Badgastein

It has been ten years since SCSC went to Badgastein, Austria. A few new hotels have been added but everything else in this quaint Austrian town remained the same. A few of us had been there before and there were some experiencing Europe for the first time. Our trip for four of us started a week before with a tour of Egypt. On the camel caravan were Bruce Kilgore, Marsha Davis, Steven Teoh and Terry Ann Garvey.

Due to uncontrollable circumstances a few were on a delayed flight from Amsterdam to Munich. So the Middle Easterners met up with Lee Swords, Lois and Penny Chancey, Suzanne Byrd and Gene Soo. These unfortunate people, having a five hour delay, arrived in Badgastein to find there was no room in the Inn. But all was taken care of (at another hotel). They were real sports and took it in stride. All settled in and it was time for the Super Bowl starting at 11:00 p.m. Austrian time -- live. Lots of us started out watching but only a handful finished. Surprises are not over yet. No snow!!!

But did that stop us? No way!! Some did ski on the patches they had and the rest of us made the best of it. We took trains and buses and toured Germany, Austria and Italy. We found in Venice when you get in a Gondola you immediately want to sing "O Solo Mio" and some unfortunately did.

We were graciously received by the townspeople at a Champagne reception at the lovely Casino. Everyone looked so lovely. Some won and some lost but a good time was had by all. One night we had a torch light walk through the woods. What was presented to us as a ten minute walk turned into what seemed like 10 miles all up hill! But our real trooper in the pack was Lois Chancey. What a gal! At the end of the trail at a lovely hotel was Schnapps -- welcomed be all. We had a Black tie party and the imagination of some ran wild. Tim Malone won hands down with his ski pole straps. Very interesting. Also we had a Mad Hatter party. Susan and Frank Stanley looked great in their mask and hats. Takemi Koike made hats for herself and Tommy Thompson with her oragami talent. Llona and Chip Doubet were quite a handsome pair in their chapeaus. At this time I would like to thank Ted and Debbie Bergeron for being so gracious and packing up (after unpacking) and moving to another hotel when I found out there was no room in the Inn for all of us. But we still were able to party together. Carol Buck and Lynn Messer were our beautiful blonds who seemed to have a great time and all they had to do is enter the room.

Jimmy Byars came on the trip to recapture his visit of ten years ago and reminisce he did. Robert Knupp, who had us all worried he would not make the plane, came to ski and ski he did. Alex Krawtzow wins the prize for the most luggage but paid the price going through customs on the way home. It was Nancy and Jeff Sarff's first trip to Europe but I don't think it will be their last. Then we have the three wise guys (OK, excuse me I mean men) Skip Stockwell, Gary Haley, and Rex Henderson, who taught this TC how to lose money at cards. Monolo Valle continued his trip on to Vienna and Prague while the rest had to come home. The Stanley's, Carol Buck, Lynn Messer and the Chancey's all continued their vacations as well. The Chancey's went on even then some --- to Budapest!

And not to forget sweet Suzanne Byrd. She had to put up with this TC as her roommate and what a great roommate she was. I want to thank all of the participants for being so understanding and pleasant. You all made my job as TC so easy and enjoyable. Grub Gott Y'all.





