

The Liftline

Newsletter of the Champaign Ski Club
Vol. 35 No. 10 March 2006



March

- 3 First Friday Happy Hour at the Hideaway near Lake of the Woods, Mahomet. Take Exit 174 off of Interstate 174, turn right and look left. It's right there.
- 4 Akumal Trip returns via bus from Chicago about 7 PM.
- 14 Ski Club Board Meeting 7 PM Tuesday at Olive Garden.
- 17 House Party 7 PM **Friday** hosted by Terri and Scott Reifsteck at 1341 CR 600 N southeast of Tolono.
See page 5 for full specs. Note the change in date from Saturday to Friday so that the Aspen skiers can join the party.
- 18 Start of Aspen, Colorado ski trip. Be in the Wildcountry parking lot around 2 AM for departure by bus to Indianapolis.
- 25 Aspen trip returns.

Yahoo Groups

from Milt Forsberg

The Board feels it is time to change our method of distribution of information to ski club members. For the past few years, we have used a list server, based at a local mainframe computer. This worked well for a long time, but recently it has created problems, causing many members to not receive information from the club. We attempted to fix it several times, with no success. The list server sends email out in a way that appears to be spam by some systems that then block it. Our largest group is associated with the local cable TV Internet connection, Insight. For the past year or so, someone has had to send email to those addresses in small groups or individually. We believe other systems also have blocked some of our email.

We are testing the use of a Yahoo Group. One has been created for the club and a few of us are testing it. Yahoo does not appear to be blocked by Insight or any other server, so our notes should go to all mailboxes. Yahoo has been around for several years and is easy to use. Many club members are probably already Yahoo subscribers. For those who are not, it is easy to join, and there is no cost. We plan to keep the group "hidden" from the outside, meaning that new club members must receive an invitation to join. Outsiders cannot join, and they cannot see any of our information. This protects all of us from those who "harvest" email addresses for spam. Harvesting is the collecting of email addresses from notes that are sent. Usually it is someone outside the group who does it. Since no one outside can see us, our email addresses are secure. The process of joining is directed by easy to follow instructions. A person who is already a Yahoo member will just join the ski club group. A person not a Yahoo member will be directed to join Yahoo, and then be directed to join the club group.

The group consists of email reflecting as we have with the current list server, but an individual may specify if they want individual emails, a daily digest of emails, or none at all. In the latter case, that person would go to the web page and read the emails, as they will be posted there. Any member may post a note that will be sent to all members. The web page also contains places for posting files, pictures, calendar items, and databases. Even polls can be created to find out how the group thinks on any subject. Yahoo Groups are free to the user. There are a few pop up ads that appear from time to time on the web page, but they are not objectionable.

We hope to make the transition to the new service around the start of our next fiscal year, the first of May. If anyone would like to be included in the testing, or you would like to try it out, please contact Milt Forsberg, miltf@uiuc.edu, for an invitation to join. At present, we are only sending email on this system as a test. Normal email information is still maintained on our present list server system. ●

Telluride Ski Trip

January 28 -February 4, 2005

report by Jerry Welch
photos by Dave Morse, Dave Garner
and Judy Tolliver

The final day at Telluride was fantastic: over a foot of snow midweek made for powder trails under a powder blue sky. This was the climax of a week of outstanding skiing for twenty members of the Champaign Ski Club, seven of whom were new to the Club and had signed up just to go on this trip: *Gordon Welch* (my brother from Connecticut), *Ben Welch*, *Greg* and *Vicky Smith*, *Soo Park*, *Chifan Cheng*, and *Dale Elvers* (all the way from Pana and normally a member of the Springfield Club).

Telluride normally gets in excess of 300 inches of snow each year, but this year storms had been passing to the south and north of Telluride, leaving it with a rather meager base of just 30 inches in early January. Then came over two feet of snow in the two weeks prior to our arrival, and another 18 inches the week we were there. Temperatures were near perfect, reaching between 30 and 40 degrees each day. Because Telluride's location is remote and the ski village is small, there were no lines. Trails spanned the usual range from green to extreme, with a larger proportion of double black and extreme trails than at some other resorts.

We stayed at the Telluride Lodge, at the foot of Lift #7, which ascends up the steep face of Coonskin and Milk Runs. It was down the latter that *Judy Tolliver*, ever the intrepid double black diamond skier few could keep up with, would be seen later in the week sliding, "upside-down like a turtle backwards about 50 yards," according to one anonymous eyewitness. *Judy* was one of five women (*Judy*, *Joyce Goggin*, *Cynthia Swanson*, *Sue Finkenbiner*, and *Chifan Cheng*) who shared a condominium with a view of the mountain coveted by other Club members.



A beautiful day at Telluride.

It was *Greg Smith* who ventured to verbalize where no other man would go, when he said that "the atmosphere in the unit was appealing — there was so much estrogen."



Bridge to Coonskin Lift.



Some of the gang with David and Tanya Garner.



What's that snowboarder doing in that group of skiers?

more Telluride...



Downtown Telluride
(main street view).



Judy Tolliver in an unusual
moment of relaxation.

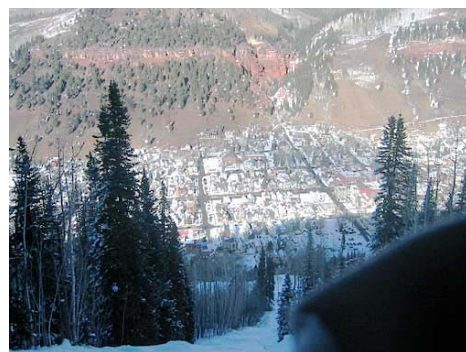


David Morse and Gary Elvers
hiking to the back country.

The village of Telluride retains a quaint, frontier quality, and seemed to be the favorite of most Ski Club members, as compared with Mountain Village, further up the mountain and incorporated only in 1987, designed and constructed to resemble a contemporary European ski village. **Margaret Krause**, at Telluride together with her husband **Wayne Pickens**, and who fell in love with Telluride 30 years ago on her first visit there, was pleased to find that inevitable changes and developments in Telluride proper

had been relatively modest. By contrast, many multimillion dollar homes dot the surrounds of Mountain Village. **Cynthia Swanson** skied with a mountain guide who also sold high-end real estate, but could not be persuaded to make a down payment.

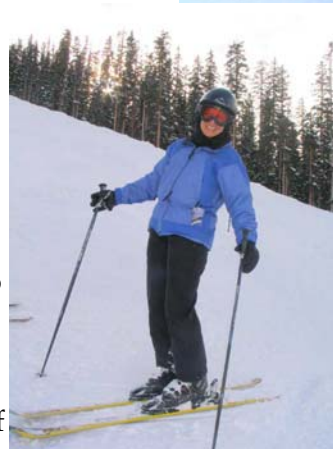
The week was not without its mishaps, but all relatively minor. **Maurice Bell** "found" some deep powder in the bowl, and lived to tell about it. His brother **Marvin** lost the basket on the end of one of his ski poles. **Dale Elvers**, three times recipient of the "Kamakaze Award" of the Springfield Ski Club, jammed a finger when he landed a jump off a cliff he did not expect to go over, and **Greg Smith** injured his shoulder with a fall. He remarked, "...first ski experience in deep powder – like floating on pillows. Had to learn a new technique to keep from dragging my uphill ski, but ever so easy to glide straight down the hill." Other aches and pains seemed to respond to the hot tub where people collected at the end of each day, or liberal doses of Tylenol and Advil.



Downtown Telluride
(mountaintop view).



Ben
Welch
dancing
on the
slopes.



Joyce
Goggin
looking
just too
happy and
relaxed.



And another beautiful day.

last Telluride...



Judy Tolliver,
David Morse,
Chifan Cheng
and
Joyce Goggin.



Who took all these
pictures of Chifan?



David Morse:
"Has anyone seen my glove?"



Ben Welch
and Vicky and Greg Smith.



Cynthia Swanson,
Chifan Cheng, and
Joyce Goggin.

Judy Tolliver was not the only one who attracted the attention of other Ski Club members for mishaps or stories on the slopes. She, **David Morse**, and **Gary Elvers** (the only snowboarder among us) regaled the rest of us on Monday night at the pizza party with their tales of hike-to only trails, and how another, younger snowboarder told them that this was his third time making his way up the hiking trail. One of our group, I believe it was **Marvin Bell**, asked them if they didn't mean that they had been lapped by this youngster three times. They responded, indignantly, that they had not. **Debbie Curcio** reportedly used the "W word" of her husband **Tony Curcio** when she returned from a day of skiing after, and not before, him. Not one to rest on her laurels, she went on to try to set the world record for longest slide into homeplate as she slid down her back on a black slope named *Bushwacker* and came to rest in a pile of soft snow, where a passing snowboarder yelled "safe."

My brother **Gordon Welch** was the only new skier among us, and a brand new skier at that, but progressed nicely to blues by the end of the week. **Soo Park**, one of several skiers on the other end of the spectrum of ability, hooked up with a sixty-six year old, self-described ski bum named Ed. Together, they took some pride in conquering a double black diamond run named *Little Rose*, only to be robbed of their satisfaction by a six year old skier they sat with on a lift, and who said that *Little Rose* was too easy. After a second run on this same slope at the end of the week, he agreed it wasn't so bad after all.

We enjoyed two get-togethers during the week, the pizza party on Monday night, followed by a group spaghetti dinner by popular demand on Thursday night. **Vicky Smith**, who managed to get herself turned around and had to hike up hill a couple of times her last run of the week, led the way at the spaghetti dinner and cooked for twenty, with lots of help from others. **Ben Welch** not only impressed the group with his empty leg, but also with his chocolate fudge brownies. It was a week of good food, good fun, and very good skiing. ●


Club calendar

First Friday Happy Hours ...always begin at 6 PM

- Mar 3 At the Hideaway near Lake of the Woods, Mahomet.
Take Exit 174 off I74 and you are right there.
- April 7 At Real Hacienda Mexican Restaurant,
912 W. Bloomington Road, Champaign.

Parties and Events

- Mar 17 House Party hosted by Terri and Scott Reifsteck at
7 PM in Tolono. See to right.
Note that this party has been moved up a day so
that the skiers going to Aspen can join in.

- April 29  Mystery House Party Saturday night
at 7 PM to be announced via email.
For the overcurious, contact
Judy Haydel at 352-7254 or
haydelju@insightbb.com.

Last Winter Ski Trip (see September issue for full details)

- Mar 18-25 Aspen, Colorado



Wait until you see
the photographs
that Terri (and the
rest of us) took on
the Akumal trip
...in the April issue
of The Lifeline.



HOUSE PARTY

**Friday
March 17
7 PM**

**Hosted by
Terri and Scott Reifsteck
1341 CR 600 N
Tolono
phone 484-4915**

**Directions from Champaign:
go south on Rt. 45 past
Tolono for 1 mile to
CR 600 N (Sadourus Rd.),
turn left (east), go over RR
tracks then 3 more miles east.**

**Directions From Urbana:
go down Rt. 130 past Philo
for 2 miles to CR 600 N, turn
right (west), then go 2½ miles.**

**Their BIG WHITE HOUSE is
down a lane on the south side
of the country road.**

BYOB and a snack for all.

Copper Mountain in December

report by Greg Crawford

Jim, Linda and Leslie Ayers and myself visited Don Kennen for four days skiing at Cooper Mountain in December. The snow was great and the skiing and accommodations at Don's were outstanding. It was somewhat cold two of the days but warmed up for the other two days. This is our last day at the top of the mountain. ●



Greg Crawford
Leslie Ayers
Linda Ayers
Don Kennen



Greg
Leslie
Linda
Dave Garner



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2005-2006

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The board meets at 7 pm on Tuesday following
the second Monday of the month.
All are welcome.