



The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB www.spacecityskiclub.org



September 2011

Member
Texas Ski Council

Vol. 47, No. 5

From Mission Control

by Sandra McCunis, President

Our summer break is over and we can look forward to our first General Meeting on Monday, September 12th at Dave & Buster's at 6:30 PM. Our Trip Coordinators and Assistant Trip Coordinators will be available to provide you with information about our exciting 2011/2012 season trips. Some of them are filling quickly and will be starting a wait list. Don't forget to bring your checkbook so that you don't miss a chance to reserve a spot on a trip to one or more of these desirable destinations. You must be an active member to sign up so if you have not renewed your membership, you can do so at the meeting.

You will also have an opportunity to sign up for our upcoming activities. Mary Jo Loverdi is organizing a private cooking class with chef, Monica Pope. Ann Dorn's Wine Tasting event is back by popu-



lar demand. Cindy Moore and her assistant coordinators, Marty Budinsky and Ali Buturovic, will be promoting our annual Holiday Gala. Please invite your friends to participate in our activities. You do not need to be a member to sign up for an activity and it is a great way to introduce them to all that SCSC has to offer.

I plan to organize a Ski Swap for our October meeting, a Fashion Show in November and the Sunshine Kids Auction in December. I need volunteers to help with these events. I will also need members to serve on the nominating committee for our 2012/2013 officers. I would greatly appreciate if you would contact me at semccunis@aol.com to volunteer.

It is our goal to continue to improve SCSC and to increase membership. Please help us to promote our organization. Tell your family and friends about SCSC and invite them to attend our General Meetings and Happy Hours. This will be a great year to be involved!

I will look forward to seeing you at our General Meeting on September 12th.

Countdown to Liftoff

By Jim Hodges, V.P. of Trips

Trip sign-up is now in high gear! The TCs and ATCs have been working hard for the last FIVE months preparing for the 2011-2012 ski season and it is now time for you to make that difficult decision on where to ski next season.

Banff, Canada makes a return to our slate of trips after several years of being absent. If you ever wanted to ski the areas close to Banff, this is the year. Arlen Isham has a great deal on direct non-stop airfare between Houston and Calgary and the full trip price is similar to our Colorado destinations! You may never again see a ski trip to Canada at such a reasonable price

We have two trips with options for either a short trip (Saturday-Wednesday) or long trip (Saturday-Saturday). Check out the Space City web site for the details on Vail in December or Breckenridge/Keystone in March

Interested in skiing some of the most beautiful scenery anywhere? Consider Big Sky Montana or Sun Valley Idaho. Want to combine your normal ski trip with mingling with the other TSC ski



clubs, ski racing and casino gambling? Have a look at Heavenly-Lake Tahoe. Want to go somewhere with a reputation for outstanding snow conditions and a mountain suitable for all skill levels? Steamboat is always can't miss choice.

The Poland trip that was cancelled last year is back! Same trip, better travel schedule and a reliable tour operator!

Space City Ski Club is not sponsoring a Thanksgiving trip this year, however if you are interested we have an arrangement with Houston Ski Jammers ski club. They will be organizing a trip for the TSC Fall Round trip to Breckenridge.

The TSC Traditional to Snowmass in January is selling out fast! By the time you read this, it may be taking names for a stand-by list only. Check with George Lopez on the trip status.

Galapagos sold all 16 available spots the first week of trip sign-up. Visit with Melinda Hughes if you have an interest in adding your name to the standby list. There is a possibility of expanding the trip but nothing is confirmed as of now.

Need more information? Visit with the TCs and ATCs at the September 12 General Meeting at Dave & Busters. You can discuss the details of the trip, get answers to your questions and sign-up for the trip. Don't forget to bring your check book!

Having A Blast!

By Leslie Ward, V.P. of Activities

Since our last Sitzmarke, we've had our Bowling Tournament, Astros vs. Brewers Game, and a Beach Bash & Pool Party. Thanks to Larry Hord, Don Macken, David Cone and Sandra McCunis for running these events.

On a hot Sunday afternoon on the last day of July, a group of 22 met up in Bellaire for a bowling tournament. Arlen Isham was the over all winner with a total score of 590 for three games. Ming Hughes and Don Macken came in second and third respectively with scores of 515 and 512. Don was also the winner of the high score for a single game when he bowled a 201. He was the only one to bowl over a 200 that day. Arlen came in second with a single game score of 191 and Jose Araujo placed third when he



bowled a 190. Good Sport awards went to Sandra McCunis, Diane Stotz and yours truly. The awards were "presented" at Little Woodrow's. A fun time was had by all.

The next weekend Don Macken took 18 of us to Minute Maid Park and supported the Astros in their game against the Milwaukee Brewers. The Astros lost but we were all winners for having a good time together. Since the Astros ticket office gave us a great deal on the tickets we had money leftover and were able to give out some door prizes. Our next activity will be a cooking class given by Monica Pope. It is going to be held on Saturday September 17 starting at 6:30 pm at her cooking therapy location up stairs from her restaurant t'afia. The cost is \$70 for members and \$75 for non-members. This includes all food, wine, non alcoholic drinks, fees, taxes and 15% gratuity. Mary Jo Loverdi is the AC for this event. Final payment will be Monday Sept. 12 which is the night of our first General Meeting.

Ski Trip Schedule 2011-2012

****Trip Price Cash/Check Discounts (Domestic)—Subtract \$50 on Full Trip Pkgs & \$35 on Land/Short Trip Pkgs**

Destination	Trip Dates	FPD	Trip \$	TC	ATC
Breckenridge TSC Fall Roundup	Nov 22-27, 2011 (Tues-Sun)		Land Only \$555 No Cash Discount	Andrea Yowman -TSC fallroundup@tscyf.org 832-877-6071	Join Ski Jammers Ski Club for this trip (see article)
Vail, CO—Short Trip	Dec 10-14, 2011 (Sat-Weds)	10-Oct-11	Full \$903 Land \$570	Pat Piech ppiech48@comcast.net 281-531-7650	
Vail, CO—Long Trip	Dec 10-17, 2010 (Sat-Sat)	10-Oct-11	Full \$1,232 Land \$884	Pat Piech ppiech48@comcast.net 281-531-7650	
Snowmass, CO TSC Traditional	Jan 7-14, 2012 (Sat-Sat)	1-Nov-11	Full \$1,343 Land \$884	George Lopez GJL_ASTI@yahoo.com 856 296 9399	Camille LaRoe camille.LaRoe@sylvania.com 281-686-2274
Poland	Jan 20-29, 2012 (Fri-Sun)	1-Nov-11	Full \$2,196 Cash Disc \$60 Land \$1,069 Cash Disc \$35	Vicki Faulkner vsfaulkner@att.net 713-863-0470	
Steamboat Springs, CO	Jan 21-28, 2012 (Sat-Sat)	11-Oct-11	Full \$1,227 Land \$719	Derek Shoobridge hlift@aol.com 281-393-1255	Lynda Meyer lynda_meyer@yahoo.com 713-775-9215
Banff, Canada	Feb 4-11, 2012 (Sat-Sat)	21-Nov-11	Full \$1230 Land \$700	Arlen Isham aisham@consolidated.net 713-560-0187	
Heavenly-Lake Tahoe, CA TSC Winter Shootout	Feb 11-18, 2012 (Sat-Sat)	1-Nov-11	Full \$1099 Land \$579	Bob Olsen bobolsen1@comcast.net 713-530-9068	Maria Mendez mendez_me@yahoo.com 281-797-7084
Big Sky, MT	Feb 25 - Mar 3 (Sat-Sat)	14-Nov-11	Full \$1,219 Land \$816	Beverly Roberts 281-496-4897 Beverly.borroughs.roberts@gmail.com	Jill Nanney 832-251-7097 pj_nanney@hotmail.com
Breckenridge, CO Short Trip	Mar 3-7, 2012 (Sat-Weds)	14-Nov-11	Full \$829 Land \$502	Patty Finch finchp@gtlaw.com 936-520-1486	Louella Steller ljdms@aol.com 832-723-9529
Breckenridge/Keystone Long Trip	Mar 3-10, 2012 (Sat-Sat)	14-Nov-11	Full \$1,140 Land \$800	Patty Finch finchp@gtlaw.com 936-520-1486	Louella Steller ljdms@aol.com 832-723-9529
Sun Valley, Idaho TSC Final Showdown	Mar 10-17, 2012 (Sat-Sat)	1-Dec-11	Full TBD Land \$841	Ann Rogers rogersae@msn.com 281-703-0454	Ray Villareal rdforce1@yahoo.com 713-344-3625
Galapagos TSC Summer Expedition	August 1-10, 2012 (Weds-Fri)	19-Mar-12	Land Only \$3,563 Cash Disc \$100	Melinda Hughes home@angeloproductions.com 936-825-7039	

Having A Blast! *By Leslie Ward, V.P. of Activities (cont)*

Ann Dorn has graciously offered to host another Wine Tasting event, which has been scheduled for Saturday Oct. 8 starting at 7:00 pm. Price is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Appetizers, dinner and wine are included. Final payment is September 29.

Our Holiday Gala has been scheduled for Saturday Nov. 12 at Capone's. Cindy Moore is the AC and Marty Budinsky & Adi Buturovic will be the AAC's. Price is \$40 per person. The live band "Little Terry and the Blues Birds" will be playing that night. We will be inviting members of the Clear Lake Area Ski Club and the Houston Ski Jammers. This event will include an auction to raise money for the TSC Youth Foundation, a 501c3 charitable organization. General donations for the TSCYF will also be collected at this event. Final payment is October 27.

See the Calendar of Events for the upcoming Happy Hour locations. Note that all of the HH's have been scheduled through next summer but check the Sitzmarke and or the website close to the date to confirm the location as we have already had to move a few around.

We are working on Spring time dates for a sailing trip with TASS and a Kayaking Day trip.

I have noted a few new ideas for activities. I still need people to be Activity Coordinators. Please step up and volunteer.

- Tour of Saint Arnold's Brewery
- Ghost Tour of Houston
- Pub Crawl in Downtown Houston

Please contact me at 832-863-2018 or shmrc1317@aol.com to volunteer to lead one of these activities or come up with one of your own.



TRIBUTE TO DENNIS NEWELL

Dennis Newell had been a member of the club for about 12 years. His first club trip was a short trip to Crested Butte where Janet McKenzie immediately targeted him as one of her first 'projects'. He must have enjoyed this initiation into the club, because from that point on, he was an active member. He usually took two ski trips a year with the club and participated in many other club activities. He had been advancing in club leadership positions: he was an ATC for Beaver Creek in 2010, then the TC for Jackson Hole last year. Dennis was serving as a DOT at the time of his untimely death at age 54 from an undetected cardiovascular disease.

Dennis was one of the founding members of the 'Big Dogs' - an informal group of advanced skiers who enjoy tackling moguls, powder, and the steeps. Due to his great conditioning, he was like the energizer bunny zipping down the moguls, passing his companions who had to stop and gasp for breath. Last year at Jackson Hole, he finished a grueling Hobacks mogul run at least 15 minutes ahead of the other Big Dogs, and then insisted on returning to the top of the mountain for another run down a black bowl. In addition to his stamina, his ski buddies will always remember his spectacular, head-first fall down Connie's Coulee at Big Mountain. He had a childish giggle when he hit a mogul line just right and equally received joy from building up others' confidence on a slope - he was the "slope barometer" for many friends. Dennis had a mischievous side as well. As one story goes, he would agree to make another run down a challenging slope and ride the lift up with the group only to split away with "the girls" and take it easy the rest of the afternoon. As much as he loved being on the slopes, he equally enjoyed the pitchers of beer and camaraderie with other club members at apres-ski. His outgoing personality and sense of humor drew people to him. He was a great story teller and loved to poke fun at himself as well as others. There was always a big group skiing or partying with him.



Dennis was a fitness fanatic - besides skiing, he ran more than a dozen marathons and was in training for the upcoming Houston Marathon. He was also an avid cyclist, and took annual weeklong bicycle trips all over the world, including tours of Provence in France, the coast of Ireland, Jasper National Park in Canada, and the Cascades in Oregon.

Dennis' life was brief yet full of adventure and friends. His formal obituary can be found at www.delawareonline.com

BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO—TSC Fall Round Up

Tues, November 22 – Sun, November 27, 2011

TSCVP – Andrea Yowman

We're Going To Breckenridge... Again!!!

Authentic, Unpretentious Breckenridge, Colorado

Join the Texas Ski Council as we embark on Breckenridge, CO during the week of Thanksgiving. What better place to be with family and friends.

Breckenridge stretches across more than 2,300 acres of terrain, filled with wide groomers, glistening tree-lined glades, dramatic chutes, and powder-filled bowls. Skiers and riders of all abilities are sure to find something to their liking in this expansive resort. Beginner and intermediate runs are groomed each night making for ideal skiing each and every day. For more information see www.breckenridge.com

This will be the seventh year for the TSC to offer its Fall Roundup, in conjunction with the TSC Youth Foundation. The Foundation encourages children to participate in active, outdoor activities in the winter like skiing and snowboarding. Breckenridge will be offering children ages 4 - 13 a fantastic deal on its Youth Camp, which includes lifts, lessons, rentals (including helmet) and lunch. In addition, there will be activities planned throughout the week to keep the kids entertained. Blue River Hall in Beaver Run is a kid's "dream come true" with all of its video games, air hockey and even a 9-hole miniature golf course.

Since SCSC could not secure a trip coordinator, SCSC participants are invited to sign up with the Ski Jammers for a land package by contacting Andrea Yowman at 832-877-6071 or email fallroundup@tscyf.org. Deposits are needed immediately to secure your lodging! Send a \$200.00 deposit to Andrea Yowman, 510 Silver Leaf Court, Pearland, TX 77584. You can also contact Ona Jackson, odyonly@yahoo.com, for sign up or questions. Cindy Moore can answer TSCYF specific questions at info@tscyf.org. Since this trip is over Thanksgiving, you should secure your own airfare now. The price of \$555.00 includes lodging at the Village at Breck-Plaza, 2 bedrooms with a minimum occupancy of 4 as well as all activity fees.

It doesn't include ground transportation, which might be arranged for our Houston group depending on participation and flight arrivals. There are child prices and other options on lodging packages. Contact Andrea or Ona for specific pricing information or ground transportation prices.

TSC Youth Foundation Board Approves \$150 Reimbursement

For skiers ages 4-13 and snowboarders ages 7-13, there will be a youth camp. For an enormously reduced price, your child (or grandchild) will receive 4 full day lessons, lunches, rentals (including helmet) and lift ticket. If you do not want your children in the camp all 4 days, you may purchase daily camps, but note that your child must participate in at least 3 days of the youth camp in order to be eligible for any travel reimbursement from the Youth Foundation. Also note that in order to get this pricing you MUST pre-order and prepay for the youth camp. This pricing will not be available at the mountain either for purchase or for any "add-on" of days.

*4 Day Youth Camp: \$384 less \$150 reimbursement = **\$234 Net Cost (Wed-Sat)***

*3 Day Youth Camp: \$288 less \$150 Reimbursement = **\$138 Net Cost***

All ability levels welcome!

We will be staying at the Village Hotel/Plaza. The Village at Breckenridge has long been a favorite year-round Colorado vacation destination. The Village at Breckenridge is a riverside, ski-in/ski-out luxury hotel & resort, ideally situated at the base of the Breckenridge, Colorado ski resort. The Village also features convenient access to Breckenridge's charming shops, gourmet restaurants, activities & events.

THINK SNOW!

CALLING ALL FOODIES!!!

PRIVATE COOKING CLASS WITH CHEF MONICA POPE

Everybody needs a little therapy and there's nothing better than therapy where you cook, eat, drink and laugh! Be ready to help prepare three of Chef Pope's recipes, and then enjoy them with wine pairings and friends. Bring pen and paper if you want to take notes.

WWW.TAFIA.COM



Saturday, September 17,
6:30-10:00pm

Tafia restaurant (private upstairs room)
3701 Travis St Houston, TX 77002
Activity Fee: \$70.00 NonMbr \$75.00
AC: Mary Jo Loverdi
maryjolo@comcast.net
281-910-3959
2522 Du Lac Trace
Seabrook, TX 77586

Calendar of Events

- 09/12/11 **September General Meeting** - Dave & Busters - 6010 Richmond Ave. - 6:30 to 9:00 PM
- 09/17/11 **Cooking Therapy** with Monica Pope - Tafia Restaurant & Lounge - 3701 Travis St - 6:30 to 10:00 PM
- 09/22/11 **September Happy Hour** - Byzantio Café & Bar - 403 West Gray - 5:30 to 9:00 PM
- 10/08/11 **Wine Tasting** - Ann Dorn's - 1635 S. Medio River Circle Sugarland, TX - 6:30 to 10:00 PM
- 10/10/11 **October General Meeting** - TBD - 6:30 to 9:00 PM
- 10/27/11 **October Happy Hour** - The Drinkery Bar and Grill - 2400 block Brazos - 5:30 to 9:00 PM
- 11/12/11 **Holiday Gala** - Capone's - 4304 Westheimer @ Midland - 6:30 to 11:30 PM
- 11/14/11 **November General Meeting** - TBD - 6:30 to 9:00 PM
- 11/17/11 **November Happy Hour** - Boneyard Dog Park & Drinkery - 8150 Washington - 5:30 to 9:00 PM
- 12/12/11 **December General Meeting** - TBD - 6:30 to 9:00 PM
- 12/15/11 **December Happy Hour** - Tango Malbec - 2800 Sage Rd A - 100 - 5:30 to 9:00 PM

Space City Ski Club	2011-2012 Executive Committee		Board of Directors	
President	Sandra McCunis	semccunis@aol.com	281-463-7717	
VP of Activities	Leslie Ward	shmrck1317@aol.com	832-863-2018	Sandy Wellhausen, Chairman
VP of Trips	Jim Hodges	jehodgesjr@sbcglobal.net	281-829-6155	Melinda Hughes
VP of Mbrship	Jan Ferrell	jferrell123@att.net		Patti Finch
VP of Pub	Leyla Ozkardesh	leylajoz@sbcglobal.net	281-584-9723	Ann Rogers
Treasurer	Chuck Pena	penaca23@gmail.com		Camille LaRoe
Secretary	Olga Adair	olgaadair@aol.com	713-623-0411	Cindy Moore
Dir of Trips	Bill Bomberger	bbomberger@hotmail.com	281-495-8668	David Cone
Dir. of Comm.	Charles Butler			Roger Holzman
Auditor	Keith Kirkman	keithakirkman@comcast.net	281-894-4203	

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