

Telluride January 2022

Our Winter Shootout this year was to Telluride, Colorado from Feb. 5 – 12th, led by our trip leader, Keith Zimmerman and our assistant trip leader, Kathy Hebert. Our group consisted of 7 skiers from our club and 5 skiers from the Beaumont, Armadillo club. No group air was provided so travelers arrived at different times, on different airlines in Montrose, CO. Shuttle buses to Telluride were shared with other clubs and included a stop at the grocery store for groceries and libations. Everyone arrived safely and on time.

The condo, Bear Creek Lodge, was very nicely furnished and the employees were more than helpful. One skier arrived about 9:30 pm and the front desk clerk carried her bags to her room, making sure she found her way. The condo itself was beautifully furnished with spacious common areas and a well-furnished kitchen. This lodge was listed as a ski in/ski out facility but the funicular (small rail car holding 6 skiers at a time) was out of order all week. Not to worry, the shuttle bus drivers worked overtime to make sure out wait for transportation to the lifts and ski runs was short, picking us up any time called. There was also a heated pool and 2 hot tubs to sooth sore muscles.



The weather all week was perfect and sunny. The only drawback to this was not having any fresh powder. All the runs were groomed every other day so the skiing was great. There were trails for all levels of skier from green to black. The view from the highest run, “See Forever”, was second to none with everyone stopping to take many pictures. No major injuries were reported all week. The Mountain Village included many places to rent equipment and many restaurants and shops.

The Sunday welcome party was much more than expected and included an entire dinner of burgers, hotdogs, and hot wings with all the extra sides and a desert. A DJ played music all night and many danced the night away. A cash bar was available and the night proved to be very enjoyable.

Monday night our group enjoyed their mid-week club dinner at the Italian restaurant Rustico. It was a beautiful 2 gondola ride into the city of Telluride and a short walk to get there. The food was fantastic with many ordering the night’s special of spinach, mushroom, chicken filled ravioli with an osso buco sauce. Yum!! Our waiter was

exceptional bringing all of our dinners quickly and with no problems. The wine ordered by some was enjoyed as well. We all highly recommend this restaurant.



Wednesday found us all at the mountain picnic organized by the TSC on the sunny mountain. The location was perfect but the expected food was not as promised and expensive as well. This event was listed as optional, but the tour operator and TSC decided to make it mandatory for all skiers.



Thursday was the racing event and our very own Armadillo, Brenda Herman, skiing for CLASC, won the fastest skier in her age group. CLASC won a total of 5 medals and also first place in Division III. Six of our group participated in this event.

Thursday night our group gathered at one of the condos and shared a dinner of gumbo prepared by Jenny Nguyen and Ray Long of the Armadillos. We all brought appetizers, desserts, and sides to go with our meal. The gumbo was fabulous and a good time was had by all. BYOB meant everyone had their favorite drinks in hand for the night. Laughs were contagious and memories with photos were shared. We really came together as a group that night.



All too soon we attended the Farewell banquet party on Friday. The theme was red, white, and blue. Our own John Parent was decked out in very groovy attire and made it to the finals. We think he should have won an award for his great attempt, but it was not to be. Awards were announced and trip leaders were recognized for all their work. A DJ again played all night and again many danced. The dinner included prime rib, turkey, salad, vegetables, and cobbler. One drink was included and a cash bar was available after that. Overall, it was a very good meal.



Let's give a big "Thank You" to our trip leader, Keith Zimmerman who kept us all informed of changes during the week, and of course everything he did in organizing our trip. We are back home looking forward to our next skiing adventure.