



The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB

NEW WEBSITE NAME
spacecityskiclub.org

December 2004



Member
Texas Ski
Council

Vol. 38 No. 8



Dedicated to children with cancer

**Support Space City Ski
Club's Auction**

**Benefiting the Sunshine
Kids Foundation!**

December 13, 2004

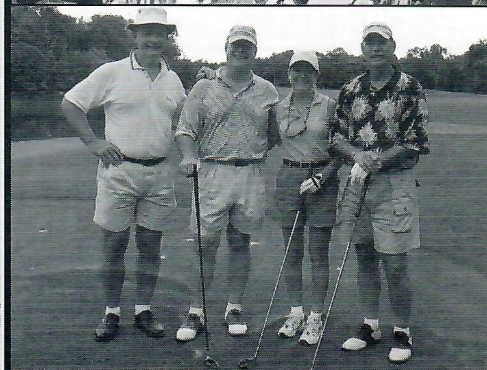
Big Woodrow's

Silent Auction 6:30-8 pm

Live Auction 8 pm



**Scenes from the Texas Ski Council 2004
Caribbean Cruise**



General Meeting - December 13 @ 6:30 p.m.
at Big Woodrow's - 3111 Chimney Rock
"Sunshine Kids Charity Auction"

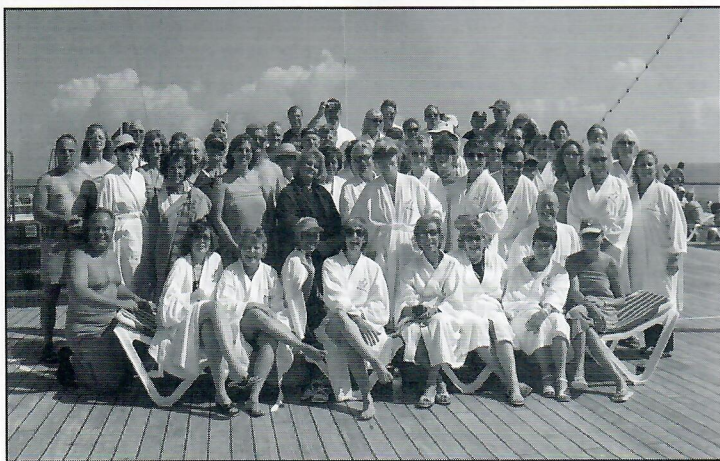
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SPACE CITY SKI CLUB
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TSC Cruise-Vail Resorts Hosted a Great Blackjack Tournament



Bathrobes on the SportsDeck - SCSC & TSC Friends

TEXAS SKI COUNCIL 2004 CARIBBEAN CRUISE

By Debbie Bergeron

With Hurricane Ivan bearing down on Florida and the Gulf, anxious emails circulated concerning our long-awaited departure on the first-ever Texas Ski Council cruise. Fortunately, Ivan tracked easterly enough so that Space City's 58 relieved "shipmates" could board the Carnival Elation on September 12th and set sail out of Galveston with 90 other TSC friends.

Day One – An "Elating" Experience. After catching our breaths from the first view of the Elation's gorgeous Grand Atrium with its double marble staircase and glass elevators rising from the 7th to 12th decks, our gang set off to explore the ship further. Check-in at TSC Registration was first on the agenda where Ski Canada/Ski Europe surprised us with splits of champagne and chocolates, only to wow us again at the fabulous TSC Welcome Party with hors d'oeuvres and open bar! Our first great dinner was next on the schedule, and afterwards entertainment options were endless – the Casablanca Casino, Las-Vegas style shows in the Mikado Lounge, music and dancing in the Jekyll & Hyde Dance Club, Romeo & Juliet Lounge, and Duke's Piano Bar, just to name a few. Daytime choices included the gym, spa, pool, golf cage, ping-pong, library, Internet Café, deck games, dance lessons, lectures, etc., etc, and at least a dozen dining options. And by the end of the week, Cheryl & James Mershon had just about furnished their entire house with acquisitions from the onboard Art Auctions!

Day Two – A Bit of Rockin' & Rollin'. In spite of "rockin' & rollin'" on the high seas from Ivan's outer bands (and I don't mean musical ones), Susan Blome, Lynn Roberts, Donna Kidwell, Sue Salvage, Laurie Haischer, Sue Olstad, Marianne Pearce, Leona & R.J. Schroeder, and the rest of the gang arrived at the Captain's Gala Reception and Dinner in "decked out" fashion...while first-time cruiser Vicky McLaughlin sought sanctuary in her stateroom with her head under the covers! Husband Tommy and Sally & Morris Brown were relieved when the seas calmed and Vicky eventually emerged, soon to be spotted having a great time in the Casino.

Days Three, Four & Five – Ports of Call. Tuesday morning brought overcast, drizzly skies in Progresso where shore excursions included the Chichen Itza Mayan Ruins, Jungle & Hacienda Jeep Expedition, and the Corona Beach Break Party. Cozumel welcomed us on Wednesday with blue skies and calm seas for the TSC Golf Tournament and a plethora of excursion options. TSC activities went on as planned, but when Carnival's "Dolphin Encounter" and water excursions were cancelled for the day, Kay Cain, Roberta Rambin, Sue Edwards and yours truly caught up with Nancy Sarff, Peggy Montgomery, Sharon Smith, Lisa Smith, Elyse Turla, Pat

Menville, Gary Butler, Charles Butler, Gail Blanton, Donna Sears, and Jamie Fitzgerald for shopping and a cab caravan down to Fat Tuesday's "Swing" Bar at the International Pier for tropical beverages and great music. Some spontaneous line dancing began by a "Few Who Shall Remain Nameless" as revealed by video footage that later appeared on the ship's TV channel.



Tanya... The Ultimate Team Head Waitress

Meanwhile, back at the Golf Tournament, players quickly learned that if your ball goes off in the rough, it's in the jungle (literally), so you don't bother trying to retrieve it. First Place went to Ed Cain, Jeff Sarff, Ted Bergeron & Kim Page. Second Place went to the

"Fortunate Flatlanders"; Third to Ed Menville, Ron Rambin and Jim Edwards; and Fourth to Kayleen Kill, John Rice and Linda Licarione. Kayleen was also the exuberant winner of both the Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin! The Fortunate Flatlanders also captured the Grand Door Prize donated by Canadian Rockies Vacations – two nights' lodging in Banff for four people and two rounds of golf for two.

On Thursday, the Elation was anchored off of Belize City, and tenders shuttled us for tours of ruins, the town, zoo, catamaran snorkeling and, for the truly adventurous, cave tubing. Out of the many shore & water excursion tales, Jan Ferrell and Barb Tuley apparently had their own private fishing expeditions, and there's reportedly a hilarious story about "Mr. Ed, The Horse" that Jerry Montgomery will be happy to share ... although Peggy would prefer that he didn't.

Days Six & Seven – Back At Sea. On Friday, Vail Resorts hosted a blast of a Slot Tournament, and out of 80 contestants, Nancy Sarff won 1st prize of \$400! Saturday's events included TSC Deck Relays, and although Bill Bomberger, Paul Olstad, Becky Hall, Roberta & Ron Rambin, Jim Edwards, Jeff Sarff, Ed Cain, Kayleen Kill, and John "I've Got The String Stuck In My Shorts" Rice did not emerge victorious, what a great team effort they put forth! Back at the casino, Vail Resorts hosted a Blackjack Tournament, and Jim Menke of Corpus Christi Skiers won 1st place. The final competitive event was "Horse Racing At Sea" where Merrel Smith and Ted Bergeron "raced" their trusty steeds, Flea Biscuit and Lightning, but alas, suffered defeat at the hands of yet another Fortunate Flatlander.

Kudos & Thanks! This cruise was a first for the TSC and was exceptionally well run by Ski Canada/Ski Europe and SCSC's own Peggy Montgomery at the helm as TSC Expedition Coordinator. Many, many thanks to her and to Roswitha Vogler, Dorothea Rasser, and Sandy Best with Ski Canada/Ski Europe for a fabulous week; and to Vail Resorts and Canadian Rockies Vacations for their support, as well as Copper Mountain and Aspen/Snowmass for their contributions. Kudos to all of our participants – you were GREAT cruise mates!! Tremendous thanks to my wonderful husband, Ted, for his never-ending support and patience. And finally, a huge round of applause to Nancy for the year of hard work she spent organizing and promoting this trip, only to have fate intervene just two months before our departure date. Thanks to her courage and determination to get better, we were all ELATED that she was able to join us on the CARNIVAL ELATION where everyone had an absolute blast!



Formal Night in the Grand Atrium