

NEWSLETTER **sitzmarke**

March 2015 Volume 50 Issue 11



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From Mission Control

A few days ago I found myself reflecting over this past year as I made one more run down Diamond Lane off of the Powder Horn lift in Solitude. I thought about all of the wonderful friends that I have made in Space City and how rewarding it has been to be in various leadership positions in the Club. Thank you to our new slate of officers who have graciously volunteered to take the baton and run with it. I know that they will continue to promote our great club by offering fun trips and activities to keep everyone busy. It is very important that you attend the March meeting, where we will have a General Membership meeting to elect a new slate of officers. The Nominating Committee has proposed the following members as officers for the upcoming year:

President – Cindy Moore
 VP of Trips – George Lopez
 VP of Activities – Jo Barrie
 VP of Membership – Patty Finch
 VP of Marketing – Bobby Goel
 Secretary – Ali Pethick
 Treasurer – Maria Mendez

Also, you have a few “to do” items in the next two months:

First, sign up to go to BidFest. The TSC BidFest is the spring-board for formulating our slate of trips each year. Mark your calendars for April 10-12 and join us in San Antonio for trip presentations. Go to the TSC website to register if you are interested in participating.

Second, check the status of your membership. Log on to the website and go to “Membership

> My Membership & Profile” to display your “Contact” and “Subscription” information. By clicking on the Subscription tab, you can view the status of your membership and renew if it is about to expire.

Third, remember April 30th. This is the end of our fiscal year and all one year memberships expire. Renew your membership on or before April 30th to stay current and eligible for early trip sign up. If you have a 3 year membership, check your status to make sure it doesn’t expire this year. There will be a grace period; however, it doesn’t last long, so don’t delay, renew today!

If you prefer, you can bring a check to the General Meeting in March and renew your membership. Also, attend this meeting to reflect over the year with your friends and exchange stories. I have one more article to write for the Sitzmarke before I conclude my two year term as president; in that last article I will conclude my reflections.



Melinda Hughes,
President

Countdown to Liftoff

The ski season has zoomed by faster than Lindsey Vonn on a downhill race course! The Breckenridge TSC trip is currently “on the slopes”. After that the only remaining snow ski trip will be the family-friendly Winter Park Spring Break trip in March. Wow, was that fast!!!

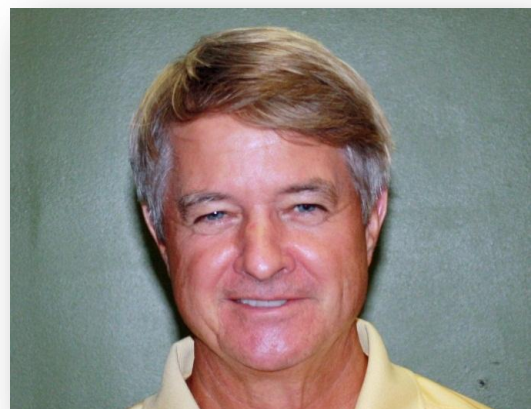
We are currently accepting registrations for both the May 9 to 16, 2015 trip to Mexico’s Riviera Maya ([Riviera Maya Trip Article](#)) and the Oct 29 to Nov 7, 2015 Discover Tuscany, Italy trip ([Discover Tuscany Trip Article](#)).

Remember the research and effort you spent deciding which ski boots and which skis to purchase? It is now time to protect the investment you made in your ski equipment and store it properly. Someone working at a ski resort and skiing several hundred days a year will wear out a pair of ski boots in one season. Most Space City members are not skiing that many days in a year so we need to make sure to properly store our ski boots so they are in good shape for many, many seasons. For my ski boots, I remove the liners and the foot bed from the shell. I leave everything out in the open for a few days to make sure everything is completely dry and then reassemble the boots. If you have any concern that you have not assembled your boots correctly, try putting the boot on your foot. You will know immediately if you have everything correctly assembled. When you are ready to store them, buckle the ski boots loosely so they hold their shape. Now you need to find the right place in your house to store your boots. Heat and humidity can damage your ski boots and skis, so that eliminates the garage! If you have an interior closet that stays cool or a closet with an AC


vent, that is the perfect place for your ski boots. You also need to correctly store your skis. It is a good idea to have your skis tuned and waxed at the end of the season. If you tell the ski shop you are done for the year, they will leave a heavy layer of wax on the ski bottoms. The first time you ski next year, you can either scrap off the extra wax or just ignore that it is there and start skiing. The extra wax will come off without too much of a problem. After you pick the low heat/low humidity place in your house to store your skis, be sure and put your bindings in the “ski” position. That is the position your binding would be if you were standing on them ready to ski. Be careful when moving the heel piece to the “ski” position. The springs are very strong and you could injure your hands if they get in the way of your heel piece going into the ski position.

Even though this year’s snowfall has not yet begun to melt, it is now time to start planning for the 2015-2016 trips. If there are no trip coordinators, there are no trips! If you are interested in being an ATC or TC on a ski club trip next season, please complete the TC ATC Application form included in this newsletter ([page 19](#)). You can also download the form from the [SCSC](#) website.

(Continue on page 23)



Trips 2014-2015

Destination	Date	Prices* Full / Land Only	Final Payment Date	Trip Coordinator	Assistant Trip Coordinator
Vail, CO Club Long/Short	Dec 6 – 13 2014	Completed		Bob Olsen	
Beaver Creek, CO TSC Winter Traditional	Jan 10 – 17 2015	Completed		Dennis Hughes	Kate MacDougal
Beaver Creek, CO Club Short	Jan 14 – 18 2015	Completed		Dennis Hughes	Patti Finch
Madesimo, Italy TSC Winter Expedition	Jan 23 – 31 2015	Completed		Barbara Brescian	Sandy Schneider
Mammoth, CA TSC Winter Shootout	Jan 31 – Feb 7 2015	Completed		Dave Stotz	-
Taos, NM Club Long	Feb 14 – 21 2015	Completed		Chris Bryan	-
Taos, NM Club Short	Feb 14 – 18 2015	Completed		Chris Bryan	-
Whitefish, MT Club Trip	Feb 21 – 28 2015	Completed		Derek Shoobridge	Andy Smith
Breckenridge-Long TSC Final Showdown	Feb 28 – Mar 7 2015			Steve Ying	Cindy Moore
Breckenridge-Short TSC Final Showdown	Feb 28 – Mar 4 2015 (4 Day)			Steve Ying	Cindy Moore
Breckenridge-Short TSC Final Showdown	Feb 28 – Mar 5 2015 (5 Day)			Steve Ying	Cindy Moore
Winter Park, CO Spring Break trip	Mar 14 – 21 2015	\$1,269/\$900	12-Jan	Tony Curry	-
Mexico Riviera Maya Club Trip	May 9-16 2015	\$1,411/\$912	9-Mar	Sandra McCunis	
Discover Tuscany TSC Summer Expedition	Oct 29 – Nov 7 2015	\$3,799/\$2,469	1-July	Maria Koteras	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, 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

TEXAS SKI COUNCIL SKI BIDFEST

Texas Ski Council Delegates, Texas Ski Club members, Ski Resort Representatives, Vendors and Guests from around the world, come join us for 2015 Ski Bid Fest held by popular demand once again in historic and fun filled San Antonio, Texas!

The Bid Meeting will be April 10-12, 2015
at the Drury Plaza Hotel, 105 S. Saint Mary's,
San Antonio, TX 78205.

Texas Ski Council Ski Bidfest



The Historic Drury Plaza has been restored from the previous Alamo Bank Building. It features stunning architecture, comfortable rooms and suites, a rooftop pool and Drury's famous free extras, there's little missing from this hotel equation. Best of all, their riverside doors offer direct access to the beautiful San Antonio River Walk.

Registration for the TSC Bid Meeting is now available online!! Go to www.texas-ski.org and click on 2015 Bid Meeting to get the links.

To make room reservations, please click on the link below

<http://www.druryhotels.com/Reservations.aspx?groupno=2213602>

Please make your reservations by **Wednesday, March 18, 2015** to receive your group rate. Reservations made after this date will be subject to prevailing rate and availability. Reservations can also be made by calling 1-800-325-0720 and refer to your group number. **"Texas Ski Council" (Group number 2213602)**

TEEing IT UP FOR CHARITY

Pre-Bid Meeting event on Friday, April 10 will be a charity event for the TSC Youth Foundation. So join TSC members in TEEing IT UP FOR CHARITY and join us at San Antonio's TOP GOLF location for a new and fun "golfing" experience! Anyone can play Top Golf, from aspiring pros to never-ever golfers. All you have to do is swing a club and try to hit your micro-chipped balls into a dartboard-like target. It's competitive! It's loads of fun no matter your golfing experience. Competitions (for those so inclined) will be played and the rest of us can try it out, take pictures, laugh, and relax! Price includes the game (Don't need to bring your own clubs) & membership. Line up six people per bay to maximize the fun! Alcohol and food available for purchase. All profits from this event will go to the TSC Youth Foundation. For questions contact Shannon Owen at shannonowen@hotmail.com. Not familiar with Top Golf – check it out by going to topgolf.com. Transportation will be available at 12 noon in hotel lobby.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DON'T DELAY.

We will a great list of trips for this ski season. Don't procrastinate and miss out on the trip of your dreams. Last season some trips filled up very fast and a few folks were disappointed. Don't let that happen to you. You can renew your membership online.

Last year this trip sold out in less than a week!!!



Photo by Fred Pethick

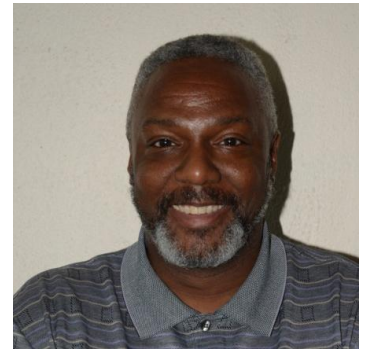
Winter Park, CO – SPRING BREAK TRIP

MARCH 14 –21, 2015

Tony Curry

tony@spacecity.org

281-773-9016



Tony Curry

WHY CHOOSE THIS TRIP

- Spring Break Week – With youngsters out of school for the week, take your children/grandkids, nieces/nephews on a memorable ski vacation to the Snow Country of the Rocky Mountains.
- Got Scouts? Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts can earn a Snow Sports Merit Badge.
- Winter Park Ski Resort offers terrain for all abilities.

PACKAGES OFFERED Mar 14th – Mar 21st, 2015

PACKAGE	PRICE (Pay by PayPal/Check)	DISCOUNTED PRICE (Pay by Check)
Adult - FULL PACKAGE	\$1,269	\$1219
Adult - LAND ONLY	\$900	\$865
Youth - FULL PACKAGE		\$417
Youth - LAND ONLY		\$117

DEPOSIT: \$150 by check or online via PayPal. **FINAL PAYMENT:** Due by 1/12/2015

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.



Barcelo Maya Colonial, Riviera Maya, Puerto Aventuras, Quintana Roo, Mexico

MAY 9th – 16th, 2015

Sandra McCunis
sandra@spacecity.org
 281-463-7717



Sandra McCunis

WHY CHOOSE THIS TRIP

- **All-Inclusive 4 star resort on a beautiful Caribbean beach**
- **Expansive swimming pools & acres of lush tropical gardens**
- **Snorkeling & diving along a spectacular protected coral reef**
- **Variety of sports, daily activities & nightly live entertainment**
- **International cuisine - Food & drinks available 24 hours a day**
- **Non-stop flight to Cancun, Mexico on United Airlines**

The Barcelo Maya Colonial hotel is situated on a stunning white sand beach with crystal clear turquoise blue waters surrounded by acres of lush tropical gardens. It forms part of the Barcelo Maya Beach Resort complex, a set of 5 luxurious hotels located in Riviera Maya just 15 miles south of Playa del Carmen.

The all-inclusive resort offers 4 restaurants including a buffet and the international a-la-carte restaurants featuring Seafood, Asian and Mediterranean cuisine. There are 4 bars including a Sports bar, 2 huge free-form pools with a Jacuzzi plus an Olympic-size pool, children's pool and water park. The hotel facilities also include a fitness center with a sauna and steam room. Relaxing treatments for your body are available in their U-Spa & Wellness center.

Also, with the Barcelo All-Inclusive program, you can access the restaurants, bars, pool facilities and beach of the Barcelo Maya Tropical, Barcelo Maya Beach and Barcelo Maya Caribe hotels.

During the day, you can enjoy a variety of activities including tennis, billiards, ping-pong, volleyball, basketball and miniature golf. Free non-motorized sports such as kayaking and windsurfing are available daily. Snorkel off the private beach along a coral reef with colorful tropical fish or swim with dolphins. At night, enjoy the vibrant nightlife that the hotel offers with live shows in the theatre and dancing in the nightclub.

Optional activities and excursions can be arranged at the hotel tour desk. Scuba divers can explore some of the best dive sites in the world. Plan a day trip to Xel-Ha, a natural aquarium park or

Xcaret, an eco-archaeological park. Tour the Mayan ruins of Tulum or Chichen Itza, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Enjoy a visit to Playa del Carmen for shopping and nightlife.

Join us for an unforgettable experience in the Mexican Caribbean!

PACKAGES OFFERED May 9th – 16th, 2015

PACKAGE	PRICE (Pay by PayPal/Check)	DISCOUNTED PRICE (Pay by Check)
FULL	\$1,411	\$1,361
LAND ONLY	\$912	\$877

DEPOSIT: \$150 by check or online via PayPal. FINAL PAYMENT: Due by 3/9/2015

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.





Discover Tuscany, Italy
TSC SUMMER EXPEDITION
OCTOBER 29th – NOVEMBER 7th, 2015

Maria (Mendez) Koterass
maria@spacecity.org
281-797-7084

TUSCANY



**Maria (Mendez)
Koterass**

Leyla Ozkardeh
leyla@spacecity.org
281-785-2325

WHY CHOOSE THIS TRIP

- Trip of a Lifetime – check this one off your “Bucket List”.
- Gorgeous rolling landscapes and stunning architecture.
- Magnificent historic monuments, mouth-watering cuisine and wines.
- 1st Class and Deluxe hotel accommodations. Door to Door pick up to/from your home to airport within a 50 mile radius.

PACKAGES OFFERED Oct 29th – Nov 7th, 2015

PACKAGE	PRICE
FULL	\$3,799
LAND ONLY	\$2,469

DEPOSIT: Full package \$490 / Land Package \$370 - paid by check or online via PayPal.

FINAL PAYMENT: Due by 07/01/2015. Last date for full refund less club cancellation fee: March 1, 2015.

Optional travel insurance protection is available for an additional \$270 and must be paid before Nov 15, 2014. Trip price is subject to change if there is an increase in fuel surcharges by the airline. **Final payments** will be made directly to the Travel Agency (Collette) by check or credit card.

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.



Trip Report – Beaver Creek

BEAVER CREEK SHORT- We had a wonderful group of both new and old members leave on January 14, 2015 to join up with the SCSC long trip that had already been enjoying Beaver Creek for a few days by the time we arrived. We all met at the Denver airport to bus over to Beaver Creek, and enjoyed a beautiful, sunny drive to the mountains.

Upon arriving at The Charter House Condos we were greeted by management of The Charter, Space City, and the Texas Ski Council to make sure we had our room assignments and credentials for the remainder of the trip. New and renewing members Bill Cusak, Rita Cusak, MaryLee

Heald, David Klaus, Denise Klaus, Beverly Vosko, Lilli Rubin and Joann Shank joined the group. I am very appreciative that some of our regulars wanted to join the trip such as Mary Jo Loverdi, Tony Loverdi, along with their friends Brenda LaCombe and Sid LaCombe. We also had Gail Farrell and Michael Farrell joining our trip, rooming with Gin Hyo and Ann Dorn. Monika Trieb and Martin Bradley had been on my previous Breckenridge Trip and decided to join the Beaver Creek trip. Martin and Harvey Heller had the “challenge” of rooming with me, but they survived.

Those who participated had a lovely dinner on Wednesday evening at The Charter. The TSC Award Show and dinner were held Thursday evening. We were able to visit with



At Beaver Creek (left to right) Nelson Turner, Keith Kirkman, Melinda Hughes, Beverly Roberts, Ross Baker, Dennis Hughes, & Ehud Barak. Charlie Roberts, Jim Hodges, Barry Casper, Cynthia Broom, joined those above for most of the week

the other Texas ski clubs and see old friends we never seem to connect with until a TSC trip such as this. Everything was very well organized and everyone was very gracious. We did have a dusting of snow one night so everyone was out the next morning ready to ski early. We had an informal reception/dinner in Patti Finch's condo the final night so that everyone could share their ski experiences.

The remainder of the group returned to Houston on Sunday. We missed any winter storm warnings and enjoyed the sunshine which was nice since it had been so gloomy in Houston before we left.

BEAVER CREEK LONG - Once again, the TSC provided a wonderful venue for the January 2015 Traditional Trip at Beaver

Creek. Good snow, good friends, and a great time were had by all. Our stay at The Charter was quite enjoyable, as all of the events except the awards party were in house. All 57 of us made the trip and prepared for a week of skiing.

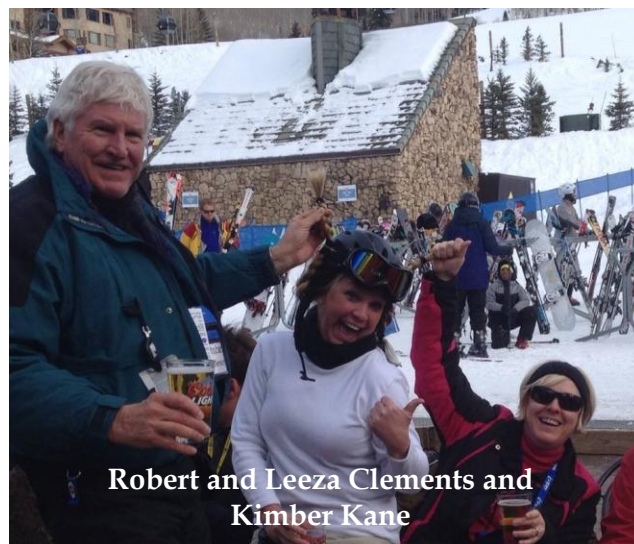
It is now official! Ron Rambin's ski group has a name. Morris Covin, Janet McKenzie, LaDaune Ashley, Derek Shoobridge, Ann Rogers, Andy Smith, Chuck Britton, John Zavala, George Jalufka, Marilyn Swanson, Kasia Rezmer and a few others chose The BIG CATS as the moniker that joins a long time traditional BIG DOGS! Both groups are open to a variety of skiers and in fact some folks start their day skiing with the BIG DOGS in the a.m. and transition to the BIG CATS in the p.m - or vice versa. Special thanks to Andy and Leslie Cashio, George Lopez, Camille



At Vail (left to right): Beverly Vosko, Harvey Heller, Monika Tieb, David Klaus, Martin Bradley, and a local man named Peter.

LaRoe-Lopez, Steve Ying, and all of those who participated in the TSC race. SCSC finished in second place. Congrats to Nelson Turner for his silver medal. Several members enjoyed Bernie Clinton's suggested lunch outside on the mountain where you cook your own burgers. Jeanne-Marie Garcia provided several "King Cakes" during the week. Halcyon Learned and Kimber Kane spent one foggy afternoon carefully making their way down the mountain. Merlyn Harger brought a wonderful dessert to share with all of us at the exceptional club dinner put together by Kate MacDougall. Marina Wang showed her skills on the snowboard. SCSC had a definite presence at Apres ski with Dana and Gayle Dale, Robert and Leasa Clements, Louella Stellar, Sandy Fowler, Pat Piech, Nancy Christian, Laurie Haischer, and many others, while listening to Dave Thomas entertain. Others enjoying the Beaver Creek

scene were Jim Walker, Gary Hercules, Bruce Fleming, Deborah Steplock, Don Ledford, John and Cindy McGowan, Frank and Susan Stanley, and Craig Campbell. A few of the more adventurous spent some time on the slopes at Vail. Once again, Beaver Creek was a hit, and most of us can't wait for SCSC to schedule another trip.



Robert and Leeza Clements and
Kimber Kane



At Beaver Creek (left to right): David Klaus, Diane Macksoud, Mary Jo & Tony Loverdi, Chris Bryan, & Steve Slade.

"THE BIG CATS" - Morris Covin, Ann Rogers, Leslie Cashio, Janet McKenzie, Marilyn Swanson, Steve Slade, Ron Rabin (leader of the CATS), Kate MacDougal and Bernard Clinton



John and Cindy McGowan, Diane Macksoud and Kimber Kane



2015 BEAVER CREEK RACERS - Melinda Hughes, George Lopez, Marilyn Swanson, Andy Cashio, Ross Baker, Leslie Cashio, LaDuane Ashley, Derek Shoobridge and Dennis Hughes.



Returning home on Southwest Airlines. (Photo by Kimber Kane)



**Trip Coordinator (TC)/
 Assistant Trip Coordinator (ATC)
 2015-2016 Application**

Do you love to ski or snowboard? Do you enjoy working with people and making new friends? Are you good at planning and organizing? If your answer is YES to these questions, SCSC needs YOU to join the great team of Trip Coordinators and Assistants running fun ski trips to exciting destinations.

Please complete this form and return to V.P. of Trips, PO Box 22567, Houston, TX 77227 or email to trips@spacecity.org

Name:	Telephone-Cell: (____) ____ - ____
Address:	Telephone-Work: (____) ____ - ____
	Telephone-Home: (____) ____ - ____
Preferred contact type: (circle all that apply) Telephone: Home Work Cell or e-mail	E-Mail Address:
Occupation:	Year you joined SCSC (Approx):

Position you are applying for: _____TC _____ATC _____Either

(Note: In order to serve as an ATC, you must have taken at least one ski trip with SCSC. In order to server as a TC, you must have served as an ATC on at least one SCSC ski trip or an AC for a large activity or experience running trips with other organizations.)

What type of SCSC ski trip do you prefer to run?
 _____TSC (Texas Ski Council) ____Club (SCSC) _____Either

What length of SCSC ski trip do you prefer to run?
 _____Long (week long) ____Short (4 or 5 day) _____Either

Where would you like to run a trip (Destination/s)? _____

Availability: Dates that you are *Unavailable* to run a trip (If any): _____
Preferred dates (If any): _____

Are you available for monthly meetings usually the 2nd Monday of the month (September-May)? Yes ____ No ____

Are you available for monthly happy hours usually the 4th Thursday of the month? Yes ____ No ____

Are you available to attend 2 to 3 training sessions? Yes ____ No ____

(Training sessions likely will be May, June or July 2015)

On what side of town do you live/work? _____

Prior SCSC Volunteer Experience: TC/ATC/AC-Activity Coordinator /AAC-Assist. Activity Coordinator/Officer (Start with most recent)

Year	Trip/Activity/Office	Year	Trip/Activity /Office

SCSC-Ski Trips Taken

Non-SCSC Ski Trips Taken

Year	Trip	Year	Trip	Year	Trip	Year	Trip

Other Volunteer Experience: (Start with most recent)

Year	Organization/Office	Year	Organization/Office

Computer experience:

_____Microsoft Word _____Microsoft Excel _____Other

Do you have access to a computer at home or work? _____Yes _____No

Do you have access to a fax machine at home or work? _____Yes _____No

Can you make & receive SCSC related phone calls at work? _____Yes _____No

Can you send & receive SCSC related e-mail at work? _____Yes _____No

What other experience/skills can you bring to the position of TC/ATC?

Why are you interested in running a SCSC ski trip?

Having a Blast

Wow! February was quite an eventful month. Skis trips to Mammoth and Taos, post trip parties, Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras, and speaking of Mardi Gras, the Umbrella Brigade Parade in Galveston was so much fun! Can you imagine twirling your decorated umbrella through the streets on The Strand while dancing the Hokey Pokey with 2,000 other people dressed in colorful costumes? Marianne Pearce led this activity for the second year in a row and we aim to make this an annual event. We had approximately 20 people on our team this year and hope to have more participants next year.

Our February Happy Hour was at Christie's Seafood and Steaks and was well attended. Our Happy Hours just keep getting bigger and better. Next month's Happy Hour will be March 26th at Carrabba's Restaurant, conveniently located at I-10 and Kirkwood.

Lori Aubrecht is coordinating a casino trip to L'Auberge du Lac Casino in Lake Charles on March 28th. This trip is limited to 14 members and Lori promises to make it a really fun trip so you may want to grab your seat on the bus early!

Jeanne-Marie Garcia and her helpers Steve Ying, and Gayle and Dana Dale are planning a HUGE crawfish boil at the Dale's house in Kemah on April 26th. In addition to crawfish there will be live music by Kemah's own "Ben Reyna." Ben performed at last year's Volunteer Party and everyone enjoyed his music tremendously! You don't want to miss this party, so register and make your payment now at www.spacecity.org



Gayle Dale
VP of Activities

Upcoming Activities

March

March 26th – Christie's Seafood & Stakes Restaurant

March 28th – Casino day trip to L'Auberge du Lac in Lake Charles

NEW - Now you can purchase
SCSC Logo Products!

We have our e-store at Land's End and you can select any product you like to purchase. Once you've selected a product, you may select our logo to apply to your item(s).

Shop & enjoy!

You can find the link to the e-store at www.spacecity.org, under the Welcome block.

Membership

Member Profile – Laura Nowicki

As much as I loved living in “Ski Country” (and I did, live there and adore it), here is something interesting I’ve found in “Not Ski Country” - Houston. Houston skiers have interesting stories of how they learned to ski. When you live in Ski Country most people grew up skiing at a nearby mountain. Skiers who live in Houston not only learned it somewhere you may not have heard of but have to be passionate to keep going – skiing that is.



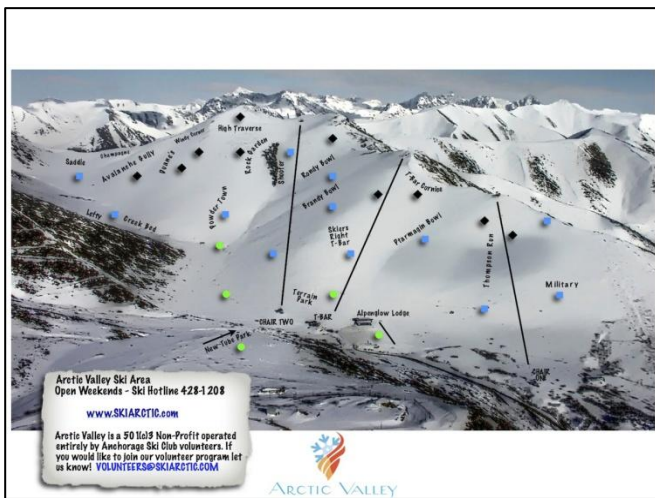
They have to plan for this, sometimes as much as 8 months, save up their money, and keep those knees in shape somehow.

I met Laura Nowicki on the Garmisch trip last year. I was delighted to learn that we would both be on the Madesimo journey last month. As I had requested in a previous member profile, someone on the trip slipped me a note to say “interview Laura Nowicki.” So, I did.

Her family lived near Anchorage, Alaska at Fort Richardson Army Base from 1969 to 1971 when she was in junior high school. The military had a ski recreation area for active military and their families called Arctic Valley.

The military supplied Duece and a Quarters (troop transport trucks) to take the kids up to the Arctic Valley. There were no windows and skis were piled up in the middle. The scene was a mass of kids going skiing and really cold because the trucks were not heated. There were usually four trucks a day and the military drivers picked them up and dropped them off at the Rec Center. There was a rumor that a previous truck had overturned “so the kids were nervous but you wanted to be cool so you didn't act afraid. I still remember the sound of the chains rumbling up the mountain.” They could buy season lift tickets for \$15 or rent skis and get a

lift ticket for \$1 per day. She saved up and finally got her first pair of skis with babysitting money. They were Daiwa skis and they had the newest technology to prevent runaway skis instead of the old school "leash" around the ankles. They were let out of school on Wednesdays for half days of skiing. The military side of Arctic Valley had two rope tows and a Poma lift. The civilian side had a chair lift but the lift tickets were more expensive so she never rode it. The slopes had no grooming so they were always full of moguls.



Look at her now - silver ski jacket and a bamboo trimmed helmet. She leads the Macarena and organizes the Bridge competitions when she's resting from skiing on our trips. Oh, let's not forget that she and Jim have hosted the trip Post Party for the second year in a row. Now that takes courage!

Current Arctic Valley lift tickets are \$35 for adults and \$15 for children and the mountain is staffed with volunteers. Now that is Ski Country. I hope we are together on another ski trip, Laura. She is at the center of things whether she is leading the Macarena or on the floor — it's all good!



Ali Pethick *VP of Membership*

.....Countdown to Liftoff

(From Page 3)

Our next General Meeting is Monday March 9, 2015. This is a good opportunity to visit with other members who have recently returned from a ski trip or to visit with our trip leaders about any of the remaining trips we have planned (Winter Park, Riviera Maya or Tuscany, Italy). Visit our website at www.spacecity.org to see the details of scheduled trips and contact information for the Trip Coordinator.

It has been another great year of skiing and traveling with the Space City Ski & Adventure Club!

Jim Hodges *VP of Trips*

Member's Corner





Dec & Jan Happy Hours & Jan General Meeting photos by Ron Hayes



Awards Dinner & Dance at the Beaver Creek Photo by Kimberly Kane

Mardi Gras, the Umbrella Brigade Parade in Galveston



Our Leadership Team 2014-2015

President	-	Melinda Hughes	president@spacecity.org
VP of Activities	-	Gayle Dale	activities@spacecity.org
VP of Trips	-	Jim Hodges	trips@spacecity.org
VP of Membership	-	Ali Pethick	membership@spacecity.org
VP of Marketing	-	Bobby Goel	marketing@spacecity.org
Treasurer	-	Marti Turner	treasurer@spacecity.org
Secretary	-	Sandy Fowler	secretary@spacecity.org
Auditor	-	Keith Kirkman	auditor@spacecity.org
Director of Trips	-	George Lopez	george@spacecity.org
Director of Trips	-	Bill Bomberger	bill@spacecity.org

Our Board of Directors 2014-2015

Chairperson	-	Sandra McCunis	sandra@spacecity.org
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Space City Ski and Adventure Club is a proud member of **Texas Ski Council** and **National Ski Council Federation**.



SCSC Photo Contest 2014-2015

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



We will use the winning photo as the cover photo for our newsletter's Annual Issue in 2015-2016. We used last year's winning photo by Tom Thomas as the cover for our August Annual Issue 2014.

Send photos to marketing@spacecity.org

March Happy Hour

Thursday, March 26th

5:30 – 8:30 pm

Carrabba's Italian Grill

11339 Katy Freeway,
Houston, TX 77079
Ph: 713-464-6595



Sitzmarke

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David Stotz, Mammoth, Feb 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

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