mountain where the restrooms weren't downstairs. When **Jessica** arrived, she announced rather loudly that double black diamond "Little Rose" was certainly NO lady! She dubbed it one "b#\$%&" of a run, but then went back to do it again! Everyone also enjoyed the ride to Big Billie's on lift #10 where you got a great view of the million dollar homes. One prominent residence was Oprah's former abode which she sold to Michael Jordan who has since sold it to some computer geeks. Does that still qualify as a celebrity home?

We hoped to get **Ladye** on that lift but she declined by saying, "I'd ride up, but that means I'd have to ski down!!" The next day **Ladye** showed her versatile skiing style when she invented the "snowy dog paddle" on a blue run while trying to get to the group picture on time. She needs to perfect the move so that she is a bit faster, as she showed up just after all pictures were completed. Not to worry,



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though, we rescheduled the group picture in town on our final night and got almost everyone in the lovely street scene.



Après-ski Monday was at Leimgrubber's. A "must-see" hangout, but a place some would rather forget. And some actually *did* forget most of that evening even though they didn't mean to! **Todd Buxton**, what were you thinking?? Most of us are way too old for Goldschlager shots! Needless to say, Ladye's dinner in her condo just after Après ski was quite an event once the Leimegrubber crew arrived. The Goldschlager Gang unintentionally provided the entertainment for a true feast of BBQ brisket with all the trimmings expertly carved by **Lori G.** and **Chrisine M.** No Stouffer's Lasagna on this trip.

Tuesday, it snowed. The leaders of the Leimgrubber-Goldschlager Gang were the last on the mountain. It goes without saying that "**Two-turn Todd**" did not hit quite as many steep runs as usual. Later in the week, "**Backwoods Bill**" Bomberger was

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Tuesday, it snowed. The leaders of the Leimgrubber-Goldschlager Gang were the last on the mountain. It goes without saying that **"Two-turn Todd"** did not hit quite as many steep runs as usual. Later in the week, **"Backwoods Bill" Bomberger** was responsible for an upclose and personal meeting involving **"Two-turn Todd"** and a very surprised Telluride tree. **"Two-turn"** lived to ski another day, but the tree was kindling! Hey, **Todd**, have you ever thought of investing in a helmet like **Bill's**? He wears it for a reason, and anyone who skis with him is fair game if they don't.

Wednesday was the NASTAR Race. The SCSC team won a handful of bronze medals and **Bob Wray** brought home silver. Special recognition goes to **Morris Covin** who skied a great race even though he was sick. What a competitor! Maybe it was the cheering from **Sheryl Covin** that helped. **Steven Teoh** was typically entertaining...no, not on the course, as he raced just fine. It's the lifts he has trouble with. Steven, you aren't supposed to get all four spots on the chair! He also learned that drying gloves in the microwave results in a new (and expensive) pair of gloves. Velcro apparently melts when microwaved! Who would have known???

Others skipped the race. **Bob DeBell** said I'd rather hit DeBumps! He's since been known as **Bob DeBump DeBell**! Some die-hards stayed on

the steep and deep slopes and away from the races. At some point, they met up with **Michelle Konrad**. She was nicknamed the "Energizer Bunny" by her fellow skiers...when skiing she just keeps going and going and going and...

Thursday morning, even the locals were saying it was unseasonably cold. But with the cold came fresh powder on the slopes. The toes of **Janet McKenzie, Carmen and Jeff Kovacs** suffered the brunt of it. They got stranded for 20 minutes on lift #14. Afterwards, while thawing out in the ski



patrol hut, **Janet** had all 12 members of the ski patrol and their dog, Creek, sign her Telluride t-shirt "nightie". **Ann McIntye and Natalie** reported almost being blown off the top of Prospect Bowl by 70 mph winds. They decided to get out of there, went down, missed a turn, and had to go back up and withstand it all over again. According to **Kathy Sanders**, don't download on Lift 5 no matter how windy it is! **Willi Murski**, when asked what runs he would do that day, said, "If I go up, I come down".

That night, a large, slightly sober group stayed for karaoke after dinner at Jack's. **Jessica** led the singing but not without her fabulous back-ups **Christine, Lori, Lis Kinne, Karen Richards** (much to the amusement of **David Richards**) and a cast of other brave souls including big surprises like **Todd Buxton's** "Dead or Alive," **Kathy Sander's** "Where the Boys Are," and **Charles Farris** singing "Desperado," and several other tunes. Who knew we had so much talent both on and off the slope? **Joe Kulpinsky** opted for a quiet dinner at Harmon's sipping cognac and listening to the piano. He said it was an interesting walk home.

Several participants enjoyed activities other than skiing. **Lis Kinne and Bill Taylor** took the opportunity to rent a car to tour the treasures around Telluride. **Barb Penkala** took a day off from skiing and enjoyed the pampering at the Peaks Golden Door spa. We rarely saw **Charles and Beverly Roberts**, but word was they spent a lot of time with group shadows, **Judy Katany and Dan Taft**.

We did see **Don Fredell** every day...he never missed the daily breakfasts in Ladye's condo. Another regular at breakfast, who cooked an oatmeal specialty one morning, was **Johanna Kuang**. She was voted best dressed and most accessorized of the trip. **Camille** came in 2nd with her Olympics Roots beret.

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Speaking of breakfasts, **Steven Teoh** did a great job on breakfast tacos one morning. Thanks to all of the generous cooks and helpers.

On our last night, we had a wonderful group dinner at Eagle's. All would agree it was a fun trip, in a fun town, with fun people and fun times. We even made it through the week without a single injury, as long as you don't count sunburns (ask Jill), a few hangovers (ask almost everyone), and the dreadful boot-buckling incident! (ask Steven!) One last question... **Bruce Baird**, are you ready to sign up to be an ATC?