

Crested Butte

by Louella Stellar

Bonding ...On a trip like this you connect with people in five days in ways that would normally take years. That is how I would describe the CB adventure. There are advantages with a small group of 23 participants. All can eat at the same restaurant and fit into the same condo for club parties.

The cheese and wine party on Tuesday night kicked off the week's festivities as lift tickets were distributed and participants signed up for trip activities. Skiers discussed abilities and starting times for the following morning.

Everyone reached the slopes early on the first of many sunny days at CB. Bob and Karla Darden were immediately offered cash for their vintage sunglasses at the rental place, which they had not worn since the last time that they had been skiing in the previous decade. The rental store has Karla's "older than old" Nordica ski boots on display. They are the oldest boots these young guys had ever seen! This couple also spotted the same two pairs of boots in the men's and women's restrooms. Were they part of the 'mile high' or 'mountain high' club? Tom Buzzi (Tommy Tune) skied the powder every morning, had lunch and promptly left the slope without telling anyone for his "power nap", getting prepared for the action that evening. The rest of his ski buddies would spend the rest of the afternoon looking for him. Susan Legg couldn't remember most of the guy's names, except for the Italians in the hot tub, so she called everyone on the trip BOB. You know, Ken-BOB or Tom-BOB, or Joe-BOB, or Ray-

BOB. Janet McKenzie made it a point to check on Dennis Newell every morning to be sure he was stretching. His condo mates quickly caught on and covered for him. And what is it with Ken Feaster measuring women's thighs as he comments to them; "Ya'll have nice thighs" in a distinctly non-Texas accent. All women need to take a lesson on dreams from Pat Walker. From the five loud moans that Cheri Staples and her condo mates heard



fox shaking its tail in the snow. Laura Kinney and Susan Legg were definitely the hot tub queens. Thursday afternoon had them a bit over-pouched with the cute Italian mobsters from Detroit. Who took out the contract on Joe Loe? JR's breakfasts were a favorite, but Christie Burke's sardine lunches were not. Is Dennis stretching?

Favorite drinks. Brent Langford took about an hour to finish his birthday drink, a 7 liqueur drink called an Avalanche Warning, but it didn't take long to finish many more. Louella Stellar's favorite became the White Russian, which she bravely stole from the bartender. But, she was more interested in Scotland as she was caught dropping coins under the Scotsman's kilts and looking 'up' to find them. However, it was Melissa Ham who found the true Scottish moon in Crested Butte. Sorry Brent, you need to wear a kilt to get into CB bars. Angella Martell came to his rescue and helped him celebrate his birthday in the local saloons. Brent, did your birthday wish come true? Some of the group celebrated Brent's and Stacey's birthday all week, and not just by eating cake.

Race director, Joe Loe, thought it was race day everyday. When he hit the moguls on Upper Keystone, he took big-air. He was off on his own a lot making arrangements, but people bumped into him occasionally. Ray Davis, the old teenager, enjoyed fast



one night, dreams can definitely come true. Was she thinking of some man on the trip or of climbing all those stairs back to the condo? Is Dennis stretching?

Half of the group opted to go on the sunset sleigh ride including David Launarey, Tom Buzzi, Nancy Schultz, Dennis Newell, Bob and Karla Darden, Joe Loe, Janet McKenzie, and JR and Stacey Ronczy. Some of the people were lucky to see a



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snowboarding, but slowed down when he found out the depth of the snow between the trees. **Lenore Geerin** was spotted on the double black diamond and survived to tell about it. **Brent Langford** and **Dennis Newell** were also top-mountain dwellers. Dennis had plenty of stories of a "bad Nancy" he once knew. **Nancy Schultz**, another great skier in the group, quickly became "the other Nancy, or Good Nancy". Is Dennis stretching?

On the last night, people continued to celebrate the birthdays while some of the more cultured participants went to the Crested Butte Theatre for a production of the *Twilight Zone*.

Thus ends the tale of an intrepid group of 23, who found their skiing (and partying) abilities rekindled, their minds refreshed,
