# newsletter SITTATATION SPACE CITY SKI & ADVENTURE CLUB

VOLUME 49 NO. 7 NOVEMBER 2013

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Cover image source: Environment Canada The Canadian weather model produces a range of tracks fo recent storm.

forecast

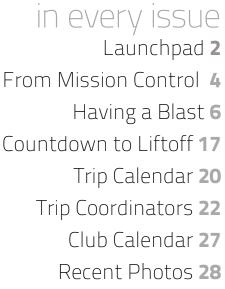
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### SPONSORS **16** Jackson Hole

launchpad

# what kind of ski season will it be?

very year I start to scan the WWeather websites for long-term forecasts to try to answer the question: what kind of snow will we get this season?

That's why I'm pleased to bring you a guest article from one of the country's most expert meteorologists on snow -- Joel Graetz of OPENSNOW.COM. He'll explain what goes into a seasonal forecast, why you should (or should not) put faith in them, and then tell you what sort of year we might expect here in North America.

If you haven't visited his website, <u>OPENSNOW.COM</u> -- I'd recommend you take a look and subscribe. Joel and his team of 'snowcasters' predict the weather state-by-state -- and even predict the amount of snow or powder per resort because they take into account the intensity, velocity, winds and direction of a storm relative to the face of a mountain. At the very least, you'll find his writing informative and entertaining!

Lynda Meyer Editor, and VP of Marketing marketing@spacecity.org

PS: don't forget to check out our new member spotlight features by Jan Ferrell

#### newsletter Sitzmarke

#### PUBLISHER SPACE CITY SKI & ADVENTURE CLUB

EDITORIAL Editor: Lynda Meyer Email: marketing@spacecity.org Managing Editor: Sandy Fowler Email: secretary@spacecity.org

CONTRIBUTORS Susan Blome, Gayle Dale, Jan Ferrell, Melinda Hughes, Lynda Meyer.

ADVERTISING & MEDIA INQUIRIES Lynda Meyer, marketing@spacecity.org

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Mark your calendars for our November 11<sup>th</sup> meeting because it promises to be a fun and informative presentation on FEMA rescue dogs. Denise Corliss will bring her service dog and provide a

presentation on human rescue. She and her pet helped rescue victims of 9-11, so she has some interesting stories to share. My husband and I make it a point to visit the Avalanche Dog Rescue

# from MISSION CONTROL

Programs in the ski resorts where we vacation in each year. We support the programs by purchasing a t-shirt and have acquired quite an interesting collection over the years. Speaking of supporting programs, have you wondered how you can support our club through volunteering? You may wonder what the path is to joining the club leadership. Becoming an Executive Committee member requires that you have a variety of experience in the club. To begin with, you can run an activity or volunteer to be a trip ATC. Once you've gotten your feet wet, you



Photo credit: 9-11 rescue dog, Kelly Garbato, flickr.com

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Photo credit: Avalanche rescue dog training, dafuriousd, flickr.com

can then volunteer to run a trip. Once you've been involved with trip and activity planning, you may want to consider becoming an 'Ex Com' officer.

Let the current leadership know that you're interesting in moving up and that information will be passed on to the nominating committee. What is most important is that you acquire an understanding of how the club is run. If you have a question, please ask anyone in leadership and they will be happy to help you.

If you are approached by the nominating committee, please consider helping. Our volunteers keep this organization alive. While there is a considerable

# Interested in membership?

Join online, or contact our VP of Membership, Jan Ferrell, for more information. Family memberships are a great way to get on the slopes with your spouse and kids. amount of work involved in these positions, you will also have the opportunity to meet interesting people and make new friends. Meanwhile, 'Like' us on Facebook and I'll see you on November 11<sup>th</sup>!

#### **Melinda Hughes**

President president@spacecity.org

> Jan Ferrell VP of Membership

Have you forgotten your user name or password? Jan can help. E-mail her at <u>membership@spacecity.org</u>

#### SITZMARKE NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2013

# having a BLAST

he excitement of the Houston Grand Prix ended with a great party for all the volunteers. We enjoyed 3 full days of racing at Reliant Center. Having access to the pit area was incredible. Thanks to Ellen Eastham for recruiting volunteers for this event. I hope she steps up again next year to organize the volunteers for this event so I can be her first recruit. Yes, it was that much fun!

If you missed the last two club events you missed some great music and delicious food. Just ask Tami Kawasugi, one of the **Italian Festival** participants. We all enjoyed sampling good Italian food and wine and dancing the night away to the sounds of the Fab 5. Thanks to Craig Campbell for leading this activity. WOW is all I can say about the **Oktoberfest** Buffet at Rudi Lechner's Restaurant. 22 people feasted on just about every German dish imaginable. After dinner we all joined our own "chicken man", Stan Broniak, who led us out to the dance floor for the famous German Chicken Dance. What fun! 1 haven't laughed that hard in a long time. Thanks to Judy Schiro for being the activity coordinator. The last **East Coast Swing class** of the year is running Tuesday nights from October 29<sup>th</sup> through November 19<sup>th</sup>. Check with Roberta Rambin



robertarambin@comcast.net to see if you can still join the group. We're looking for input from our members to know if we should continue the dance classes next year. If so, what type of dance class are you interested in? Would you be an activity coordinator for these classes? It would be an easy way to make new friends while improving your dance skills. Please contact Gayle Dale activities@ spacecity.org or Ali Pethick alipethick@yahoo.com if you are interested. Thanks to Roberta Rambin for being the activity coordinator for the previous classes.

If you missed out on the California Wine Trip then you will want to come to the **November Happy Hour.** Our Happy Hour in November will be the third Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> due to the Thanksgiving holiday. In keeping with the wine season, it will be held at Tango and Malbec Argentinean Restaurant. They boast having the only Rioplatense kitchen in Houston and the most extensive Malbec wine list. Check the SCSC web calendar for more information. Special wine discounts will be offered for SCSC members.

Our December Happy Hour will be the **Christmas Gala** on December 19th at the Post Oak Grill. The Post Oak Grill has generously decided to give each

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person two complimentary glasses of wine with dinner. Lori Aubrecht is the activity coordinator and she has put together a fantastic evening for us. We have an elaborate dinner buffet, dessert, two glasses of wine and, of course dancing, all for only \$52 for members (\$55 for non-members). This will be our only social activity in December so be sure to sign up so you can celebrate the holiday season with your SCSC friends.

We hope you will support the activities that your club leadership plans for you. They work really hard to plan fun events and to market them. So far we have had great response to our happy hours and activities and we thank you for that. Don't forget to contact me <u>activities@spacecity.org</u> or Ali Pethick <u>alipethick@yahoo.com</u> to volunteer to lead an activity that you would enjoy. We are always looking for more help and new ideas to make our club fun for all of us.

We wish you a blessed Thanksgiving and safe travels if you are visiting family or friends out of town.

#### **Gayle Dayle**

VP of Activities activities@spacecity.org TANGO SOUTH AMERICAN CUISING

Come and taste South American cuisine from Houston's only

Rioplatense kitchen accompanied by the best variety in Malbec wines for a great experience! Good eating and drinking in a unique, warm and elegant atmosphere. The open grill and kitchen allows you to see and participate in a unique gastronomic experience in Houston. WHAT: HAPPY HOUR WHERE: Tango and Malbec 2800 Sage Rd A-100

MAP: <u>http://goo.gl/maps/wxbvm</u>

WHEN: Thursday, 11/21 5:30-9:00



# great american trailer park CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

The Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical Saturday, Nov16 8:00pm

Optional dinner at 6:30pm

Stages Repertory Theater 2610 Briar Ridge Dr, MAP: <u>http://goo.gl/</u> maps/gN0gJ

ACTIVITY COORDINATOR: Nancy Burk



t's holiday time down in Armadillo Acres, north Florida's premier mobile living community, and everyone is filled with warmth and beer. But when a freak bout of amnesia strikes Darlene, the trailer park scrooge, neighborly love is put to the test. Be on hand as Betty, Lin and Pickles jingle all the way with some new neighbors in an allnew, all-trailer park holiday extravaganza!

We have great seats available for you to see 'The Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical' at Stages Repertory Theater. Meet before the show for an optional dinner and/or drinks at Teala's Mexican Restaurant within walking distance of the theater. Member Cost: \$35.00 (payment due by 11/1)

Non-member Cost: \$38.00

Note: at the time of publication we had 4 seats available -- please contact Nancy Burk if you want to attend ! WW

#### SITZMARKE **NEWSLETTER** NOVEMBER **2013**

# new member SPOTLIGHT

et me introduce Mary Swiggert--

Mary Swiggert and her husband Jack just joined the club in August. Our very own John Burk referred them to Space City. Mary grew up with him and was interested when he told her about our club and all the things we do. She loves to ski and is looking forward to traveling with us.

Mary and her husband live in Willis now but lived in Houston for 47 years. She came from Oklahoma as a child. The oil and gas industry is what keeps Mary busy as a land administrator. One of her prior jobs was as a flight attendant with United Airlines.

Outside of work, Mary is actively involved in volunteering with animal shelters such as the Conroe Animal Shelter. Her favorite t-shirt says, "Rescued is my favorite breed". I

#### second that!

Given the option of doing anything she wanted with no limits to time and money, she and her husband would go on a world cruise with a definite stop in Germany. Skiing the Swiss Alps is something she wants to do along with enjoying the countryside and castles of Germany. The best thing she likes about our club is the range of activities and that we are not just about skiing. They are looking forward to meeting new people and making new friends. When asked about something that few people know about her, she pondered and said "I'm an open book so no secrets".

Welcome to our club, Mary and Jack! Hope to see you at an event soon.

Jan Ferrell VP of Membership membership@spacecity.org



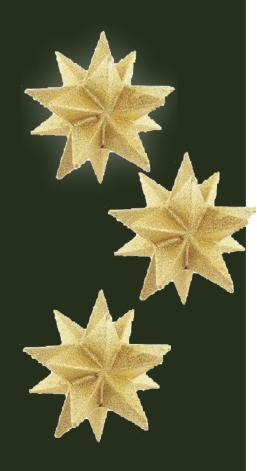
### christmas GALA & DECEMBER HH

# CHRISTMAS GALA & DECEMBER HH

THURSDAY, DEC 19th 7:30pm - midnight

Post Oak Grill 1415 S. Post Oak Lane

#### ACTIVITY COORDINATOR: Lori Aubrecht



#### CHRISTMAS CHECKLIST:

Shopping :	✓
Decorating :	<b>v</b>
Baking :	~

Now it's time to relax!

What better way to relax and unwind around the holidays than by enjoying a lavish buffet dinner and



dancing until midnight? Please join us at the Post Oak Grill, located in the beautifully decorated Galleria area. Our menu will include Flounder Filet Florentine, Marinated Grilled Chicken, and Bowtie Pasta A la Vodka, along with an assortment of salads, sides and desserts.

We will have our own private room with a large dance floor and lots of dancing music. Sparkling attire encouraged !

Our Christmas Gala will take the place of our monthly Happy Hour. There will be a cash bar.

### **BUFFET MENU**

### First Course

**Post Oak Salad** Mixed Greens, Pinenuts, Crusted Goat Cheese

Famous Tomato Salad Sliced Roma Tomatoes, Hearts Of Palm, Sweet Red Onions Both Salads with Ranch Dressing & Herb Vinaigrette



### Main Course

Flounder Filet Florentine With Capers and Mushrooms in a Green Onion Sauce

Marinated Grilled Chicken Topped with Fresh Tomatoes and Basil in a Bianco Sauce

> Bowtie Pasta A la Vodka With Tomatoes, Mushrooms and Basil

> > Sides

Whipped Red New Potatoes Sauteed Seasonal Vegetables Assorted Bread and Biscuits

Dessert Assorted Homemade Cookies Key Lime & Pecan Tarts Chocolate Dipped Strawberries

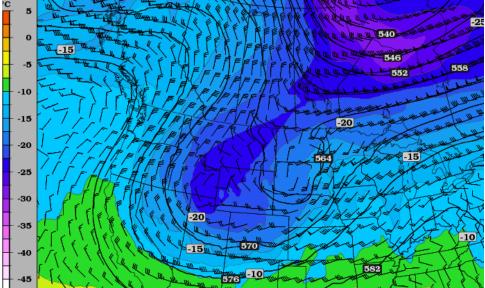


### seasonal weather PREDICTIONS 2013–14

ou want to know how much snow will fall this season, but I have bad news. Seasonal forecasts stink.

aware of the caveat that you shouldn't trust it. With those

words of caution behind us, let's dig in and see what



we can find.

The best way to forecast snowfall during the winter is to measure the water temperatures in the central Pacific Ocean between Australia and South America. This area of water is huge, so if the water temperature is well above or below average, it can influence weather patterns across the world. If you're a bit of a weather

Photo source: twisterdata.com

The transition to winter is evident as warmer air is pushed to the south while cooler air from the north invades the United States. This map shows the temperature at 18,000 feet.

The science of meteorology has improved tremendously in the last few decades, and it's now rare that a storm arrives as a complete surprise. Despite these successes, a skillful seasonal weather prediction is still a mostly inaccurate proposition.

If that's the case, why am I writing an article about how much snow will fall during the upcoming winter? Because digging into the data and looking for atmospheric clues is fun. And because I know you want some type of prediction, even if you're connoisseur, then you know that I'm talking about El Nino or La Nina.

If the water temperatures in the central Pacific Ocean are well above average, than we call it an **EI Nino**. This usually, but not always, leads to above average snowfall in the southern third of the United States.

If the water temperatures in the central Pacific Ocean are well below average, than we call it a **La** 



Photo credit: Liam Doran

Joel Graetz, CEO & Meteorologist,

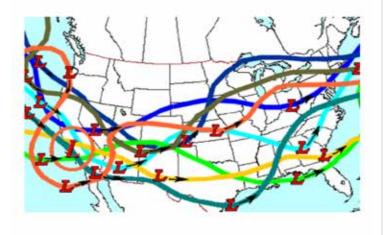
Photography

OPENSNOW.COM

### by joel graetz, meteorologist OPENSNOW.COM

**Nina**. This usually, but not always, leads to above average snowfall in the northern third of the United States.

### Storm tracks for El Nino.



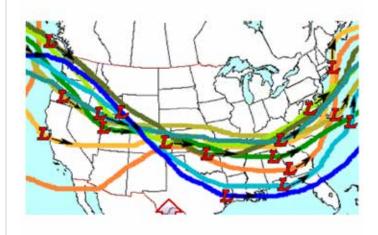
Source: Mike Baker, National Weather Service Average storm tracks during a winter with an El Nino, which means warmer than average water temperatures in the central Pacific Ocean.

Mile Brier, NeS Builds

The images show the favored storm tracks during El Nino and La Nina. While any single storm can follow any track it wants, these maps show the average path of storms during winters with a strong El Nino or La Nina. La Nina, I could offer a reasonable hint about where the deepest snow may fall. But alas, the water temperatures in the central Pacific Ocean are about average, which we affectionately call a La Nada. As you guessed, this means we have very little ability to predict winter snowfall.

As a last-ditch effort to figure out the season, meteorologists often look for analogous years to this year. For example, if there was a lot of precipitation during the fall in certain areas of the

### Storm tracks for La Nina.



Durtary We Jules, W5 Institu

Source: Mike Baker, National Weather Service

Average storm tracks during a winter with a La Nina, which means cooler than average water temperatures in the central Pacific Ocean.

If this season featured a strong El Nino or strong

country, we would look back to past fall seasons, find those with heavy precipitation, then look at the data and found that heavy rain in September near Boulder, CO correlates to strong early-season

Snow on the ground during winters following high precipitation in Boulder @PGN \$**n\*\*W**.... 160% 150% 140% 130% 120% 110% 100% Dec 1 Jan 1 Feb 1 Mar 1 April 1 -Grizzly Peak Lake Eldora 🚽 🔤 Berthoud Sum -----Copper Mtn Vail Mtn Crested Butte

snowfall in many mountain areas of Colorado, with average snowfall during the middle and end of the season. I wouldn't necessarily place money on this outcome, but we have had a few early-season storms already, so perhaps the statistics will be correct on this one.

where and when the snow fell during the ensuing winters. This method doesn't always produce accurate forecasts, but is surprisingly correct many times.

Bryan Allegretto, the <u>OpenSnow.com</u> forecaster in Lake Tahoe, ran the numbers and didn't find a strong correlation. But he did find clues pointing to a later start to the season and an eventual tally of average to above average snowfall by the end of the season. Let's hope this works out!

In my neck of the woods, the front range of Colorado saw tremendous rains in September. I looked at

To find great snow conditions, I recommend two options. First, if you need to lock in your trip dates



Photo credit: Megan Gilman Joel Graetz skiing powder

Source: Joel Gratz, OpenSnow.com, and Dr. Andrew Slater, National Snow and Ice Data Center. Wet Septembers near Boulder seem to signal a strong start to the winter in many mountains of Colorado.

well ahead of time, then praying or doing a snow dance is your best bet. On the other hand, if you have flexibility in your schedule, you can start trusting forecasts between 7-10 days out, and you can think about booking your trip 3-5 days in advance. This time frame is what I use based on my knowledge of the accuracy of weather forecasts. I know this is pretty last minute, but it's the best the science of meteorology can offer right now. I bet it'll be much improved in about 10 years, though, so stay tuned and keep your legs in shape !

Good luck finding powder this winter!

JOEL GRATZ

Founder, Meteorologist and CEO, OpenSnow.com

Editor's Note: If you enjoyed this article, drop Joel a line at joel@opensnow.com and say 'thanks'

### OPENSNOW.COM & Joel Graetz

Joel Gratz grew up skiing and watching the weather, so it was no surprise to his parents and friends that he attended Penn State and earned a degree in meteorology in 2003. During graduate school at the University of Colorado, Joel became upset (read: Mad !) that he would miss powder days due to inaccurate forecasts.



Photo credit: Liam Doran Photography

But instead of staying mad, he got even. After studying the local weather patterns for a few years, Joel started a weekly newsletter about where to find the best powder. From this 28-person email list grew the concept for OpenSnow.com, where local independent forecasters from across the country gather to provide snow forecasts and analysis. During the 2012-2013 season, nearly 1 millions skiers and snowboarders viewed forecasts from OpenSnow. com.

The site operates as a for-profit business and is able to support the efforts of their forecasters through a combination of advertising and subscription revenue. Users can upgrade to a Pro or SuperPro subscription for access to longerrange forecasts, the ability to set additional favorites and snow alerts, and view how the forecast is trending. Since launching the Pro service in February 2013, thousands of people have upgraded. This support has allowed the OpenSnow.com team to develop mobile apps and revamp the website, which should be live by the time this article is published.

### OUR GUESTS RANKED US NUMBER ONE OUR COMMUNITY MADE US WHO WE ARE.





# countdown to LIFTOFF

WOW!!! Have you looked at the calendar recently? It's November!!! I can't believe the summer is long over, fall is upon us and Thanksgiving is at the end of this month! Where has the time gone? While Houston is just beginning to enjoy cooler days, the mountains are getting snow and, combined with snowmaking abilities, the resorts have scheduled openings for later this month. So, have you remembered to sign up for your ski trip yet? Our first ski trip of the 2013-2014 season – Vail December – leaves on December 7<sup>th</sup> and it's not too late to sign up for the trip of your choice. As I write this, several trips are full – Park City, Garmisch, Jackson Hole, and Vail-Feb – and have wait/standby lists; however, things constantly change.

interested in for the absolute latest trip information. I also cannot emphasize enough the importance of checking with the TC and signing up for the wait / standby list if the trip of your choice is currently



Photo credit: Vail FB page, enjoying early snow in Vail

full. Remember, one of the benefits of being an SCSC member is that SCSC will help find a replacement participant if a member has to cancel and it works both ways should you, as a participant, have to cancel from a trip due to a work project, a family emergency, illness, etc. In fact, S. Africa and Jackson Hole have already had folks clear their wait list and the trips are months away. So, don't hesitate to get on the wait

Trips with openings are Vail-Dec, Mammoth, Keystone, Breckenridge, Winter Park & S. Africa. However, a trip may be full one minute, and then have a cancellation and an opening the next, so please check directly with the TC of the trip you are list because you may actually be helping a fellow member having an unexpected change of plans. Also, many of us have joined a trip after clearing a wait list and as the trips get closer to departure, the wait/standby lists will become even more

### SITZMARKE NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2013 18 countdown to LIFTOFF (continued)

important.

Our team of TCs and ATCs is working hard to bring you a slate of fantastic trips. Come to the next General Meeting on November 11th to meet with them personally and find out other information they can share about your trip or any trip you are interested in, including options and the parties planned for your trip.

Whatever you decide, enjoy your vacation with friends and family, create new memories, and save money by taking advantage of the group rates that SCSC offers. I look forward to a fun-filled and exciting ski and adventure season and hope you do too. Wishing each and all a Happy Thanksgiving! Take care & stay safe. Cheers!

#### Susan Blome

VP of Trips trips@spacecity.org

#### **NEWS FLASH!!!**

The mountains are getting snow and, combined with snowmaking abilities, several of the resorts have scheduled openings in November. Our first ski trip of the 2013-2014 Ski Season to Vail leaves on Dec 7th, and it's not too late to join this trip.

Although a few of our trips are full (Garmisch, Jackson Hole, Park City and Vail February), things are changing constantly and we now have openings for South Africa which was previously sold out. You can still buckle-up your boots on Vail December, Mammoth, Keystone, Breckenridge, and Winter Park.

# Iong-time newsletter NOVEMBER 2013 19 SPOTLIGHT

I am pleased to introduce you to our first long-time member interviewee—Tom Danowski. Tom has been a member of the club since 1984 and an active one at that. In addition to skiing with us, he volunteers at the Sand Castle Competition each June and volunteered this month at the newly resurrected Grand Prix of Houston. When asked why he joined the club, he responded that he had skied for many years and was looking for people to ski with. He truly enjoys the diversity of people and activities he encounters of the club. While Tom was not born in Texas. in his words "I got here as fast as I could" and he has been here for 35 years. He was born in Long Island, NY and got an engineering degree. Using that knowledge, he went into industrial and electrical sales which is what he does

today.

Outside of work, Tom likes to manage his yard, try to eat healthy and workout, and of course ski and travel. What he likes most about Houston are the festivals and art. Lasked him what he would do if money and time were of no concern. He wants to travel around the world with no particular agenda but make sure he hits Eastern Europe. "It's still mysterious", he said. One last question got a very interesting reply—What is something few people know about you? He replied "I am going to build an electric car".

Thanks, Tom—see you at the next event! Oh, and I want a ride in that electric car.

Jan Ferrell VP of Membership JILIGH Danowski



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### trip CALENDAR October

3-7 CALIFORNIA WINE COUNTRY

# DECEMBER

7-11 VAIL SHORT 7-14 VAIL LONG

## JANUARY

4-11 PARK CITY 24-31 GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN

### FEBRUARY

8-15 JACKSON HOLE 22-MAR 1 VAIL

## MARCH

- 1-8 MAMMOTH
- 8-15 KEYSTONE<sup>(1)</sup>
- 12-16 BRECKENRIDGE SHORT
- 15-22 WINTER PARK<sup>(2)</sup>

MAY

APRI

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER 19-30 SOUTH AFRICA

Destination	Dates	<b>Prices</b> Full/Land Only (before cash discount)	Final Pay- ment Date	Trip Coordinator	Assistant Trip Coordinator
2013					
California Wine Country	Oct 3-7	\$773 - land & cash only	8/30/13	Linda Kuper <u>linda@spacecity.org</u> 713-478-9094	
Vail, CO - Short	Dec 7-11	\$756 - land only	10/14/13	Ann Rogers	
Vail, CO - Long	Dec 7-14	\$1,229 - land only	10/14/13	<u>ann@spacecity.org</u> 281-703-0454	
2014					
Park City, UT TSC Winter Traditional IST ONL	<b>Y</b> Jan 4-11	\$1,310/\$851	11/11/13	Betty Donellan <u>betty@spacecity.org</u> 310-702-2090	Leslie Hajdo <u>leslieh@spacecity.org</u> 281-419-6237
Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Bavaria, Germany, IST ONL TSC Winter Expedition	<b>Y</b> Jan 24-31	\$2,148/\$1,067	11/11/13	Barbara Brescian <u>barbara@spacecity.org</u> 713-516-5322	Sarah Granberry <u>sarah@spacecity.org</u> 713-392-5255
Jackson Hole, WY TSC Winter SINATOWN		\$1,399/\$766	12/2/13	Anne Thomas <u>anne@spacecity.org</u> 713-589-3660	Steve Ying <u>steve@spacecity.org</u> 281-433-4122
Vail, CO WAIT-LIST ONL	Y Feb 22-Mar 1	\$1,204/\$860	11/24/13	Jim Hodges j <u>im@spacecity.org</u> 281-829-6155	Arlen Isham <u>arlen@spacecity.org</u> 713-560-0187
Mammoth, CA	Mar 1-8	\$1,479/\$901	1/13/14	Sandra McCunis <u>sandra@spacecity.org</u> 281-463-7717	
Keystone, CO <sup>(1)</sup> TSC Final Showdown	Mar 8-15	\$1,335/\$715	11/11/13	John Burk john@spacecity.org 281-468-1912	
Breckenridge, CO - Short	Mar 12-16	\$578 - land only	1/13/14	Patti Finch <u>patti@spacecity.org</u> 936-520-1486	
Winter Park, CO <sup>(2)</sup>	Mar 15-22	\$941/\$550	12/9/13	Cindy Moore <u>cindy@spacecity.org</u> 713-628-7613	
South Africa TSC Summer Expedition	Sept 19-30	\$5,130/\$2,938	TBD	Melody Bohlmann <u>melody@spacecity.org</u> 210-410-7302	

(1) Spring Break & Family Optional Trip # 1 (2) Spring Break & Family Optional Trip # 2

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 packages do not include air. Ground transportation will be included and available on selected trips for land package participants if they can meet the group at the destination airport in time to meet the group. Ground transportation will not be delayed for land package participants arriving later than the group. Check with your Trip Coordinator for ground transportation arrangements if you are choosing a land package.

Published prices do not include baggage fees, equipment rentals or lift tickets, and are subject to change. All trip deposits can be made with PayPal; however, final payment must be made by check to receive the discounted rate. 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 5.1-5.3 for the governing policies on trips, cancellations, refunds, etc.

DEPOSITS: All trips require a per person deposit to make a reservation.

# TRIP COORDINATORS FOR 2013-14

#### **CALIFORNIA WINE COUNTRY**

OCTOBER 3-7, 2013 Linda Kuper, TC linda@spacecity.org 713-478-9094

- 2 custom tailored, guided wine excursions
- Harvest season in Sonoma/Napa areas
- Quaint town of Healdsburg (reminiscent of Tuscany in the fall)
- Complimentary wine tastings at local wineries
- Fall is a beautiful time to visit Northern California experience fall color & crisp weather



Linda Kuper

#### VAIL CO DEC 7-14 or 7-11 Ann Rogers, TC ann@spacecity.org 281-703-0454

- Short & long options available
- Largest ski resort in the United States
- 5,289 acres of skiing
- Famous Back Bowls

#### PARK CITY, UT - TSC TRADITIONAL

JAN 4-11 Betty Donellan, TC betty@spacecity.org 281-374-2172 / 310-702-2090

Leslie Hajdo, ATC leslieh@spacecity.org 281-419-6237

- World's Best Snow
- Three mountains to ski Park City, Deer Valley, The Canyons
- Terrain for all abilities
- Park City is a charming mining town to explore



Betty Donellan

Leslie Hajdo



Ann Rogers

WAIT-LIST ONLY

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# and why you should choose their

#### GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN, BAVARIA, GERMANY - TSC WINTER EXPEDITION

JANUARY 24-31 Barbara Brescian barbara@spacecity.org 713-516-5322

Sarah Granbery sarah@spacecity.org 713-392-5255

- Savor the tastes, sounds and skiing of a Bavarian mountain resort town
- Ski the panoramic roof top of Germany
- Terrain for all abilities
- Step back in time to tour the 'real Disney castle'
- Historical sites, interesting excursions, art and culture WAIT-LIST ONLY



Barbara Brescian and Sarah Granbery

#### JACKSON HOLE, WY - TSC WINTER SHOWDOWN

FEB 8-15 Anne Thomas anne@spacecity.org 713-589-3660

Steve Ying steve@spacecity.org 281-433-4122

- SCSC/TSC trips are packed with activities on and off the slopes
- Offers 40% Blue Trails and ski terrain for all abilities
- Mountainside Lodging- No long bus rides!

 Elevation – base 6,311' is good for sleeping; summit -10,450' is great for skiing.

 Avoid Houston restaurant crowds by celebrating Valentine's Day in a skier's paradise





Steve Ying and Anne Thomas

# TRIP COORDINATORS FOR 2013-14

VAIL, CO FEB 22-MAR 1 Jim Hodges jim@spacecity.org 281-829-6155

Arlen Isham arlen@spacecity.org 713-560-0187

- Largest, single mountain ski area in North America
- Vail International Condos located near Lionshead Village; walk or shuttle to gondola lift
- Dining and nightlife rated among the best in ski country
- Non-stop flight to Denver followed by a short 2 hr bus ride
- Skiing for everyone wide open groomed runs, famous back bowls



Jim Hodges and Arlen Isham

#### МАММОТН, СА

MARCH 1-8 Sandra McCunis sandra@spacecity.org 281-463-7717

- Mammoth Mountain has the most open terrain in the U.S.
- Average of 400 inches of snow and 300 days of sunshine
- Lodging in premier ski-in, ski-out condominium hotel
- The Village at Mammoth with shopping, dining and nightlife
- Overnight stay on Friday in Reno hotel with great entertainment included



Sandra McCunis

KEYSTONE, CO - TSC FINAL SHOWDOWN, FAMILY TRIP MARCH 8-15 John Burk john@spacecity.org 281-468-1912

- Spring [Break] Skiing / Family Optional
- 3 Mountains at Keystone plus Breckenridge & Arapahoe Basin
- One scheduled day at Vail with transportation included
- Texas Ski Council (TSC) parties, activities and discounts
- Terrain for all abilities



John Burk

# and why you should choose their

#### BRECKENRIDGE SHORT

MARCH 12-16 Patti Finch patti@spacecity.org 936-520-1486

- Patti's favorite destination!
- Over 2,300 acres for skiing, including 800 acres of bowl skiing
- Breckenridge is an authentic mining town with lots of character
- Easy access from the Denver airport
- Terrific 'learn to ski' area



Patti Finch

#### WINTER PARK, CO

MARCH 15-22 Cindy Moore cindy@spacecity.org 713-628-7613

 Coincides with Houston & Spring Branch ISD, several college spring breaks, and the trip is geared for children of all ages

- Seven nights of value-priced lodging are offered
- Lift tickets are inexpensive and lesson packages for all ages

 Winter Park offers terrain for all abilities, with lots of gentle slopes for beginners



Cindy Moore

#### SOUTH AFRICA - TSC SUMMER EXPEDITION

SEPTEMBER 19-30, 2014 Melody Bohlmann melody@spacecity.org 210-410-7302

 'Bucket List' South Africa destination with a 3 night pre-trip option available for Victoria Falls and a post-trip to Kreuger Park.

 This trip has something for everyone – the adventurer, nature lover, animal lover, wine taster, historian, photographer, and the shopper.



Melody Bohlmann

### our LEADERSHIP 2013-14

VP of ACTIVITIES gayle DALE VP of MEMBERSHIP jan FERRELL VP of MARKETING lynda MEYER DIRECTOR OF TRIPS sean O'BRIEN

PRESIDENT melinda HUGHES VP of TRIPS susan BLOME TREASURER marti TURNER SECRETARY sandy FOWLER AUDITOR keith KIRKMAN

president@spacecity.org activities@spacecity.org trips@spacecity.org membership@spacecity.org marketing@spacecity.org treasurer@spacecity.org secretary@spacecity.org sean@spacecity.org auditor@spacecity.org

#### OUR BOARD MEMBERS

CHAIRPERSON sandra MCCUNIS ross BAKER bill BOMBERGER sarah GRANBERY jim HODGES cindy MOORE sean O'BRIEN ann ROGERS

sandra@spacecity.org ross@spacecity.org bill@spacecity.org sarah@spacecity.org jim@spacecity.org cindy@spacecity.org sean@spacecity.org ann@spacecity.org

Visit our website for the most

up-to-date information.

### **NOVEMBER**

11 **General Meeting** 

### 16

**Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical** 





DECEMBER



Jackson Hole Pretrip party



Vail December Trip

9 **General Meeting** 

15

Park City Pre-trip Party

19 Happy Hour and Christmas Jingle Mingle Gala

club CALENDAR

## **JANUARY**



Park City Ski Trip



Garmisch Pre-Trip Party



**General Meeting** 

24-31 Garmisch Ski Trip

30 Happy Hour

### recent PHOTOS SEPTEMBER GENERAL MTG



SITZMARKE NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2013 29

### recent PHOTOS HH@REEF



### recent PHOTOS OCTOBER GENERAL MTG



# recent PHOTOS OKTOBERFEST at Rudi Lechner's



















# LET WINTER BRING OUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER IN YOU

New for 2013-14! We're running a photo contest. Photos from any Space City activity or location are eligible. The winners will have their photos published in our Annual Ski & Trip *Sitzmarke* print edition. FInd out more at www.spacecity.org/photocontest

> SPACE CITY SKI & ADVENTURE CLUB