

Breckenridge

by *Debbie Crofoot*

During peak ski season, in Breckenridge, CO, provided a multitude of skiing challenges, comparable to anywhere our group of 28 had visited. Seasoned skiers **James Wayne** and **Nelson Turner** met the challenge all eight possible skiing days. Devil's Crotch became the formidable foe, one very cold and snowy day for **Angie Westergren**, **James** and **Nelson**. It is still in question who followed whom down that torturous slope.

This was certainly the trip for meeting new friends, happy hours, skiing various ski resorts, shopping and good food. **Beth Wood** called Breckenridge; "A snow covered mall." I bet the snow had melted off her credit card by the time she got home. We can be thankful **Beth** and **Stephanie Howell** didn't buy those hats they were caught modeling. **Mitch Gaspard** would have been jealous. **Mitch** entertained the group with a new hat everyday. It wasn't hard to find him on the mountain, especially the day he wore his chicken hat. The fox, coyote, beaver, and the spike were all outstanding hats, but only the chicken, with its flowing chicken legs could have kept **Mitch** from winning his bronze medal. (*Poor Mitch*) **Barbara Giesecke** traveled all the way from New Mexico to go skiing with us. Thank goodness! It was her quick witted one liners that kept **Mitch** in order.

By the way, has anyone seen **Dion** and **Robert Nodruft** since we got off the airplane? Who???

While out partying one night at Joshua's, **Angie** and **Don Shreves** were dancing when two Englishmen pushed her out of the way to take his picture. They named **Don**, better known as "Slimedog" by his friends, a "REAL COWBOY". You should have seen the look on **Angie's** face!

Jaime Grana celebrated his birthday on this trip, almost every night. **Gary Werner** why do all the women keep asking if you ever got a good nights sleep? **Steven Teoh** added a lot with his photos and videos of happy hours, lunch times and NASTAR. Although, one happy hour at Tiff's I think **Steven** got bribed to put it down. Having a little too much fun guys?

The gang gathered for a Sleigh Ride on a moonlit starry night. All wrapped in blankets the party of 17 left for the miners' camp in a sleigh drawn by Belgian Draft Horses. **John Freeman** chronicled the night with his photographic skills. He even made the horses smile. The Mountain Man weaved his mountain tales, at the camp after dinner, as we sat enthralled listening and laughing. Since every mountain man must have a wife, **Debbie Crofoot-Morley** became "Elk Breath" the betrothed, after promising she had good enough teeth to chew the animal hides.

You know— **Dion** and **Robert** the newly married couple.

The crew spent Monday skiing at Keystone. All attended lunch at the Outpost Lodge-Top of North Peak. The spectacular

view was enjoyed from the Gondola and from the mountainside. **Joe Kulpinski**, **Doyle "Dad" Westergren**, **Nancy Burk**, and **Bill Morley** were all there helping to make room for the rest of the lunch bunch. Just about everyone made it, including **Klaus Pratchker** and **Brenda Peavy**. The terrain variety and the snow were so impressive, it was determined then; one day in Keystone would not be enough. By the way what happened to **Nelson Turner** and **Marty Toomer**? What about **Dion** and **Robert**?

Richard Spinks, "Go Devil" did his 1st Black Diamond run at Keystone. By the way, this was only his sixth day to ski...ever. **Richard** must have been really sore, because that was the same night he, **Marc Hill**, **Gary Quinn**, **Jane Jolly**, and **Angie** were reported mastoiding in the hot tub! By the end of the trip **Richard** was skiing anywhere he wanted to ski! Go **Richard**!!

Twenty skiers participated in the NASTAR. Special recognition goes to six first time racers. They were **Mitch "Chicken Man" Gaspard** (.15 seconds off a Bronze), **Barbara Giesecke**, **Stephanie Howell**, **Don "Slimedog" Shreves** (Silver), **Richard Spinks** (Silver), and **Jeri Wilson**. The medals were awarded during the group dinner held in a condo provided by **Steven Teoh**, **Jaime Grana**, **Jane Jolly**, **Gary Quinn**, and **Dion** and **Robert Nodruft**. (*Robert later asked if there was a party.*)

Thursday night was Blackhawk Casino Night. Although, in the short time we were in Blackhawk **John Jacob**, **John Freeland** and **John Burke** managed to convert some of the casino's money into their own. Congratulations guys!

Jane Jolly, our only never-ever skier, was undaunted by a fall on her last day of skiing. The fall tore both the ACL and MCL ligaments in her knee, requiring immediate surgery. Much to her credit and the great care she received from **Gary Quinn**, she will return to the slopes next year. (*We were all glad to see Jane back on her feet at the Post-Trip Party hosted by Steven Teoh.*)

The Adam's Street Grille was the gathering place for our final dinner together on Friday night. There weren't many good byes said that night only, "See ya in Houston and let's do this again next year." As we were boarding the bus for Denver we noticed two strangers on the bus, but they didn't notice us. Could that have been **Dion** and **Robert**?

Special thanks goes to my husband, **Bill Morley**, **Angie Westergren**, **Marti Toomer** and **Steven Teoh** for all their help and support during this trip. Thank you, I couldn't have done it without you.