

# Gym Rat Rantings

by Bob Ring



## More Sign Up for Life

Let's continue to review the promotional material that Shelley requested. This time I'll talk about Gym procedures and sign-up options.

The Fit Center goes to extraordinary lengths to monitor your comings and goings. They give you a key card that you must "swipe" through the reader machine when you enter and leave the facility. It's Debbie's job to make sure that the number of each member's "leave's" matches the number of "enter's." If something's off, Debbie will either charge you for nights at local hotel rates, or slap your hand for sneaking in, depending on the imbalance.

When you "swipe-in," the monitor (turned away from you) displays your "personal information." This includes that crappy photo they took and assorted other data you didn't know you supplied. You might want to pay more attention to what the "gate-keepers" are doing with that monitor. I've seen Joy applying various funny clothes overlays on your photos and Tyler, well ... he's doing just the opposite, removing clothes. That's why he's always laughing. Shelley hopes that this high tech card-entry system she has developed at the Gym will be purchased by the Department of Homeland Security to help monitor border crossings.

Parking is bit of a challenge at the Gym. Obviously there are not 2600 slots with our individual names on them. The key to getting a really good spot is a special need's sticker, permitting parking just outside the Fit Center entrance. But people are never satisfied are they? One of our winter visitor members thought she'd park inside in the weight room. (There was a space between Treadmills 10 and 11.) Unfortunately, she took out one of the Fit Center's structural support columns when she tried to park there the first time.

The Fit Center offers quite a bit of flexibility in membership and fee schedules. If you are going to be out of town for an extended period, or get "just-stay-in-bed" moody for weeks at a time, you can "freeze" your membership and interrupt your payments. To arrange this, all you need is a note from your mother.

Shelley also offers special payment plans for new members. When I signed up, she was pushing the "You Bet Your Life" plan: my fees increase gradually for 20 years, or until I die, whichever comes first. If I survive Shelley, my fees drop to zero immediately. What would she care? How are you feeling today, Shelley?