

NEWSLETTER **sitzmarke**

April 2016 Volume 51 Issue 12



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www.spacecity.org - facebook.com/spacecityskiclub - meetup.com/spacecity

From Mission Control

I am winding down my term as President and so this will be my last article as President. I would like to thank my fabulous executive committee, Melinda Hughes for all of her wisdom, help and support, and my amazing Presidential Meeting Committee. The Presidential Meeting Committee was instrumental in the planning and execution of the different general meetings we had this past year. I hope you have enjoyed the meetings that we tried to make fun, interactive and social. If you are not attending the general meetings you are missing out on a lot of the value your membership brings to you. I will now be cranking up the marketing as I transition to VP of Marketing. I am looking for a Director who will be instrumental in putting the Sitzmarke together as I concentrate on a marketing plan for the club. If you have any publishing talent, or are just exceptional with a computer, please give me a call or email me at president@spacecity.org ASAP.

The April 11th general meeting will be our last meeting at Jax Grill for this season and will feature our 2nd Annual SCSC Gong Show. See our crazy gong girls gong our SCSC talent! Please contact me ASAP if you have an act for the gong show. I will need your name, phone number, the name of the act, what category it is (music, comedy, skit, dance, etc.) You can go solo; do a twosome, a threesome or even a whole group of members. Put on your creative caps and show us what you've got! As before, there will be prizes for the two acts that get gonged first and the two that get gonged last. Contact me, or Bil Cusack, now to sign up to perform your act.

BIG NEWS FLASH ABOUT THE MAY 9TH MEETING: This meeting will be a very special "meeting" held on the 2nd floor of the Dave and Busters located at 7620 Katy Freeway #100, Houston, TX. It will be very social and informal with no sound system; only fliers for upcoming activities and trips. Now here is the best part. If you have already renewed your SCSC membership, the first 50 members will receive a

wrist band when you check in at the membership desk. This will allow you to partake of free bowling, billiards and some party platters of food we will be ordering. If you have not renewed prior to this meeting, you can write a check at the membership desk when checking in and receive the wrist band. Remember you get a \$5 discount if you renew prior to May 31st! It will PAY to renew EARLY in May this year! Don't miss this fun last meeting of this season!

The HLSR wasn't the only rodeo in town on March 14th! SCSC's cowboys and cowgirls competed in our own exciting rodeo events! Who knew that we had our very own lasso experts in our club? I finally decided my skies were a fitting object for ski club members to attempt to lasso. Mark Monroe won the first prize Oakley goggles generously donated by Sun and Ski, but only after his tie with John Flatten was decided with a drawing out of my cowboy hat. Ron Hayes tied with Ali Pethick for winning the most prize money at the horse races. Ali was the big winner from the hat drawing. Marsha Lutz was runner up. Rowena (insert last name here, who knows what it is?) won the ring toss event and Leslie Cashio took first in the horseshoe competition.

The slate of new officers was approved by a quorum of the club and they will take office May 1st. The incoming officers are: President George Lopez, VP of Activities Jo Barrie, VP of Membership Leslie Cashio, VP of Marketing



Cindy Moore, Treasurer Maria Koteris, and Secretary Ann Dorn. Congratulations to the new officers. Please support your all-volunteer club by helping with committees, running trips and activities. We can't operate a club without many volunteers! All volunteers are rewarded and honored at our huge annual volunteer party.

Upcoming General Meetings

April 11th: The 2nd Annual SCSC Gong Show at Jax Grill. See our own terrific SCSC talent and our crazy gong girls!

May 9th: Dave and Busters. Going to visit Mom on Sunday, May 8th? Make sure you are back for our May general meeting!

No more meetings until the fall. However, you will still have the awesome happy hours and activities planned by Jo to stay connected!

Cindy Moore,
President

Countdown to Liftoff

It's hard to believe a year has gone by. It seems not that long ago that we were at Bidfest selecting a slate of Texas Ski Council trips for the coming year. Since that time the Club has been to the Riviera Maya, Tuscany, Vail, Snowmass, Quebec, Crested Butte, Sun Peaks, Steamboat, and Lake Louise. Still in the pipeline are New Zealand, Fredericksburg, Mexico, Whitefish, and the Danube. As I hand over the position, I am confident that you will be in great hands with Chuck Pena at the helm. He is already heavily at work on the lookout for great destinations, super deals, comfortable accommodations and convenient transportation. As we look ahead to the coming season and beyond there is a sense of renewal and the feel that our club has turned the corner, fully embraced the 21st century and is on the rise again. It's time to be creative, explore new possibilities, seek new destinations, and make

new friends. In this age of instant gratification, online shopping, Uber, and virtual reality, friendship is still hard to come by and friendship is what the club is all about.

I want to thank each and every one of you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as VP of Trips. It has been a great experience.



George Lopez,
VP of Trips

SCSC Photo Contest 2016-2017

1. BEST SELFIE
2. ORIGINAL LANDSCAPE
3. SKI ACTION
4. PEOPLE
5. LOCAL TOWN

Send photos to
marketing@spacecity.org



Special May General Meeting



Dave and Busters

7620 Katy Freeway #100, Houston, TX

First 50 members, who have renewed their membership, will receive a wrist band when you check in at the membership desk. This will allow you to partake of free bowling, billiards and some party platters of food we will be ordering.

DONT DELAY RENEW NOW

Trips 2015-2016

Destination	Date	Prices* Full / Land Only	Final Payment Date	Trip Coordinator
Vail, CO Club - Long	Dec 5 - 12 2015	\$1,429/\$1,171	1-Oct	Jim Jeans
Vail, CO Club - Short	Dec 5 - 9 2015	\$751 (Land Only)	1-Oct	Jim Jeans
Snowmass, CO TSC Winter Traditional	Jan 9 - 16 2016	\$1,370/\$1,062	12-Oct	Marti Turner
Quebec, QB, Canada TSC Winter Expedition	Jan 31 - Feb 7 2016	\$1,671/\$1,005	15-Dec	Jan Ferrell
Crested Butte, CO Club	Feb 6 - 13 2016	\$1,294/\$762	15-Nov	Betty Donellan
Sun Peaks, BC, Canada TSC Winter Shootout	Feb 13 - 20 2016	\$1,485/\$664	1-Nov	Dave Stotz
Steamboat, CO Club	Feb 24 - Mar 2 2016	\$1,363/\$941	24-Nov	Andy Smith
Lake Louise, AB, Canada TSC Final Showdown	Mar 5 - 12 2016	\$1,607/\$1,059	1-Jan	Bill Bomberger
Copper Mountain, CO Club	Mar 13 - 17 2016	\$495 (Land Only)	15-Jan	TBD
New Zealand Club	April 22 - May 1 2016	\$5,626/\$3,596	16-Jan	Linda Kuper
Wine and Adventure Tour to Fredericksburg Texas	May 28 - 30 2016	\$65 (\$61 Discounted)	27-April	Deb Cini
Bahia Sian Ka'an, Riviera Maya, Mexico	June 18 - 25 2016	\$837 (Land Only)	15-May	George Sargent
Whitefish, MT Club	August 20 - 27 2016	\$1,360/\$780	1-Mar	Dennis Hughes
Danube River Boat/Bike Tour TSC Summer Expedition	Sept 24 - Oct 2 2016	\$3,605/\$2,003	24-June	Leyla Ozkardesh

*** Published prices are before cash discount.**

Information shown on this Trip Schedule is subject to change. Contact the Trip Coordinator (TC) or Assistant Trip Coordinator (ATC) for the most up-to-date information.

PRICING: FULL packages include air, all transfers, and per person lodging based on double-occupancy. LAND ONLY packages do not include air. Published prices do not include baggage fees, equipment rentals or lift tickets (with the exception of Snow Bird on lift tickets), and are subject to change. All trip deposits can be made by check or by PayPal; however, final payment must be made by check to receive the 'Cash Price'. Trips frequently have optional activities, such as a group dinner, or offer pre- and post-trip segments that are not reflected in the price published above. The TC is your source of information as to what is included in the package price and the cost of available options. Each trip has a different 'final refund' date -- that is the last date you can withdraw from the trip without a penalty. Refer to the club's Standing Rules 5.1-5.4 for the governing policies on trips, cancellations, refunds, etc. DEPOSITS: All trips require a per person deposit to make a reservation.



YOUR WINTER SPORTS HEADQUARTERS

SKI • SNOWBOARD • APPAREL • GEAR • MORE



SPACE CITY
SKI CLUB
MEMBERS GET

10% OFF*

CODE: 5532

*IN-STORE PURCHASE ONLY. EXCLUDES CLEARANCE ITEMS, GIFT CARDS AND PRIOR PURCHASES. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. CANNOT BE USED ON LEASE OR RENTAL.

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SCSC April General Meetings



MONDAY April 11th, 2016
The 2nd Annual SCSC
Gong Show

Jax Grill 1613 Shepherd,
Houston, TX 77007. Ph: 713-861-5529
(Just south of I-10 between Durham
and Shepherd)

**Don't
Miss**

**Monday is STEAK NIGHT. Get a 15 ounce rib eye
steak, with a choice of side, for only \$15.99.**

Jax Grill is known for their excellent food and
friendly & quality service. Eat dinner-be happy!

Enjoy the vast assortment of delicious dinner choices, happy hour prices all night on margaritas
(\$4.00) and domestic bottled beer (\$2.75). Eat before or after the business meeting!

Having a Blast

Greetings!

As a result of last month's elections I am committed to another year as your VP of Activities and will continue to bring on monthly happy hours and one or two local activities per month. In the past year I have noticed that despite our efforts to keep everyone informed about our local activities via almost-weekly E-blasts, monthly Sitzmarke newsletters, our monthly General Meetings, and our website, people still seem to be unaware of events or not clear on the details. Solution: Do the "Two-Step":

Step 1: Go to www.spacecity.org.

Step 2: Scroll down the right side of the Home Page to Coming Up and click on the blue event link of interest, and THERE is where all the details lie! If you want to register and pay online click the "Register" button, but you have to Log In to see and get the Member price.

Before moving on to April events I wish to thank Marianne Pearce, Activity Coordinator, for our night out at the Horse, Camel, and Ostrich Races in March. No one got rich that night, but we did totally enjoy the evening! I also wish to thank Stuart Traver for putting the Top Golf event together! It was a full house at Top Golf on a beautiful Saturday evening. Our group had a mix of experienced golfers and want-to-be golfers and we had an enjoyable time working on our drives.

April brings opportunities to enhance your dance skills or pedal-and-party! The East Coast Swing Dance classes can accommodate all levels, it won't hurt your wallet, and men are especially welcome and appreciated! It starts on Wed., April 6th so contact Diane Gresko (dmmhouston@aol.com) right now. (4 Wednesdays for only \$33 Members; \$35 Non-Members).

Get your exercise, your beer or wine, and art all in one! The Pedal Party is limited to 16 people so don't delay! Saturday, April 23rd, 3:30pm - 5:30pm. We will visit a few pubs on the west end of Washington and make a stop at the Houston Art Car Museum.

Price includes two drinks per person (on board), small snack, and bottled water. Talk to Leslie Ward (shmrck1317@aol.com) or go to www.spacecity.org and click on "Pedal Party" under FUN EVENTS on our Home Page.

For our April 28th Happy Hour we will return to Churrasco's Memorial City location! They offer a beautiful, contemporary atmosphere, delicious food and drinks, and were very generous in their support of our November auction for The Sunshine Kids Foundation. Please join us!

Coming in May, in between the two national holidays, Mother's Day and Memorial Day, we are setting sail from Clear Lake with a very experienced captain from the TASS sailing club. This event will accommodate those that wish to sit back and relax as well as those that wish to learn and participate in the sailing process. We will depart around 11:45am Saturday May 21 and return to dock between 5pm-6pm. \$69 Members, \$72 Non-Members, and TASS Members receive a \$15 discount. Please contact Bil Cusack at pianozizuz@gmail.com, or 832-264-2604 for further details and to reserve your place on the boat!



Right now is also the time to sign up to volunteer at the Annual Sandcastle Competition held at East Beach in Galveston on Saturday, June 4th. Derek Shoobridge has been coordinating this volunteer team for many years and has this process down. Two shifts to choose from. While volunteering you will get to see amazing sand sculptures emerge and also help promote Space City Ski & Adventure Club. (Yes, there is also food and beer involved!) Contact Derek at hlift@aol.com for further information and to sign up!

As always, please contact me if you would like to be an Activity Coordinator, for an event of my or your choosing, or if you would like to make suggestions or have questions.

Jo Barrie,
VP of Activities

Upcoming Activities

April

April 6th – East Coast Swing Dance
Classes

April 23rd – Pedal Party and Art Car
Museum

April 28th – Happy Hour at Churrascos –
Memorial City

May

May 21th – Sailing Clear Lake

May 26th – Happy Hour at Revolver
Bourbon Social

June

June 4th – SCSC Volunteers to Sandcastle
Competition

June 23rd – Happy Hour at Anejos -
Uptown Park

July

July 23rd - Annual Volunteer Appreciation
Party

Membership

Time to renew your membership
April 30, 2016 is the end of our
membership year

You need to think about rejoining for 2016-2017 in order to sign up for activities and trips. If you rejoin on/or before May 31, 2016 you receive a discount on your membership fee.

1 year renewal by 5/31/16: \$35 Single \$65 Family
3 year renewal by 5/31/16: \$94 Single \$184 Family
1 year renewal after 5/31/16: \$40 Single \$70 Family
3 year renewal after 5/31/16: \$99 Single \$189 Family

It is very easy to register go to www.spacecity.org and register. You can elect to pay by Pay Pal or mail your check to Space City Ski Club, P.O. Box 22567, Houston, TX 77227.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at membership@spacecity.org

Thanks again.



Patty Finch,
VP of Membership

Trip Report - Quebec

QUEBEC - A WINTER WONDERLAND OF MEMORIES – by Jan Ferrell

Picture yourself staying in a castle that surpasses the one in Downton Abbey. It actually makes that one look like guest quarters. Add in superb service, a really cool wine and cheese bar (yes, cheese), your friendly Starbucks and you have the Chateau Frontenac. That was our home away from home for the Quebec, Canada Winter Expedition this February.



Our skiers, **Larry Hord, Bil Cusack, Pete Matheau, George Lopez, Tom Gossett, Marda Waters and Frank Yu** had 3 areas in which to ski – Mont Sainte-Anne, Le Massif and Stoneham. While not challenging vertically, they found powder, ice, popcorn snow and just about anything else a mountain can offer. Unfortunately there are no ski pictures, probably due to what one of the skiers said – “Hell, I was just trying to not break a leg!” Because of the rain, customized garbage (body) bags were thoughtfully provided by the ski area. It was a fashion statement.

Skiers and non-skiers met one afternoon at the Ice Hotel. For a mere \$200 a night, you, too, can sleep on a slab of ice with a thin mattress while cocooned in a down sleeping bag. **Frank Yu** had to check the slabs out while his wife, **Sue Ann Chu**, stood nearby shaking her head. If you’ve ever been to an ice hotel, here’s a question. What do you do in the middle of the night when nature calls?



Lisa Gossett and Tom found excellent restaurants. Several of us joined them one evening and had a small room to ourselves. The elk was awesome. **Marda Waters, George Lopez, Camille LaRoe and I** found The Big Red Roof restaurant near the hotel. It has a real name but it quickly became The Big Red Roof for obvious reasons. **Camille** had a “pizza attack” one day and tracked down a really good pizza place.





If any of you have ever been on a trip with **Margaret Walker**, you know she loves to walk. After meeting up with some Austin Ski Club ladies on the ferry across the St. Lawrence, she led them up the side of a pretty steep cliff to check out the small town of Levis. **Marda and Margaret** can tell you all about Quebec City as they walked all over the beautiful city as well as toured by bus. **Ron Schmidt** toured the local museums until he called home to Houston to greet his new grandson, William. Congratulations, Ron!

Carnival was everywhere and the carnival mascot, Bonhomme, popped up from time to time—including the hotel wine and cheese bar. Several of us braved 19 degree weather to go to the night parade.

A big hit was ice fishing. **Pete Matheau** met some old friends there and went fishing. Do not believe him when he tells you how big the fish were. It has



everything to do with how they were photographed. **Frank and Sue Ann** fished as well and had their rainbow trout cooked on the spot.

One last comment. I've been a TC for a lot of trips. Not this one—I was just on a trip to Quebec with my friends. Thank you.





Trip Report - Crested Butte

By Betty Donellan

We had a great group traveling to Crested Butte, CO for a week of gorgeous sunshine every day. Everyone made it on schedule without any delays to include those



driving. Saturday arrival had Jennie from CBR introduce us to all Crested Butte has to offer and pass out lesson vouchers. Ali and Fred got in almost last only to find their condo was full. So on to another to find a single guy sleeping in the king bed but all got worked out quickly. Front desk, oops and apologies. After some straight shots for Fred and wine for Ali, they got settled in without company in their bed. On Sunday, we had a Superbowl party and, being in Colorado, it was easy to cheer the Broncos on to victory. **Robyn, Betty** (twice) and **Arlen** (Mr. Big Bucks) won the pools. Monday most everyone signed up for the cheapest lessons you will ever get for a full day at \$51. **Ross** signed up as an expert and had a one on one taking



in the extremes of the Northface, etc. Others improved their skiing and still many others had one on one lessons for less than half the price of a group lesson. **Craig** was on a beer owing day as he skied into **Bob**, knocking him over as he appeared ready for his lesson? Craig, to whom was the other beer owed? Monday night our group gathered to decorate their umbrellas for the Mardi Gras parade and they were so cute.

Tuesday, after a full day of skiing, the group gathered to head to town to participate in the Crested Butte Mardi Gras parade. Betty hooked a tip in the slalom course the week before in Telluride so



had crutches and a boot. However another hotel offered a wheelchair which sounded like a great idea until we arrived at the parade to find it had a broken front wheel ! **Ali** got Betty a place to ride on the float which turned out to be the celebrity Flauschink float with the former and current Queens and Kings, including a King from 1979! Space City Ski Club followed behind the celebrity float, walking and throwing beads to the crowds gathered on the streets. While it was not a long parade, it was a great experience and how pleased and proud we were to see the numbers of people on the street to watch the parade. Too bad we ran out of beads before we saw the crowds. **Bob and Fred** proudly



carried the Space City Banner. Following behind the banner were **Lisa Milam, Shaun Wright and the lovely Ceci** totally decked out in costume, heels and no other warm clothes!, **Ali, Don Macken, Craig C., Rodney and Robyn, Rick and Jane, Davis Tucker, Ross and Arlen** totally lit up in costumes! In the midst of so much excitement, **Ross and Bob** forgot to bring gloves (in a ski area at night? Really?) How exciting and fun it was for our group to be in the parade and the locals were just as excited to see us participate as they were to be in it as well. The local newspaper took many photos of our group and of 6 published in the newspaper, we were in 2 of them! Dinner at Slogars after was just what we needed, joined by Cynthia and Oscar.

Wednesday night was group dinner and (the dreaded?) trivia night. **Ross, Lisa, Ceci and Fred** were the biggest winners & losers. Promise next time it won't be difficult. Daily cleaning great as well.

Thursday and Friday were warmer and the best snow days of all (so I am told). **Ross** clocked 60 mph

and **Arlen** at 55 mph on their phones. Slow down guys, we need you on the next trips! Friday we had potluck and while others packed, 8 of us made our way to a comedy show only to find the comedian had car problems in Denver. **Fred** had his own not getting his car started too. So we found the Princess Wine Bar, listened to entertainment and chatting with locals. The consensus is people in Crested Butte are so friendly, the town so cute, no lights, and quaint (no fast food here), and we're ready to return. Saturday had to say goodbye just before the craziest, zaniest and scariest event, **THE VERTICLE** where they ski the extreme in 7 hours. Group caught their flight and the rest of us had a beautiful drive back.

Lastly, accommodations were great at the slopes and easy walk to everywhere including bus to town.



Wine and Adventure Tour to Fredericksburg Texas

MAY 28-30 – Memorial Day Weekend

Deb Cini – TC

Deb@spacecity.org

832-528-6125



Join us for our Space City Wine and Adventure Tour to Fredericksburg Texas on May 28-30 (Memorial Day weekend)! We did this trip two years ago and it was a blast!

We will tour three award –winning vineyards on our Wine Bus and enjoy some music, dancing and lunch at Torre Di Pietro winery on Saturday! Saturday night will be an optional USO style 1940's Hanger Dance at the airport with a big band and optional costume contest! If dancing is not your "thing" there is a Crawfish Festival and plenty of restaurants and live music on Main Street, walking distance from the hotel.

Day two (Sunday) will be on your own to enjoy the Crawfish Festival, World War II reenactment (really cool!) or shopping and dining in Fredericksburg, just steps from our centrally- located hotel. Sunday night we will get back together for a hot tub and wine/beer sharing party (with snacks of course!) on the hotel grounds.

Each attendee will need to book their own hotel at the Fredericksburg Inn, where we have blocked rooms for \$328 (plus tax) for two nights (double occupancy) with the option of two queens or one king bed. There is a two night minimum (Saturday and Sunday to get this club rate). Note: Up to 4 members can share a room if desired but the room should only be booked with your credit card after you have paid for the trip fee.

The trip fee of \$61 includes the Wine Bus transportation on Saturday, snacks and water on the bus, lunch at the winery, transportation to the dance and the hot tub party on Sunday. Optional tickets to the Hanger Dance, WWII reenactment, Nimitz museum, Crawfish Festival may be purchased prior to the trip from us. We are obtaining discounted prices and don't anticipate these to be expensive, most events are around \$7 and the dance approximately \$25. All participants will travel to Fredericksburg on your own or in carpools. The club is not responsible for this travel or liable.

We will have only about 30 spots available on this trip and they will sell out quickly. Flyers will be available at the meeting or happy hours and information on the web site and Facebook page. Sign up online now at our website www.spacecity.org, with final payment date of April 27th. Contact Deb Cini, Trip AC at Deb@spacecity.org or 832-528-6125 with questions.

So.....stop "whining" about the cold and let's go "winning" together in May!!

Bahia Sian Ka'an, Riviera Maya, Mexico

JUNE 18-25

George Sargent

george@spacecity.org

281-759-8541



George Sargent

The Bahia Sian Ka'an is part of a much larger Bahia Principe complex. The Sian Ka'an is a contemporary modern style adult community built for the discriminating individual who enjoys 5 star service, dining and overall accommodations. Take a look at the Sian Ka'an link: <http://www.bahia-principe.com/en/resorts-in-riviera-maya/resort-sian-kaan/>

I did say adult. And with that, understand the Sian Ka'an is more private than the sister resorts. It is located in an eco-environment jungle. But don't be afraid of Tarzan and Jane. I hear these natives are super friendly and will tend to your every beck and call. This property is located next to a golf course.



Transportation to Cancun International airport will be made by you. I've worked hard to determine if there is a preferred airline. My final conclusion is that if we shop the market ourselves and jump when the price is right we all get a better deal. Also, many have favorites for air travel and not to mention you have better flexibility for using personal frequent flyer miles. We will also coordinate 2-3 round trip airport to resort shuttles. Our goal should be to arrive at the airport no later than mid-afternoon on Saturday the 18th. These shuttles will be scheduled based on arriving flights.

What does All-Inclusive mean? It means just about everything is included! Take a look.

- All meals included every day (buffet breakfast, lunch, dinner or a la carte dinner), snacks, PLUS access to an additional 11 specialty a la carte restaurants located at the Grand Bahia Principe complex,
- Swim-up and Beach Bars,
- Unlimited beverages including domestic alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks,
- House wine with lunch and dinner,
- Salon, theatre, animation and night-time shows,
- Bikes for use within the hotels confines,





- All gratuities included.

What else?

- 24 hour reception and room service
- International entertainment programs for adults (day and night)
- Waiter service at the beach and pool
- 24 hours free WI-FI throughout the hotel (service available for a maximum of two devices per room reservation)
- 1 hour per day of paddle surf, tennis, snorkeling, catamaran, kayaking, cycling
- Guests can use all the facilities and restaurants of the hotels and Bahia complex
- Transportation facilities
- Free entrance to the discotheque at “Hacienda Doña Isabel” with local drinks and soft drinks included (premium drinks with additional charge)
- Unlimited á la carte dinners (reservation and formal dress required, long pants and shirt for men)
- Discount at the Riviera Maya Golf Club
- Snack bar open 24 hours a day
- I think you will agree this will be an incredible vacation stay. It would be great to have a large group. Please consider joining us so you won't miss out!





All pictures are compliment of Betty Gosse

New Zealand - CLUB TRIP

APRIL 22 -MAY 1, 2016

Linda Kuper - TC

linda@spacecity.org

713-478-9094



FIVE REASONS TO VISIT NEW ZEALAND

- Queenstown - the Southern Hemisphere's premier year round resort area - spectacular fall colors in April.
- Pleasant temperatures for hikes with views of snowfields, glaciers, waterfalls and majestic peaks.
- Visit New Zealand's award winning red wine region and sample their "Pinot Noir".
- Start your day before the rest of the world, (just west of the International Date Line).
- Sea kayak with fur seals and dolphins in a beautiful fiord near the Tasman Sea.

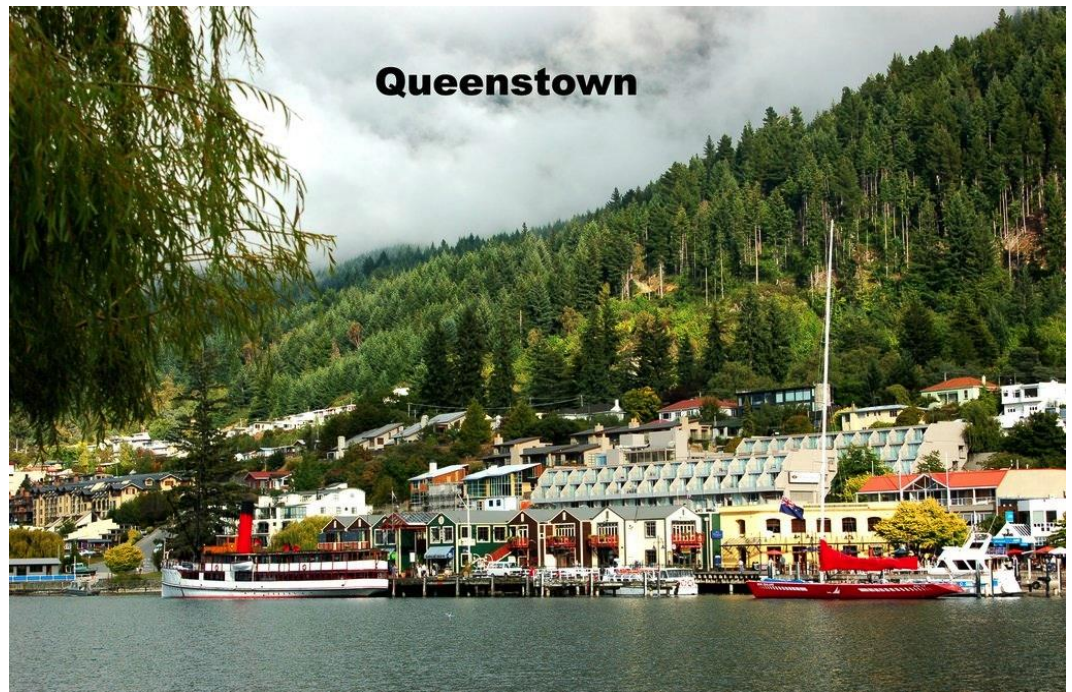
NEW ZEALAND - LAND OF ADVENTURE

Travel down under to a multi-island nation complete with fiords, glaciers, mountains, alpine forests, rainforests, waterfalls, world famous wines and fall foliage in April. You will leave Houston on Friday evening and arrive in Queenstown on Sunday morning.

FIRST STOP IS QUEENSTOWN.

Nestled on beautiful Lake Wakatipu, Queenstown in autumn is draped in a gorgeous color palette of reds and golds. Our home will be the Crowne Plaza hotel with its central location overlooking the lake and the surrounding mountains, called "The Remarkables". The hotel has a contemporary style and the layout allows each room to include its own private balcony or courtyard access. There are several great restaurants, bars and entertainment at the nearby Steamer Wharf on the lake. Included in your package are all meals except one dinner and two lunches.

To explore Queenstown in 5 days, we will take hikes near town and in the nearby wilderness area, cruise the lake on a historic steamship, enjoy world renowned wines at the local vineyards and stroll the shops for treasures to bring home. There is an option to fly





into Mt. Aspiring National Park, stay one night in a back country hut and hike the Siberian Valley trail to reach the river for a jet boat ride back to civilization.

The other option is to hike to the Rob Roy Glacier and the next day, visit a gold prospector hut in the nearby beech forest (this option stays in the comfort of the hotel overnight!)

SECOND STOP IS MILFORD SOUND

Our journey continues to the west coast on a bus tour to Milford Sound, which is the best

known fiord of New Zealand and the only one accessible by road. There may be a close encounter with a mob of sheep on the drive to the sound. They obviously control the flow of traffic in the area.

We stay at the picturesque Milford Sound Lodge, where you can gaze on the rainforests and the mountains on the banks of the Cleddau River. We are roughly 10 miles from the Tasman Sea at the edge of the fiord. Sea kayaks will be our vehicles to explore this beautiful southern hemisphere treasure. We will experience the natural wonders of the clear water of the sound. Gliding along at water level allows us to get a real feel for the enormity of the peaks towering overhead and possibly a close encounter with the special marine wildlife in the fiord. All the gear will be provided for this trip but bring your containers to keep your cameras safe and maybe a pair of gloves (it is fall remember and you will be riding in the cold water).



Our last day in Queenstown, we experience a jetboat ride to the most spectacular river gorges on the mighty Kawarau River, which flows eastward, joins two other rivers and passes thru the steep Kawarau Gorge. The river is lined with beautiful willow trees and towering cliffs, which is the home of the first commercial bungee jumping site. The afternoon is free time for final shopping, exploring those areas not seen with the group like enjoying a horseback ride, a bungee jump or mountain biking. We have our final group dinner and bid fond farewell to lovely New Zealand. Sunday we leave New Zealand in the

afternoon and arrive in Houston that same afternoon (only about 5 hours later) – a real journey thru time. Come along for this incredible adventure down under!!! Airfares are not finalized as of now. Also, the post trip adventure to Sydney, Australia is not finalized.

PACKAGES OFFERED April 22nd – May 1st, 2016

PACKAGE	PRICE (Pay by PayPal)	DISCOUNTED PRICE (Pay by Check)
FULL	\$5,626	\$5,516
LAND ONLY	\$3,596	\$3,516

DEPOSIT: 300 by check or online via PayPal. FINAL PAYMENT: Due by 1/16/2016

Make the check payable to 'SCSC' & mail to 'P.O. Box 22567, Houston TX 77227' write *trip name on the check & on the outside of the envelope*. Online payments using PayPal are available.



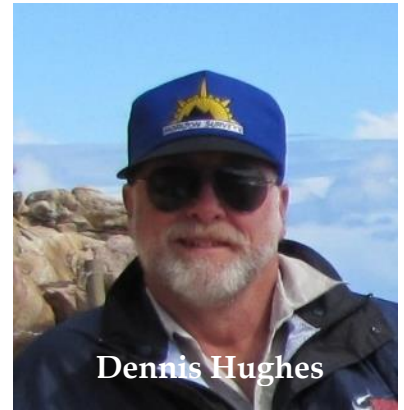
Whitefish, MT - CLUB TRIP

AUGUST 20-27, 2016

Dennis Hughes - TC

dennis@spacecity.org

713-805-1757



Dennis Hughes

Ever wonder what they do in the mountains in the summer? The authentic mountain town of Whitefish, Montana provides for a unique vacation experience – a five-star town in the heart of the Rocky Mountain wilderness near Glacier National Park. This is a town built on the personalities, charm and wisdom of its local residents who work hard and play harder. While Glacier National Park is open year-round, summer in Whitefish offers close access to the hanging valleys and emerald peaks of this World Heritage Site, just 25 miles from town. Fish a clear mountain stream, hike an alpine trail, or embark on a historic driving tour of the famed Going-to-the-Sun Road. More than 700 miles of well-marked trails provide an incredible variety of hiking to explore mountain lakes, glaciers, plant life, and glimpses of the full-time residents such as grizzly and black bears, mountain goats, bighorn sheep, moose, deer and more.





RED BUS TOUR - GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

With their multiple doors and rollback canvas tops, the Reds are as much a part of Glacier National Park as the Going-to-the-Sun Road. While on a tour of the Park, you will marvel at the views from Logan Pass - 6646 feet high on the Continental Divide - the highest point on the breathtaking Going-to-the-Sun Road. Transfer to the Park via 50 person coach for a Full Day Tour. Sack lunch provided by Whitefish Mountain Resort.



SCENIC LIFT AND USFS NATURE CENTER PRESENTATION

A scenic lift ride is a great way to get outdoors and enjoy Mother Nature. The approximately 15 minute ride to the summit offers a chance to cool off, enjoy the scenery & visit the USFS Nature Center Presentation for local knowledge of flora and fauna and to take a guided nature walk.

ALPINE SLIDE

Grab a sled and race down the Alpine Slide controlling your speed through straight ways and banked curves. A fun experience unlike anything else you've ever done. The Alpine Slide is fun for all ages.

What are you going to do the rest of the time? Golf, rafting, fishing, hiking, shopping, the options are unlimited. You decide. Join me in Whitefish, 2016.

PACKAGES OFFERED Aug 20th – Aug 27st, 2016

PACKAGE	PRICE (Pay by PayPal)	DISCOUNTED PRICE (Pay by Check)
FULL	\$1,360	\$1,310
LAND ONLY	\$780	\$745

DEPOSIT: \$150 by check or online via PayPal. FINAL PAYMENT: Due by 3/1/2016

Make the check payable to 'SCSC' & mail to 'P.O. Box 22567, Houston TX 77227' write *trip name on the check & on the outside of the envelope*. Online payments using PayPal are available.

TRANSPORTATION

AIR ITINERARY (Full Package) & LAND TRANSFERS

Check our website for the latest info.





Danube River Boat/Bike Tour, Austria TSC SUMMER EXPEDITION

SEPTEMBER 24 – OCTOBER 2, 2016

Leyla Ozkardesh – co-TC

leyla@spacecity.org

281-785-2325

Rita Cardenas – co-TC

rita@spacecity.org

281-455-5769

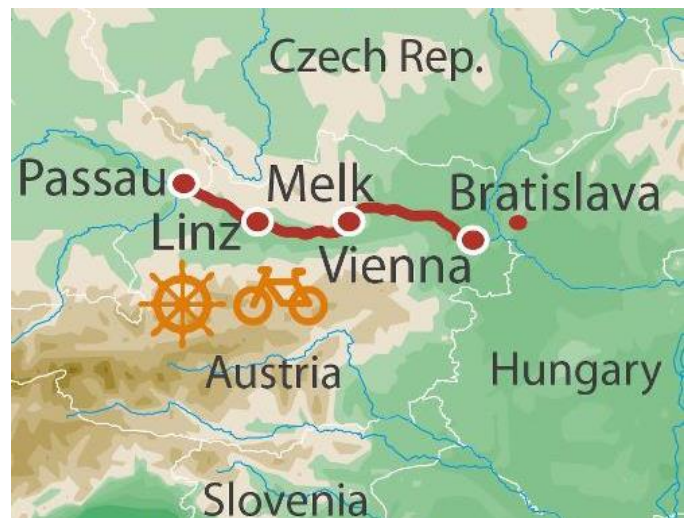


Leyla Ozkardesh & Rita Cardenas

The Danube Impressions Excursion is an easy, leisurely and enjoyable bicycle tour along the meandering lush green river banks of the Danube River going from village to village on quiet bike paths. This makes it an ideal way to explore the rich art, history and architecture of the Austrian and German countryside. The bicycle route we will be riding is flat with only a few gradual up or downhill sections, so if you can ride a bike 20-30 miles with 2-3 hours on the saddle, you can probably complete this bicycle tour with no difficulty. The guide is on the boat and will describe the ride to everyone each day. Then, everyone is free to do the ride on their own and at their own pace. Most of the sights will be seen by bicycle.

We begin in Passau and tour to Vienna, a firework of places of interests! Sights like St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Town Hall and the world's oldest Ferris wheel (Riesenrad) are easy to reach. At the Naschmarkt (famous food market), a stroll will become a cultural and culinary adventure. We will tour new wonderful sites on the way back to Passau. This bike tour along the German/ Austrian Danube is a very special pleasure because your "hotel" riverboat is always with you.

Please imagine yourself sitting in a café alongside the majestic Danube River, enjoying a snack, wine or espresso with your friends. Your bike is just outside, waiting to take you further along your journey of cycling the most famous bicycle path in Europe, passing castles, monasteries, vineyards and more. And



knowing that after each day's ride, you will join your TSC friends onboard the boat for dinner, drinks and stories of the day's adventure. Sound good? Then this might just be the cycling-themed holiday you've been dreaming about!

DAY 1 - PASSAU

We begin in Passau, the "Bishop City", close to the Bavarian/Austrian border and also known as the City of Three Rivers. It has long been regarded as one of Germany's most beautiful cities. It is recommended to spend time visiting the world's largest Catholic Church organ or a typical Bavarian beer garden before we board the boat at 5pm.



DAY 2 - MAUTHAUSEN TO GREIN (22 MILES)

Our first biking day takes us directly along the Danube where we will enjoy the natural state of the meadow landscape. We have opportunities to visit the medieval village and former concentration camp of Mauthausen and Celtic village Mitterkirchen or an alternate slightly hilly route to "Clam Castle" which takes you through the beautiful back country of the "Strudengau". Optional trip to Grein - Austria's oldest city theatre and a castle.



DAY 3 - GREIN TO MELK TO TULLN (30 MILES)

Starting at the Strudengau, the valley expands and our bike tour leads you to Melk with its gorgeous baroque Benedictine monastery. On board the boat, we travel down the river to Tulln famous for its numerous market gardens while enjoying the sunset and evening illumination of the Wachau.



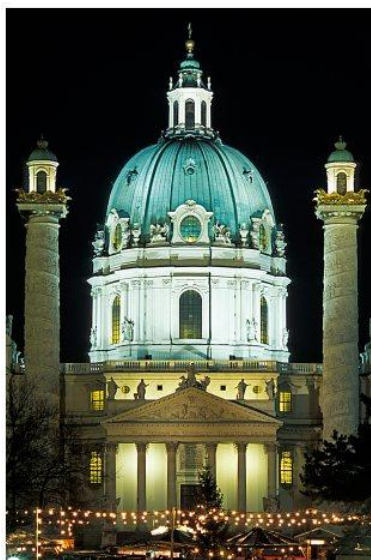
DAY 4 - TULLN ONTO VIENNA (22 MILES)

Starting in Tulln, a key historical crossing point is where we will find a number of well-preserved architectural monuments dating to the High Middle Ages and even back to Roman times. At Vienna's entrance embedded in beautiful scenery, is the monastery of Klosterneuberg. Stroll through wine vineyards and enjoy panoramic view of Vienna.



DAY 5 - VIENNA (REST DAY):

A day to explore beautiful Vienna - an abundance of sights! Famous sights like St. Stephen's Cathedral, the city hall and the world's oldest Ferris wheel (Riesenrad) are easy to reach. A stroll through the Naschmarkt (famous food market) is a wonderful cultural and culinary adventure. You can also relax at any of the cozy coffee houses or at a typical traditional Viennese wine tavern. An optional Waltz and Opera concert at the Hofburg is offered.



DAY 6 – WACHAU/ROSSATZ-EMMERSDORF (29 MILES)

This day's biking enchants you with small dreamy towns, vineyards, castles, monasteries and ruins. Weißenkirchen- perfect for a wine tasting right alongside the cycle path.

DAY 7 – GREAT DANUBE LOOP-ENGELHARTSZELL (22 MILES)

Awaken your senses as we cycle through the Danube valley. Follow the walking trail to the lookout high above the Danube Loop with breathtaking views of the Danube valley. Tonight on board there will be a farewell dinner and a crew show - it is sure to be a night with lots of fun and entertainment.

DAY 8 – PASSAU

We disembark at 10am as we say farewell to our friends. You might spend time in the lovely city of Passau taking in all its wonders. Take a walking tour through the cobblestone streets of this Baroque town renowned for its lovely stained glass and nearly 100 churches. See the Altes Rathaus, the old town hall with 14th-century origins, murals on the façade and a glockenspiel in the tower; and visit St. Stephan's Cathedral, home to a magnificent pipe organ that is the world's largest.

RENTAL BICYCLES INCLUDED

The rentals are modern and high standard hybrid touring bicycles. They offer 28-Zoll-Unisex-tourbikes with deep comfort-entrance. The bikes are equipped with a 21-derailleur-gear with override, caliper breaks and robust wheels. The bicycles are mostly not older than 3 years. If you prefer to rent an electric bike, you will receive modern, high quality E-Bikes – Additional \$82. Bring own helmet or buy one for \$30.

LODGING

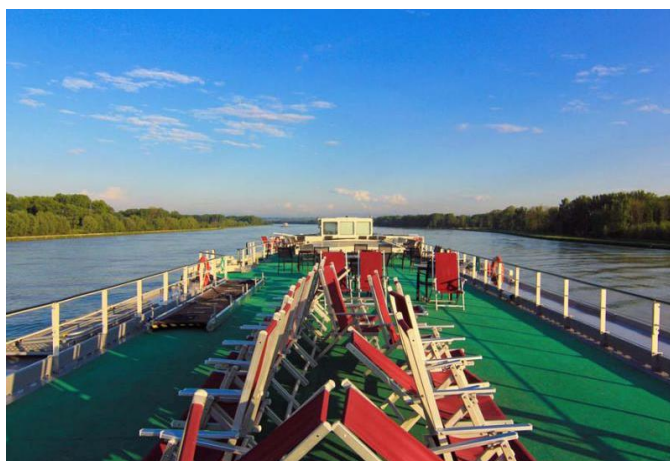
Our floating hotel for the week will be the My Story. It is a very spacious and traditional ship. The MS My Story was built in 1971 and renovated in 2013/2014. The Sun Deck with its awnings allows you to enjoy the passing scenery. There is a sauna on board too! The Panorama Restaurant and the Panorama Lounge with its bar provide not only excellent food and drinks, but also a sense of conviviality with old friends and new acquaintances.

The outside cabins are about 97 sq ft of space. There are individual fresh air controls plus a central AC / heating, shower and WC, Satellite TV, hair dryer and roomy cupboards. All cabins are equipped with two lower beds, one of which can be folded against the wall during the day to provide a homier atmosphere.



WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 7 nights lodging
- Captains welcome party
- Daily Cabin cleaning, towels, bed
- Full Meals – Breakfast, Lunch on board (non-cyclists) or packed lunch (cyclists), afternoon coffee, dinner (2-3 dishes to choose from) (No beverages included)
- Gala Farewell Dinner
- Farewell crew show with live music
- Tour guide on board (does not cycle with group)
- Daily informational meeting

**TRANSPORTATION****AIR ITINERARY (Full Package) & LAND TRANSFERS**

Check our website to the latest info.

PACKAGES OFFERED Sep 24th – Oct 2nd, 2016

PACKAGE	PRICE (Pay by PayPal)	DISCOUNTED PRICE (Pay by Check)
FULL	\$3,605	\$3,530
LAND ONLY	\$2,003	\$1,953

DEPOSIT: \$300 by check or online via PayPal. FINAL PAYMENT: Due by 6/24/2016

Make the check payable to 'SCSC' & mail to 'P.O. Box 22567, Houston TX 77227' write *trip name on the check & on the outside of the envelope.* Online payments using PayPal are available.

DANUBE BOAT/BIKE TOUR EXTENSIONS**PRE-TRIP: BUDAPEST EXTENSION \$650 PER PERSON**

Sept 22	Arrival by plane to Budapest
Sept 22	Transfer airport Budapest - hotel Budapest by bus & 1 guide in each bus
Sept 22	Day of rest at Budapest (no lunch included)
Sept 22	Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay at Best Western Grand Hotel Hungaria
Sept 23	Breakfast at Best Western Grand Hotel Hungaria
Sept 23	Tour Budapest by bus whole day program (no lunch included)
Sept 23	Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay at Best Western Grand Hotel Hungaria
Sept 24	Breakfast at Best Western Grand Hotel Hungaria

Sept 24 Explore Budapest on your own
 Sept 24 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay at Best Western Grand Hotel Hungaria
 Sept 25 Transfer from Budapest hotel to Passau pier (~6-7 hrs) by bus & 1 guide per bus

POST-TRIP: PASSAU & OKTOBERFEST EXTENSION \$469 PER PERSON

Oct 2 Disembarkation in Passau + transfer pier - hotel Weisser Hase
 Oct 2 Day of rest at Passau (no lunch included)
 Oct 2 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay in Passau hotel Weisser Hase
 Oct 3 Breakfast at the hotel Weisser Hase
 Oct 3 Transfer by bus to/from Munich Oktoberfest (no guide on the bus), day on your own at the Oktoberfest (no lunch)
 Oct 3 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay in Passau hotel Weisser Hase
 Oct 4 Breakfast at the hotel Weisser Hase
 Oct 4 Day to explore Passau on your own
 Oct 4 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay in Passau hotel Weisser Hase
 Oct 5 Transfer from Passau hotel to Munich airport by bus (no guide at the bus)



THE ART OF TRIP SIGN-UP AND THE FINE PRINT

Trip Sign-Up: HERE IT IS! Your chance to sign-up for your favorite SCSC ski trip(s) for 2015-2016. The trip registration form is in the back of this issue of the Sitzmarke and online. Go to www.spacecity.org to sign up online starting August 1st and pay your deposit using PayPal, or you may follow up your online registration by mailing a check to the TC. You also have the option of sending your trip registration form by USPS mail; however, the envelope can be postmarked no earlier than August 1st and you will need to wait for the trip TC to notify you if you are on the trip or come to the September General Meeting to verify your registration.

1. Trip sign-up for all trips begins August 1st, 2015. We take sign-ups in three ways: 1) mail your trip registration form and deposit payment to the TC or 2) give your registration form and deposit payment directly to the trip TC at an SCSC event or 3) signup online and pay your deposit by PayPal. If you sign up by mail, make the check payable to 'SCSC' & mail to P.O. Box 22567, Houston TX 77227. Write trip name on the check & on the outside of the envelope. The envelope cannot be postmarked prior to August 1st. Any signup postmarked prior to August 1st will be at the back of the line of day one sign-ups if it becomes necessary to determine the order that registrations were received.
2. You must be a current member in good standing to be added to a trip. Contact Patty Finch, VP of Membership (membership@spacecity.org), if you have questions regarding your membership status.
3. You may sign up yourself and one other SCSC member per trip (plus children for Family Optional trips) (see by-law 2.8.A.)
4. If you choose to register by mail, include the trip registration form with your deposit. The deposit for domestic trips is \$150 per participant and international trips is \$300 per participant. Checks are to be made payable to 'SCSC' and write the TRIP NAME in the memo field on your check.
5. If you choose registration by mail, mail your trip registration form and check to the TC listed for that trip. Additional information, TC telephone numbers and e-mail addresses, is listed in this Sitzmarke.
6. If the registration meets the above guidelines, your name(s) will be added to each trip's Participant List in the order received. If a trip's participant roster is full, additional registrations received will be added to a waitlist in the order received. The TC will hold deposit checks for waitlisted members until a space becomes available on the trip. For the participants that are confirmed on the trips, the checks will be deposited immediately.
7. These procedures apply to ALL members (except the trip's TC and ATC) and all trip participants are subject to SCSC Standing Rules, Policies and Procedures.
8. SCSC is not responsible for any problems with the U.S. Postal Service or the internet, including delayed delivery or lost mail.
9. Information shown on the Trip Schedule is subject to change. Contact the TC or ATC for up-to-date information.
10. Any registrations received which do not meet the above qualifications, may be returned to the sender.
11. Land packages have been approved by The Executive Committee for this year's trips. On the trips which have a limited number of available land packages, if all are filled, you will be given the option of being on a "Land Wait List" or switching to a full package.
12. Because of the restrictions noted below for land packages, be sure you have concrete travel arrangements made before you sign up for one of these. SCSC will not be responsible for any difficulties or extra expense you incur due to delayed or canceled flights or other transportation problems.

Rules and Restrictions for Land Packages

13. The price of the land package will be the full trip price minus participant's airfare. Ground transportation will be included and available on selected trips to land package participants if they can meet the group at the destination airport on time. Ground transportation will not be delayed for land package participants arriving later than the group.
14. Other than the full package, this is the only package price available; no other combinations of lodging and/or transportation will be offered. Note: As in the past, members may "Shadow" a trip by arranging

their own transportation, lodging, etc., and pay only for the parties and trip options. Please arrange to do this in advance as some of the trip options (group dinners, parties, and lift tickets) are reserved well in advance of the departure date.

15. Normal cancellation policies apply: 1) the added stipulation that, on or after final payment date, land package participants must be replaced from a land package wait list and full package participants must be replaced from a full package wait list in order to receive a refund.
16. Be sure this is the package you want - It may not be possible to convert your trip from land package to full package, or vice versa. The Club may not be able to secure additional airline seats.
17. If you sign up for a land package, please notify the TC of your transportation plans in advance of the trip. The TC can tell you where to meet the group at the airport and other pertinent details.

Trip Registration Form

FOR USE BY SCSC MEMBERS ONLY

(Complete ONE Registration Form and prepare ONE deposit check PER trip)

Deposit (per participant) is \$150 for domestic trips & \$300 for international trips.

Make the check payable to 'SCSC' & mail to P.O. Box 22567, Houston TX 77227. Write trip name on the check & on the outside of the envelope. **Each envelope must contain the registration form and deposit.**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY - WE MUST BE ABLE TO READ THE DATA ON THIS FORM

Trip Name: _____ Trip Dates _____ to _____

Participant #1

Participant #2

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City _____ Zip _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone(H) _____ (W) _____

Phone(H) _____ (W) _____

Cell _____

Cell _____

E-Mail _____

E-Mail _____

Please check one:

Full package ☐ Land package ☐

Please check one:

Full package ☐ Land package ☐

Note for Full Package participants: Trip price includes all current air taxes & fuel surcharges subject to change until ticketed. Does NOT INCLUDE any additional fees imposed by the airline such as baggage fees.

Note for Land Package participants: Ground transportation will be included and available, on selected trips, to land package participants if they can meet the group at the destination airport on time. Ground transportation will not be delayed for land package participants arriving later than the group.

I understand the following (per standing rules 5.1 - 5.4): Cancellations after trip sign-up must be *in writing* to the Trip Coordinator and all cancellations are subject to a \$30 per person cancellation fee. If I cancel on or after the final payment date, I may forfeit the full deposit amount if I cannot be replaced on the trip. After that date, the deposit plus club cancellation fee are non-refundable

Signature(s) (Required) _____

Our Leadership Team 2015-2016

President	-	Cindy Moore	president@spacecity.org
VP of Activities	-	Jo Barrie	activities@spacecity.org
VP of Trips	-	George Lopez	trips@spacecity.org
VP of Membership	-	Patricia Finch	membership@spacecity.org
VP of Marketing	-	Bobby Goel	marketing@spacecity.org
Treasurer	-	Maria Koteras	treasurer@spacecity.org
Secretary	-	Ali Pethick	secretary@spacecity.org
Auditor	-	Keith Kirkman	auditor@spacecity.org
Director Of Trips	-	Derek Shoobridge	derek@spacecity.org
Director Of Trips	-	Sandra McCunis	sandra@spacecity.org
Director Of Publicity	-	Deb Cini	deb@spacecity.org

Our Board of Directors 2015-2016

Chairperson	-	Melinda Hughes	melinda@spacecity.org
Director	-	Gayle Dale	gayle@spacecity.org
Director	-	Jim Hodges	jim@spacecity.org
Director	-	Marti Turner	marti@spacecity.org
Director	-	Sandy Fowler	sandy@spacecity.org
Director	-	Ann Rogers	ann@spacecity.org
Director	-	Bill Bomberger	bill@spacecity.org
Director	-	Sandra McCunis	sandra@spacecity.org

Space City Ski and Adventure Club is a proud member of the **Texas Ski Council** and the **National Ski Council Federation**.



April Happy Hour

*Thursday, April 28th
5:30 – 8:30 pm*

Churrascos Memorial City

947 Gessner Rd B290, Houston, TX 77024
Ph: 713-231-1352



Established in 1988, Churrascos offers the bold flavors of the South American parilla with all its fire and passion. From appetizers like empanadas and ceviches to signature chimichurri marinated center-cut tenderloin and famous Tres Leches. Paired with distinct wines, Churrascos warmly transports you to an orchestra of flavor celebrating the grill and fresh ingredients.

Sitzmarke

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Ali Pethic, 2015

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are emailed a link to the Sitzmarke each month. Non-members may download the newsletter from our website in the About Us/Club Documents section on www.spacecity.org.

GENERAL INQUIRIES

Space City Ski & Adventure Club

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www.spacecity.org

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