

Canyons Resort Park City, UT February 19 - 23, 2011

By Leslie Ward, TC

On Saturday February 19, fifteen of us departed from Houston in the morning and had a nice uneventful flight to Salt Lake City. We met **Mary Jo and Tony Loverdi** and **Predrag Tosic**, one of our new members, at the Salt Lake City airport. We boarded our ground transportation in a light rain, but by the time we made it to Park City we found some nice snow flurries falling. We arrived to find out that there had been a water main failure a few days before and the basement of the Silverado had flooded. We were without elevators for most of our visit. All of the rooms were at least two floors above the lobby! Like we needed more exercise. **Linda Meyer**, another of our new members, had taken a very early flight and made it in time to get on the slopes of Canyons Resort on Saturday to take advantage of all of the falling snow. **Diane Macksoud**, who moved back to Rhode Island this past fall, was the last of our crew of twenty to make it to Canyons Resort (<http://www.thecanyons.com>) and the Silverado Lodge.

After getting settled in our rooms **Ash Moza** and **David Gunn** headed to Park City Mountain Resort to get in some night skiing. Those renting equipment were able to get their rentals on Saturday afternoon.



Sabra & Paul Francis (new members as well), **Chaille & Tom Hutcherson**, and **Ellen & Frank Donnelly** enjoyed dinner in Park City with other local friends on Saturday night. The rest of us (the Loverdi's, Predrag, Linda, Diane, **Suzan Meaux**, **Shane Blake** (new member and lone snowboarder of the group), **June Kobayashi** (new member), **David Klaus** (new member), **Craig Campbell**, **Don Macken** and myself) all met at the Grand Summit with Gregg Hauser, Conference Service Manager and our resort host, for a cozy welcome reception. We ate all of the appetizers and drank most of the wine. Predrag chatted with the waitress helping out and brought back most of the left over beer to our condo! This was after we had made a grocery stop on our way up from the airport where we all purchased plenty of beer, wine and liquor.

We woke up Sunday to plenty of fresh powder and it didn't stop falling all day. The Francis', Hutchison's, and Donnelly's went to Deer Valley to ski for the day. June took in cross country skiing. Most of the rest of the crew met Gregg Hauser and Mark Roia, Sales Manager, Executive Meetings (and in charge of all ski club groups) at the base of Canyons to take us on our Mountain Tour. We got to use our Gate Crasher passes and jumped to the head of the line for the main gondola which was great for the Sunday of President's day weekend. When we arrived to the top of the gondola at the area called Mid Mountain we headed to the southern end of the resort. It was tough skiing with 6" -12" of fresh powder after the groomers had gone through early that morning. We started with 12 in our group plus Gregg and Mark, by the time we got to our stopping place for lunch we had lost about half the crew who ventured to more challenging slopes. We made our way back to Mid Mountain and some decided that they had enough for one day as the snow kept falling. Après-ski was at the Umbrella Bar. Some met there right from the slopes and some had been able to get in a nap and a shower before meeting.

Monday was President's Day and we found many locals on the mountain at Canyons. The Francis', Hutchison's, and Donnelly's went to Deer Valley again. David Gunn, Linda Meyer and David Klaus also skied at Deer Valley on Sunday. June had another day of cross country. We met again at the Umbrella Bar for après-ski.

By Tuesday the crowds were gone. Most everyone skied Canyons except for Linda and David K. June even hit the mountain on some alpine skis. Après-ski was in our condo so we could share all of our extra groceries.

Wednesday came and Ash and Craig took advantage of our two complementary First Tracks sessions. They hit the mountain at 7:00 AM. David K. and Predrag also skied that morning, but not that early. Ash won the award for most days of skiing as he hit the slopes all five days we were there. I had a nice massage that morning and some quick shopping in Park City before we headed back to SLC. The ride to the airport was barely long enough to get everyone to fill out their evaluation forms and gobble up all the left over food and drinks we had. Other than Linda Meyer's flight being delayed we had a pretty uneventful trip home. I know Linda would liked to have skied on Wednesday as well.

