

Report on SKIBACS 2025 Sun Peaks trip / Jan 26-Feb 1

Just back from another FANTASTIC, memorable Sun Peaks trip ... perfect weather, fun participants, great socializing, and delicious food! Fifty skiers left Boeing's Everett parking lot on Sunday (a little worried about potential conditions with no fresh snow in some time). But cold weather and Sun Peaks' excellent grooming proved otherwise. For four days we skied in sunshine on varied terrain, with virtually NO lift lines, checking out the new West Bowl, skiing through trees on Three Bears & Morrisey, screaming down the alternately groomed black diamonds ... all with incredible views! Then on day five, we were treated to 6+\" of fresh powder!! **Whoopieee!!**

After the first day skiing on Monday, everyone gathered for our club **SOCIAL**. Plenty of food and chatter, & getting to know each other. In advance, everyone had supplied a \"little known fact\" for our **People Bingo** – so we all learned a little more about each other as we took turns explaining our fact. For example: \"I hiked 22 miles through the Enchantments this year\"... \"I sailed singlehanded to Hawaii & back this summer\" ... \"I work out at 130°F to get in shape for skiing\" ... \"In grade school, I competed in the 'Old Ossie football contest' & won for passing with accuracy, kicking for distance & throwing for accuracy\" ... \"Having just learned how to ride, I drove my motorcycle from CA to Alaska\" ... \"I summited Mt. Baker, then made it to 12,500 ft on Mt. Rainier\" ... \"I was called at work by *NY Times* & *WA Post* for interviews before testimony to Congress about the MAX\" ... \"I did 5 parachute jumps in Army's Airborne School & earned jump wings at 23\" ... \"As a 6-yr old, I set the woods on fire by my library\" ... \"I have a 1000-days streak on Duolingo\" ... \"I drove my motorcycle from NV to Canada, taking Idaho's backcountry discovery route/camping\" ... \"I've been to prison 3 times\" ... and \"I drove my '57 pink convertible T-bird on Route 66\". *Such a fun game!* After learning about each other, we raffled off door-prizes: **Wine** (Bruce Benard, Lulu Figini, Bill Grant, Greg Hearn, Jeff Hurt, Carol Mozet, Kathy Shuman, Jeff Stranc, Peter Thompson); **Fireball** (Bob Anderson, Micheline Beaulieu, Steve Beier, Richard Carter, Darrell Jesse, Siou-wai Li); **Cookies & Chocolate** (Ed Aalvik, Julia Anderson, Brian Burke, Annette Dong, Michael Dory, Sean Dory, Becky Passarella, Ivy Pearson, Ginny Senear, Tim Whelan, Sandy Zhang); **Hot Sauce** (Ed Pearson, Christine Walsh); **Chapstick** (Phyllis Kirk, Sue Pilletteri); & **T-shirt** (Lynn Foley).

An invitation had been extended to Canadian Olympic Ski Champion **Nancy Greene** to stop by at our social & say hello. She did show up (despite the recent loss of her husband & brother) and spent some time conversing with our group. Some of us had met & skied with her in the past; others met her for the first time. It was a very enjoyable exchange. Nancy mentioned they were trying to get a brick & mortar **school built at Sun Peaks** – since they have 160+ students and pay in more than \$2.5M/year in school taxes. (Currently, Sun Peaks students are in portable classrooms in 3 different locations with no gym, library, offices, counseling rooms or assembly areas). \"The school district has other priorities, thinking everything is fine since Sun Peaks kids score tops in district testing.\" Nancy said they'd like \"to build a school that also includes facilities for community use, like a full-size gym, a good library and arts facilities.\" They are raising a capital fund and lobbying the provincial government. **DONATIONS are welcome:** Make checks out to **\"Sun Peaks Education Society\"** and mail to: c/o Nancy Raine, Suite 449, 3229 Village Way, Sun Peaks, BC V0E 5N0.

On Wednesday, most gathered for our traditional group **TUBING**. Sun Peaks offers two thrilling side-by-side curved tracks. We hooked up our tubes, and had a GREAT time flying down the slick tracks. Folks picked up take-out & gathered to eat.

We returned to WA on Saturday (both travel days are light traffic times) & we had a speedy border crossing both directions.

Participants shared their **\"MEMORIES\"** from the trip: \"Skiing fresh groomed every morning\"...\"Good times with everyone\"... \"Meeting people from all over on the chairlifts\"...\"Our club's Social, and Nancy Greene's presence\"...\"Such lack of crowds\"... \"Attitude of the lift operators (always cheerful & polite)\"...\"First tracks down black-diamond Cariboo\"... \"Powder Day Stoke\"... \"Touring with Mountain Ski Hosts\"...\"Excellent Terrain Park\"...\"Thrilled to ski 5 days on new knees\"...\"Skiing with no injuries\" ...\"Chance to spend time with my Dad\"...\"Ripping down Sting\"...\"Food at Morrisey Pub (best pork sandwich I've ever had)\"... \"Spotting blue grouse at bottom of Elevation Chair\"...\"Hanging out in slopeside hot tubs\"...\"Communing with the 'Lone Fir' \" ...\"Skiing bumps with friends on Last Chance\"...\"First tracks on Grannie Greene's corduroy\" ...\"Best Canadian meal ever at the Cahilty\"...\"1st time trying Nordic Trail Center\"...\"Spotting our pink ribbons on helmets and catching up to ski with others\"... \"Learning more about friends playing *Cards Against Humanity*\"...\"The Girl Couch\"...\"Heading down to play cribbage but instead laughing my guts out playing CAH\"... \"Waking up to fresh powder on our 5th day\"... \"Spotting decorated Christmas trees (on slopes & in village)\"... \"Getting ski-tips from Peter & reminders from Annette such that my skiing improved significantly\"... \"Comradie of the group\"...\"Skiing on brand new skis; bought w/terrific exchange rate\"...\"Five-Mile run top to bottom\"... \"Watching Annette & Grace ski better and better\"... \"Tubing with group\"...\"Snowshoeing out to McGillivray Lake\"... \"Impressed with how great skiing was with no new snow in weeks!\"... \"Turkey pesto melt at Umbrella Café bottom of Morrisey\" ... \"Skiing with good friends\"... and \"Maybe my last trip with Robbi; will miss everyone\" (*Bill Staab*).

There were about a dozen new people on this trip who got to experience Sun Peaks for the first time. You can't beat it for a combination of great mountain skiing terrain, nice quiet village with lots of great restaurants, a first-class property at the Sun Peaks Grand Hotel, ski-in ski-out, & lots of extra activities (tubing, X-C, snowshoeing, etc.) We skied and spent time with old friends, and made lots of new friends. This was truly a FUN and memorable trip. Participants voted overwhelmingly for SKIBACS to return to SUN PEAKS during this same week next year!! Hope to see you then!

Robbi Alberts, Trip Leader

SKIBACS 2025 Sun Peaks trip



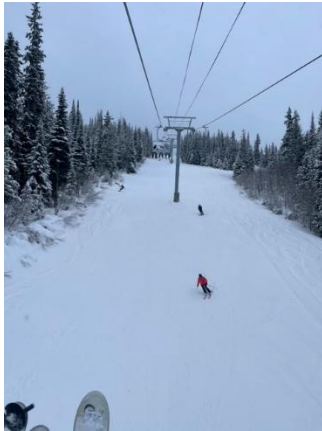
Sunset view of village from hotel



Day 1: Ready to ride 1st lift



View of village from Morrisey



Powder under chair



Enjoying powder day at Morrisey



Olympic Champ Nancy Greene



Club Social: Gals



...and Guys



Sue, Phyllis, Richard



Tube Park pose



Queuing up



Slopeside hot tubs

GREAT MEMORIES!!