



The Sitzmarke

SPACE CITY SKI CLUB www.spacecityskiclub.org



January 2012

Member
Texas Ski Council

Vol. 47, No. 9

Space City Ski Club January General Meeting

Monday, January 16th @ 6:30 pm to 9:00pm

Relocation Notice—Dave & Busters

Annual Sunshine Kids Auction

From Mission Control

by Sandra McCunis, President

I hope that you had a happy and healthy holiday season and that you will have a prosperous year in 2012. The participants of the Vail trip had a fantastic time and we have a number of other great trips planned this season. There is still space available so don't miss an opportunity to join us on one or more of these exciting trips. Contact the Trip Coordinators and sign up now!

Our General Meeting will be at Dave & Buster's on January 16th, the third Monday of the month rather than second Monday because a large number of our members will be participating in the Snowmass Traditional trip. Our annual Sunshine Kids Auction which was scheduled in December was postponed until our January meeting. Please attend our January General Meeting and help support our Sunshine Kids Auction by



donating or purchasing an item. If you received an item at Christmas that you can not use, please consider donating it to help us raise funds to contribute to this worthy charity that helps children with cancer. If you have an item or a service that you can donate or know of a business that would make a donation, please contact Leona Schroeder at leonaschroeder@sbcglobal.net or Peggy Montgomery at peggymont@att.net. If you can not donate an item, a cash donation to the Sunshine Kids would be sincerely appreciated. Also, invite your family and friends to attend and bid on auction items.

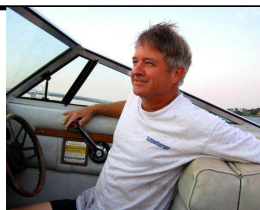
We had a great year in 2011 and it is now time to start planning for the upcoming year. Our goal is to continue to increase our membership and improve our club. Please let me know if you have any winter or summer destinations that you would like our club to visit or any activities that you would want us to organize. Send any suggestions that you feel would enhance our club to semccunis@aol.com. You can help us achieve our goals!

Countdown to Liftoff

By Jim Hodges, V.P. of Trips

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET,
.....oops - wait a minute

The Rocky Mountain ski resorts started December off with early openings and enough early season snowfall to get us all excited. Then it stopped snowing. Our December Vail trip had plenty of



groomed hard pack to ski, but much of the mountain remained closed. Our January TSC trip to Snowmass is next up on the calendar, hopefully the winter weather returns and we have new snow to ski! The major ski resorts are experts at grooming snow and getting the most out of the snowfall they receive, so we can expect to have plenty of groomed runs available to ski and keep hoping for fresh powder!

Having A Blast!

By Leslie Ward, V.P. of Activities

December was another great month for Activities with the SCSC. Thank you to Linda Kuper for being a great hostess at Dickens on the Strand. Despite the weather we had a nice time admiring the costumes, shopping, and celebrating.

Kay McKeough again hosted a lovely party for those that attended the King Tut exhibit. An Egyptian food theme was enjoyed by all.

See the Calendar of Events for the upcoming Happy Hour locations.

Our next event is a visit to The Menil Collection Museum with an optional dinner at the Canopy. We will meet at 2:00 PM, on Sunday January 29 at the museum. Millie Jude is coordinating and reservations are required, but it is free to enter the museum.

Kayaking, Sailing, and another painting activity will be planned for 2012.

Our plans to go see La Cage have slightly changed as we have decided to go on Sunday April 29, 2012. Peggy Schillinger is the AC for this. We are finalizing the budget now, so pricing will be available soon.

SCSC is now on Facebook: www.facebook.com/spacecityskiclub

SCSC is now on twitter @spacecityski (they would follow spacecityski)

Please contact me at 832-863-2018 or shmrck1317@aol.com to volunteer to lead an activity



Countdown to Liftoff (cont)

If you have not yet signed up for a trip, it is not too late! Our January trips are to Snowmass, Poland and Steamboat. Poland needs to add a single male to finish filling the rooms.

Snowmass and Steamboat are full but there is always a chance of a last minute cancellation. February trips are to Banff, Heavenly and Big Sky. Both Banff and Big Sky need to add a single male to finish filling rooms. Heavenly has the option to expand if there is a couple interested. Our March trips are to Breckenridge (short trip) and Sun Valley. Both of these trips can still add people.

If you are interested in joining a trip, contact the Trip Coordinator to get the most up-to-date information on the trip status

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	Sarah Granberry	sarahgranberry@sbcglobal.net		Cindy Moore
Dir of Trips	Bill Bomberger	bbomberger@hotmail.com	281-495-8668	David Cone
Dir. of Comm.	Lynda Meyers			Roger Holzman
Auditor	Keith Kirkman	keithakirkman@comcast.net	281-894-4203	

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
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 \$1,097 Land \$690	Derek Shoobridge hlift@aol.com 281-393-1255	
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 \$995 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.borroughs.roberts@gmail.com	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 ljdm@s@aol.com 832-723-9529
Sun Valley, Idaho TSC Final Showdown	Mar 10-17, 2012 (Sat-Sat)	1-Dec-11	Full \$1,352 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	

Calendar of Events

- 01/04/12 **ExCom & BOD Meeting** at Hin's Restaurant - 6:30 PM
- 01/16/12 **January General Meeting and Sunshine Kids Auction** - Dave & Buster's
6010 Richmond Ave. - 6:30 to 9:00 PM
- 01/26/12 **January Happy Hour** - Masraff's - 1705 Post Oak Blvd. - 5:30 to 9:00 PM
- 01/29/12 **The Menil Collection** (1515 Sul Ross Street) and optional dinner @ Canopy
(3939 Montrose Blvd) - Millie Jude - 2 PM
- 02/06/12 **ExCom Meeting** at Hin's Restaurant - 6:30 PM until
- 02/13/12 **February General Meeting** - Vargo's 2401 Fondren - 6:30 to 9:00 PM
- 02/23/12 **February Happy Hour** - Sullivan's - 4608 Westheimer - 5:30 to 9:00 PM
- 03/05/12 **ExCom Meeting** at Hin's Restaurant - 6:30 PM until
- 02/12/12 **March General Meeting** - Dave & Buster's 6010 Richmond Ave. - 6:30 to 9:00 PM
- 02/23/12 **March Happy Hour** - Capone's - 4304 Westheimer @ Mid Lane - 5:30 to 9:00 PM

IMPORTANT - DECEMBER SITZMARKE ISSUE STARTS ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION

Due to rising printing costs, SCSC will start emailing the Sitzmarke to our member's email addresses instead of mailing a hard copy. Starting December 2011, the club newsletter to your email address with a link to a .pdf file to view, print and save.

For those who wish to still receive a hard copy, please send email to vppublications@spacecityskiclub.org

Happy Hour 11/17 Boneyard Dog Park & Drinkery And Sun&Ski Social 12/7



Alaska Cruise - TSC Summer Expedition aboard the Carnival Spirit

Sept. 6-13 - PART 1

By TC Ellen Eastham

Everyone has a bucket list, some with items written down, and some have that unwritten list of accomplishments they wish to make..... someday. Well one item was checked off the bucket list for a group of 29 from SCSC, Austin Skiers, and Beaumont Armadillo Ski Club that comprised SCSC Group. The group flew to Seattle, WA to enjoy a day of sightseeing, a visit to Pike Market, the original Starbucks, and the stores along the Waterfront. On Sept. 6, Tuesday, the group joined about 100 from TSC on the Carnival Spirit.

Leaving the spectacular skyline of Seattle was quite exciting. Mt. Rainier was high in the horizon 14,411' tall, the Seattle Needle was towering in the skyline, and the marinas were full of boats. The first night was TSC's evening social prior to dinner, with a table of gourmet appetizers, an introduction of the leaders of each club, and a time to meet 'n greet to get to know each other on the cruise. Overnight and Wednesday the ship cruised along the tree-lined coast in the frigid waters of The Alaska Inside Passage, on the journey that passes the area of Canada that separates Washington from the 50th State, past Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Queen Charlotte Islands, through the Hecate Strait and into the waterways of Alaska.

Wednesday was not the most enjoyable for many as when we were in the open sea, the ocean had small white caps and the boat rocked and swayed. Some had uneasy stomachs, and we were so glad to say that this was the only day with rough seas. There was an abundance of activities to do for the TSC group on the cruise ship such as attend "shopping" lectures, Las Vegas-style shows, triviathon, attend seminars about the excursions, ac-



Carnival Spirit ship as seen from a hilltop in Skagway

tivities poolside, head to the spa, workout in the gym, enjoy the heated pool and hot tub, or tried their luck at the casino. Some stayed in their cabin during the day to relax, and most had a balcony view of the open seas. The second night was the Captain's cocktail party prior to dinner, and a formal dinner served, with the group wearing evening dresses and suits.

Speaking of dinner, as everyone knows the food is amazing in both the quantity and quality on a cruise ship. There were such choices as "Breakfast on Deck," "Late Risers Breakfast," or open seating in the formal dining room. One could select lunch at the Grill, at the poolside, the deli, in the formal dining room, or the casual buffet dining. Pizza and ice cream was available 24 hours. The variety of desserts were tempting, both at the buffet for casual dining and evening formal dinners. As Roger Holzman stated, "The dessert bar - Sinful. If any of our group passed it without partaking after an already great dinner, great will power."

Thursday, the ship turned into the Tracy Arm Fjord. By definition a fjord is a long, narrow inlet with steep sides or cliffs, created in a valley carved by glacial activity. The contrast of the fjord was amazingly different from the rest of the trip. Icebergs could be seen floating in the water, with blue coloring as the rest of the light spectrum is filtered out and the blue is absorbed into the ice. There were a variety of iceberg shapes and an abundance of waterfalls plummeting down the tall mountainsides into the ocean.

As the rain began as mist, then much heavier, the waterfalls increased in intensity and were beautiful to photograph and to watch.

Marsha Lutz and **Ross Baker**, and a few others with SCSC boarded a small boat for the Glacier Explorer excursion to see exciting close-up views of the majestic Sawyer Glaciers. The remainder of the ship residents, viewed hundreds of waterfalls in the foggy horizon, but unable to view the glaciers.

Friday morning the ship pulled into port in Skagway, which was the prime start point for all the gold prospectors moving up into the Yukon in the great gold rush of 1898. The name comes from the native Tlingit word meaning north wind! There were numerous excursion choices for the day, so the group separated in many directions. **TC Ellen Eastham** took the "Skagway Street Car" aboard a signature 1920's yellow bus with a guided tour of the historic landmarks of the city and surrounding area. Skagway is a small city of about 800 residents, but with the arrival of numerous cruise ships in the summer, there are thousands of people strolling the streets during the day and selecting from a variety of excursions. **ATC Tom Danowski** visited the Bordello Brothel museum, which brought to life the provocative tales of enterprising women who worked in the "Red Onion Saloon" in 1898.

Sarah Granbery, **Marsha Lutz**, **Jennifer Lyle**, and **Sandy Fowler** had a fun (and cold) time at the Bald Eagle Preserve. They left Skagway on a ferry boat to Haines, then boarded a bus for a twenty minute ride to a camp on the Chilkat River where they had a wiener roast. They outfitted the group in warm clothes for the boat ride and then took off up the river to see bald eagles. The group was told there would be between 3,000 & 4,000 bald eagles in the area during October and November for the last salmon run of the season. They passed a couple of moose camps on the river banks but never saw a moose. In the afternoon most of the group took the train ride, the "White Pass & Yukon Route Railway for a 3 hour journey crossing into British Columbia, Canada, and high in the mountains.

The train ride was the highlight of **David George's** trip as he is a Model Railroad Hobbyist.



The views along the train ride were majestic and a vast difference of terrain. Sarah remembers the railway trip as cloudy and rainy, but as they began the descent down the mountains, they saw rainbows as the sun broke through the clouds. The group counted as many as 10 rainbows and a double rainbow! Upon return, many went to the "Red Onion" for a cold drink, visited a huge variety of touristy t-shirt shops, souvenir stores, which had Sarah Palin knick knacks.

The ship departed early Friday evening, and then Saturday morning pulled into our second port, Juneau, Alaska's capital, 3rd largest city in Alaska, and one accessible only by sea or by air. Again the choices in excursions were numerous. One well-known excursion in Juneau is the Mendenhall Glacier, which is Alaska's most famous glacier.

ALASKA CRUISE article to be continued.....see Feb. Sitzmarke. Read more about what Roger Holzman described as "The sheer beauty of Alaska makes it difficult to comprehend that it is actually part of USA. The ever enthusiastic Drivers on each of our tours so obviously in love & proud of their state, adding to our enjoyment of the awesome scenery. Yet none of them native Alaskans. One was from Ireland."

Group at TSC Mixer: Marsha Lutz, Sarah Granbery, Jennifer Lyle and Sandy Fowler.





Ross Baker on Glacier Explorer tour to view close-up the majestic Sawyer Glacier in Tracy Arm Fjord.



Breathtaking views aboard the White Pass & Yukon Railway Excursion. The railway was built in 1898 during the Klondike Gold Rush



An amazing sight to see: the Mendenhall Glacier in Juneau



Roger Holzman takes advantage of a beautiful sunny day as the Carnival Spirit left the Port of Juneau and cruises along the shoreline.



Welcome to our New Members!!

Kristen Gruber

Dayle Hein

Kent Huzzey

Juniper Jairala

Kristin Koblis

Daniel Kuper

Ellen Matson

Daniel Miller

Kristen Mogensen

Robyn Morgan

Sue Muenks

Scott Petersen

Kathy Quigley

Helene Robinson

Alan Rocha

Brett Rovey

Cynthia Schneider

Anne Simpson

Barbara Bank

Ehud Barak

Linda Case

Matt Cyvas

Nicholas Elkins

Dustin Elkins

Mike Farrell

Allen Gossen

Cheryl Gossen

Kimberly Swanson

Alicen Swift

Eileen Teel

Adele Turcotte

Roka Wolgamott

Sherri Wolgamott



The Menil Collection & Dinner at Canope (optional)

*Sunday January 29th
2:00 PM - 6:30 PM*

*AC: [Millie Jude](#)
See [website](#) for details*



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