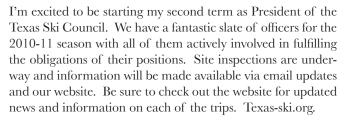
TSC NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 10-11 Volume 1

A Message From Our President



by Cheryl Mann



This year our board consists of returning officers and first time officers. This is a well-rounded board with the returning officers providing the experience and guidance to our new officers. The board is positive and energetic, having great ideas and the desire to see the Texas Ski Council continue to prosper and maintain its reputation in the industry.

In addition to our officers, the board has also appointed committee chairs for the web, race, bylaw, bid and audit committees. The chairs are Linda Raymer, Austin Skiers as Webmaster, Gene Gilliam, Lone Star Skiers for the Race Committee; Kip Kiplin, Club St. Bernard for the Bylaw Committee, Camille LaRoe, Space City Ski Club for the Bid Meeting Committee and Bill Grisham, Texas Twisters for the Audit Committee. The board appreciates each of these individuals agreeing to serve in the various positions and knows each of them will do a great job.

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We will be holding the bid meeting in Houston again this year at the Marriott West Loop. The bid meeting will be the weekend of April 15 - 17, 2011. Please watch for additional information. If your club would like to assist in the planning or on-site activities of the bid meeting, please let me know. Last year the Houston area clubs did a stellar job supporting the meeting and making it a success.

Our board wants and is looking for new and innovative ideas to improve our processes and interactions with our clubs and vendors. At the June Delegates Meeting, we decided to extend our August Delegates meeting into Sunday morning to have some brainstorming sessions. These discussions will help keep the council and the clubs on the right track. Please forward any ideas to me for topics. cheryllmann@yahoo.com

We have a great slate of trips for the year. We hope each of you can join us on one or more of them. Looking forward to seeing ya'll at meetings and on the wonderful trips the delegates selected this year! Cheryl

Egypt - 2010 Summer Expedition — September 25 - October 4, 2010 By Rachel Anderson, 2010 Summer Expedition Coordinator

Summer Expedition 2010 is almost here. Pre-trips to the "Sahara in Style" and Hurghada will depart Texas September 22, 2010. Those of us taking the "Full Package Trip", including the Nile Cruise, Cairo and Alexandria, will depart September 25, 2010. Everyone will return October 4, 2010 unless they are extending their vacation with a Post-trip to Sharm-el-Sheikh or a trip to Petra and Jerusalem.



Planning for Egypt is fun but interesting. Egypt Travel Tips have been sent out. We Texans are learning about dressing modestly and honoring Egyptian customs including keeping arms and legs covered in mosques and wearing clothes that wick to help counter the weather conditions.

We also have tighter baggage restrictions limiting us to 1 bag at 43 lbs, by Egypt Air. That means that if the airline that you take to Egypt allows more than that, you must adhere to the stricter requirement if you don't want to pay additional costs.



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Documentation for our journey is very important. Not only must we all have a passport that is valid for at least six months from



your arrival date but Egypt also requires a visa! We also have to be ready to spend Egyptian currency!

Thus, our bucket list trip is taking lots of planning but we expect to have an incredible journey. Watch for our next newsletter where I will report the fun and adventures had by the 358 Texas Ski Council participants. We are all looking forward to an exciting trip.



Breckenridge - TSC Fall Roundup - November 23 - 28, 2010 By Mary Beth Wilson, VP Fall Roundup

What better place to be with family and friends at Thanksgiving than Breckenridge, Colorado – the location for this year's Texas Ski Council's Fall Roundup, November 23-28, 2010. I hope you all join me in Breckenridge for a Thanksgiving to be remembered. I've been a member of Lone Star Skiers for more than 20 years and recently joined Dallas Ski Club, so I now enjoy dual membership. I have had the opportunity to run numerous trips (both TSC and club)

for Lone Star. For the past several years, I have been active in the Texas Ski Council, running BidFest for two years. I have also been Treasurer for two years, and last year ran the Winter Shootout.

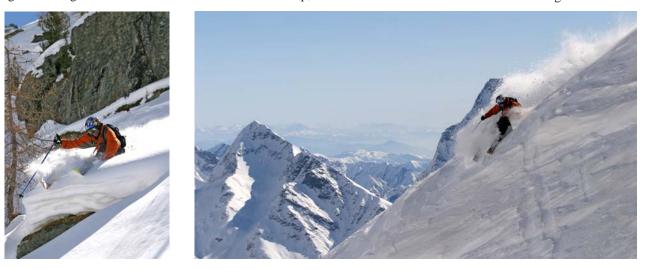
This will be the sixth year that the TSC Fall Roundup is offered in conjunction with the TSC Youth Foundation. The Foundation encourages children to participate in the fun sports of skiing and snowboarding. Breckenridge will be offering children ages 4 - 13 a fantastic deal on its Youth Camp,



which includes lifts, lessons, rentals and lunch. In addition, there will be activities planned throughout the week to keep the kids entertained.

We will be staying at the Beaver Run Resort and Conference Center. Beaver Run rooms are slopeside at the base of Peak Nine, Breckenridge Ski Resort. These rooms offer the comfort of your own home, with the amenities of a first-class hotel, including complimentary Ski Storage, an Indoor and Outdoor Pool, Covered Parking and WiFi. Beaver Run Resort also offers a variety of dining options from groceries and sandwiches to upscale gourmet offerings. There's something for everyone. For more information see www.beaverrun.com.

BRECKENRIDGE MOUNTAIN FACTS AT A GLANCE Summit: 12,998 feet. Base: 9,600 feet Vertical Drop: 3,398 feet Lifts: 30 total, including 9 highspeed Total Terrain: 2358 acres Snowmaking: 565 acres Number of Trails: 155 Longest Trail: Four O'Clock - 3.5 miles For more information see www.breckenridge.com



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Beaver Creek, CO — TSC Traditional — January 8 - 15, 2011 By Christine Augustine, VP Traditional

Maybe you remember me from last year! I am that crazy Texan, born and raised on the Mexican border on the extreme southern tip of Texas. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think I would become an avid skier!

After a previous life in New York City, I moved back to Texas in 1989 and settled in San Antonio. I joined Los Amigos Ski Club to meet people. That simple deci-

sion led to a husband, hundreds of friends, and a passionate desire to carve tracks in new snow. Over the past 20 years I have gone on countless ski trips, acted as trip leader more times than I can remember and served on the board of Los



Amigos several times. This is my fourth year on the Texas Ski Council board. In 2007, I was VP of the trip to Bulgaria and Turkey escorting 127 participants. In 2008, VP of the spring break trip to Big Sky, Montana with 200 participants. Last year, VP of the Breckenridge trip with 320 participants.

In a past life, I owned and operated a travel agency. Prior to this, I was a flight attendant. I have travelled for the past 40 years, circumnavigating the globe four times. The experiences gained on these adventures have been invaluable in my roll as trip leader and VP of council trips.

I am now 61 years old and can't wait for the next ski season to begin! I will be taking 400 skiers to Beaver Creek, Colorado January 8-15, 2011. We will have fantastic skiing, parties and racing. Join the TSC and come spend a fabulous week in Beaver Creek with 400 of your most favorite Texas skiers!

Bad Gastein, Austria — Winter Expedition — January 21 - 29, 2011 By Mitch Womble, Winter Expedition Coordinator

Bad Gastein, Austria: Texas Silver Jubilee Expedition

A Historical Journey to a World Class Ski Resort

It was almost 25 years ago in 1986, that the TSC made its first ever trip to Europe! This year also marks Ski-Europe's 25th Anniversary with the TSC, and they are inviting us once again to revisit this wonderful destination!

Location:

The Gastein Valley is located 60 miles due south from Salzburg, on the north side of Austria's highest mountains, and encompasses 6 top class ski areas! Bad Gastein has an elevation of 3,374 feet, with a peak elevation of 8,730 feet, giving you 3,926 feet of vertical terrain! There are 44 ski lifts encompassing 66 designated runs with the longest run being 5 miles! The annual snowfall is 234 inches!! And, Gastein Valley Ski Passes are good for all six ski areas!

Events:

• There will be an Opening Ceremony and Welcome Party arranged by Ski-Europe with the Tourist Authorities of Bad Gastein.



• A free Skiing Orientation Safari for all participants.

• Floodlit Evening Skiing on Wednesdays from 6:30pm to 9:00pm.

• Certified GS Guest Ski Races on Thursdays at SchloBalm Ski Area.

• SpeedChek (Daily) on Stubnerkogel @ Lift #21 (check your downhill speed).

- Snowshoeing in National Park.
- Evening Tobogganing (Tuesday & Thursday).
- Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides (Daily).
- And a Farewell Party at end of week.

Excursions:

There will be many excursions for both skiers and sightseers, from Slovenia to Germany & Italy. Also included for an optional excursion is Salzburg (hometown of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart) with its many castles, abbeys, and palaces! **Pre-Trips & Post-Trips:**

We have a selection from: Vienna, Budapest, Bratislava, and possibly Berlin and Prague to choose from.

Hotels:

ElizabethPark Hotel is a 4-Star Deluxe rated hotel with 119 newly renovated rooms with all the American necessities. Buffet breakfasts are included in the pricing!

Mozart Hotel is a family run 3-Star rated, art-deco style ho-

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tel with 70 balconied rooms with beautiful views. Directly in front of this hotel are stops for all the ski buses in the Gastein Valley. Buffet breakfasts are included in the pricing!

Transportation in Bad Gastein:

Bad Gastein is a relatively small town, with hotels centrally located, and walking is generally the quickest way to get around, however, the Hotel ElizabethPark has a free shuttle for its guests.

There is also a ski bus system connecting Bad Gastein with all of the ski area base stations. They are free of charge with a valid lift pass, otherwise the cost is 1 euro per trip with a guest card! There is also a train station in Bad Gastein that connects northern and southeastern Europe to the city. Travel time to Salzburg is one and a half hours.

General Info:

All in all, this trip is very reasonably priced, now with the cur-

rent downturn in the Euro vs. U.S. Dollar. Based on 25 years of inflation, this trip will be less costly than was the first trip almost 25 years ago!!

So, do not sit on the fence very long, my fellow skiers, because this trip will be your one in a lifetime! Did I mention that you can also visit the site where the Sound of Music was partially filmed? Envision Julie Andrews singing the song at the top of the hill....that hill is there in Austria!

Trip Dates:

Jan. 22nd through 29th, 2011 for main trip.

TSC Clubs will leave on Jan. 21, 2011 from their respective airports, and will arrive in European destinations (Amsterdam, Munich, etc. on Jan. 22, 2011). Pre and Post Trips will run approximately 3-4 days before and/or after the main trip.

Your Humble Trip Coordinator, Mitch Womble

Crested Butte, CO- TSC Winter Shootout - February 5 - 12, 2011 By Lisa Biddle, VP Winter Shootout

Hi, I'm Lisa Biddle...but many of you may know me as Lisa Spotts. I had an exciting year which included a November wedding while on a cruise with many friends. Another highlight was becoming an aunt for the first time. Just ask...I'll show you pictures of my beautiful niece, Julia. I live in the Dallas area and I'm in two ski clubs – Lone Star Ski-



ers and Dallas Ski Club. I've met a lot of wonderful people in both clubs. I'm so glad that I've found so many people that enjoy traveling to great places and skiing.

I'm really excited to be leading another trip for the Texas Ski Council. I was the Winter Shootout Trip VP previously and led the trip to Lake Louise in 2009. Last year, I was the Secretary for the TSC, which gave me great insight to the innerworkings of the council. I am returning to my previous post as Winter Shootout VP and will be leading the trip to Crested Butte in February 2011.

Crested Butte is a historic mining town and has the charm of a true Colorado ski town. Whether you are visiting for the first time or returning, you immediately feel a difference that sets Crested Butte apart from other mountain locations. With no traffic lights or chain stores and people who openly celebrate life every day, the genuine nature of the community and the pristine surroundings immediately capture you. Your time isn't just about a visit to ski an incredible mountain. It's about being away from your other world, finding adventure in an unspoiled setting surrounded by majestic peaks, wide valleys, and being connected to the culture and lifestyle that is Crested Butte. With 1,167 skiable acres, a vertical drop of about 3,000 feet and diverse terrain, Crested Butte will offer any level skier a fantastic week.



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Since the last time that the TSC has been to Crested Butte, many changes have taken place. They have completed the



renovations to the base area village...and it is fantastic!! They also added a base-area Adventure Park with an ice rink, a climbing wall and a lift-served tubing hill. Uley's Cabin, known as the beloved Ice Bar, has been remodeled and expanded to nearly double its previous size with an even bigger outside bar and deck. The ski-in/ski-out El-

I look forward to spending a week skiing with you in February on one of my favorite mountains, Crested Butte.



evation Hotel & Spa, as well as the Lodge at Mountaineer

Square, have undergone multi-million dollar renovations.

Snowbird, UT — TSC Final Showdown — March 12 - 19, 2011 By Cindy Moore, VP Final Showdown

My name is Cindy Moore and I am proud to serve as your Vice President of Final Showdown which will be March 12 through 19, 2011. We are traveling to beautiful Snowbird, Utah, where the ski season was extended until mid June 2010 this year because of the plentiful, dry snow and higher altitude! This is the reason Snowbird will make the best Final Showdown destination for 2011,



as history dictates excellent spring snow! The huge, gorgeous, SKI-IN SKI-OUT Cliff Lodge will be our TSC headquarters with room for all TSC club participants to stay together under one roof. This will offer a very special opportunity for more interclub mingling and socializing! It also makes wasting valuable vacation time for commuting to all of our TSC activities almost a non-issue. I have been a member of the Space City Ski Club (SCSC) since 1997 and live in Houston. During my tenure with SCSC I have served as happy hour chair, assistant trip coordinator twice, trip coordinator for the TSC final Showdown to Big Sky, VP of Programs, Director of Programs, President, Chairman of the Board, board member for 7 consecutive years, various committees including the nominating committee for 2010 officers and activity coordinator for many activities, including several SCSC holiday galas. I not only love skiing, but I also have a passion for partner dancing and putting together fabulous dinners, parties and dances for special events. I also enjoy rollerblading and water aerobics. Professionally I am the Houston Special Investigation Unit Supervisor for GEICO Insurance. I also teach water aerobics once a week at a nearby YMCA. I also love to rollerblade and play most racket sports.

I look forward to skiing with you in Snowbird at Final Showdown in 2011!

Alaskan Cruise — 2011 Summer Expedition, September 6 - 13, 2011 By Andrea Yowman, 2011 Summer Expedition Coordinator

My name is Andrea Yowman (aka AY) and I am so excited to be your Summer Expedition Coordinator. As member of the Ski Jammers Ski Club of Houston, I have been skiing with the Texas Ski Council since the early 90's and am currently Club President. In 2011, we will be cruising to Alaska. The itinerary is packed with the best this untamed frontier has to offer. Sail along 67 miles of magnifi-



cent scenery in the Lynn Canal. In each port of call, there is an extensive selection of shore activities from which to choose. Everyone will find something attractive, whether it's a modest city tour or a demanding adventure. With Carnival Cruise Lines and the TSC, you're guaranteed to have an unforget-

table time in Alaska.

Carnival Spirit is the floating resort that ushered in the Spiritclass ships with innovations such as the two-level promenade. Her greater speed -- and the fact that most of her staterooms have ocean views, and of those, the majority have balconies

– make Carnival Spirit the perfect ship for extra-special itineraries like Alaska. Please check the TSC website often for updates to the Summer Expedition. We are looking forward to cruising with the TSC Clubs.



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Texas Ski Council Bid Pre-Select Process

by Tere Mayne, VP Marketing



As most of you are aware, the Texas Ski Council is in the midst of determining who will be members of the Pre-Select Committee. This is a very important, but probably the least visible (and perhaps least-appreciated), of the TSC functions. As one would expect, the TSC gets more bids for its four domestic and two expedition trips a year than can be presented at the Bid Meeting in April. Therefore, there has to be a mechanism to limit the number of bid presentations for each trip. While it would be great to present all of the bids, the TSC Member Clubs would find that many do not meet the criteria in the Request for Bid Proposal. In mid-November, I will send out the "Bid Proposal Package" to the the Resorts and Tour Operators. This package describes what the TSC expects in its bids. As the bids come in, SOMEONE has to review them for content and make elimination decisions. The PRE-SELECT COMMITTEE does that function.

The committee is made up of seven members—the TSC VP Marketing as the Chair, four regional club representatives and two TSC Board member appointees. The representatives rotate on a yearly basis based upon regional group. By rotating through the regional groups, all Clubs have the opportunity to participate every four years on the Committee. The regional groups are Dallas, San Antonio/Austin, Houston/Beaumont/ Corpus Christi and West Texas. The two Board Member selections are used to round out the membership and to assure that representation is obtained from all the various sized clubs. When the clubs are asked to submit a person for the Pre-select Committee, they must select someone that is extremely experienced not only in trip planning, but also in TSC Trips. It is not a committee for someone who is new to the TSC process.

The key tasks for the Committee are to 1) clarify the TSC/ Club criteria and objectives for trips, 2) determine the quality of the bid, as well as its conformity to the TSC requirements, and 3) determine the number of resorts selected for presentation.

In selecting resorts that will present bids at the Bid Meeting in April, the Committee looks at factors such as cost, value, marketability to member clubs, facilities for TSC functions, organizational strength and special features offered by the resorts

or tour operators. In order to accomplish the task of selecting the best bids for the 2011 Bid Meeting, the process starts with Committee members receiving copies in mid-January of all the bids being submitted. Based upon the number of bids, the TSC VP Marketing will divide up the bids so that no one person on the committee has the responsibility to review all of the bids. The intention of this process is to make sure that the best bids submitted are provided to the Member clubs. The VP of Marketing or a Pre-select Committee member may ask the resort to clarify items that may be unclear in the bid proposal. They may also question something that is requested in the TSC bid proposal package, but is not included in the bid. This process is important because we average 55-60 bids each year and must narrow them to 18-22 for purposes of the Bid Meeting. While the Committee has some discretion in narrowing the final list for the Meeting, they must recommend at least two bids (to a maximum of 3 to 5) for each TSC ski week.

As you can see, being on this Committee is quite a challenge, but can also be very rewarding. When the TSC Bid Meeting rolls around, the members of this committee have chosen the BEST of the BEST for the Bid Meeting Selections. Once you know who has been chosen for this committee, please tell them that you appreciate their volunteering. They are volunteering not only to represent their club and its members, but also to give their best opinions to the Council.

A Word from the Treasurer

by Mike Morris, Treasurer



I'm Mike Morris, the Treasurer of the Texas Ski Council. Many of you know me from my many years on the TSC Board, Race Committee and just being on trips! Like many of you, I have a passion for the sport of snow skiing. Some of you that know me well know that is an understatement. I have been a member of the Flatlanders and the TSC for 25 years. I am happy to report that the TSC is still in fine financial shape and actually made a few dollars last year. This next year as in the last few, the officers travel expenses will be our biggest challange. Club dues need to be turned in to me by the Delegate

lenge. Club dues need to be turned in to me by the Delegate meeting on August 21st in Lubbock. Please include a copy of your roster from last year. I'll try to send out a reminder a few weeks before any payment deadlines to the TSC. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to give me a call at (432)366-8036 or drop me an e-mail at treasurer@texas-ski. org. Looking forward to a great year!

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Traveler's Insurance for All of your Trips! by Peggy Montgomery, Past President



You've saved. You've planned. You've looked forward to your vacation for months! But sometimes things don't go according to plan – you or a loved one gets sick before you leave on the trip; you need medical treatment while traveling; a hurricane or blizzard (or volcanic ash!) prevents you from starting your vacation or forces you to cut your trip short; or, you've been laid off — protect your investment with travel insurance. With all the delays in travel and flight cancellations that are occurring in the Airline industry—having insurance is an even greater necessity!

In the spring, Travel Guard introduced a new expanded insurance program to its ski club clients such as the Texas Ski Council. The program now set up on the TSC website allows you to purchase Travel Insurance for any type of trip. You can purchase insurance covering your trip investment if you must cancel or interrupt your trip for covered reasons such as sickness, injury or death to you, your traveling companion, or a family member, as well as for such things as inclement weather, military duty, employer terminations, layoffs or job transfers. You can be covered even if you are in a traffic accident en route to your departure, or a named hurricane causes your destination to be inaccessible or uninhabitable. The plan includes trip delay payments; baggage loss, damage or delay; and emergency medical expenses, including emergency evacuation and accidental death & dismemberment. For specific details on the insurance, including coverage amounts and assistance provided you can log on to the Texas Ski Council -- texas-ski.org - website and click to preview the Travel insurance for "all seasons" offer located on the left hand column of the home web page. If you have a trip coming up, whether you are going with the Texas Ski Council, your club, or on your own, take advantage of the TSC's relationship with Travel Guard and purchase travel insurance through the TSC website. The cost of the insurance is a flat 7% of the total trip cost. (The TSC receives \$10 on each policy purchased separately.) So, for those of you going on the TSC Egypt trip you can now purchase insurance to cover your trip investment and, of course, as you plan your ski vacations next year-trip insurance is at your finger tips just by going to the TSC Website! Travel Smart-Travel with insurance and protect your investment.

Meet the TSC Secretary

by Ross Baker, Secretary



I am Ross Baker, your TSC Secretary. I am a native Houstonian, and hold college and graduate degrees from the three major Houston universities. I have been enjoying skiing since my days at Rice some 35 years ago. I am a fairly new member of Space City Ski Club, having joined in 2001. And, I am glad I discovered this group! I met my beautiful and vivacious wife, Diane, through the people and activities of the club. At SCSC, I have been VP of Publications twice, TSC Delegate, and TC on a few trips.

In the work world, I have worn many hats. These range widely from being a carpenter, IRS auditor, electrician, electrical designer, electrical engineer in the pollution control industry, broadcast radio engineer, broadcast radio sports producer, commercial building contractor, and VP of a Life Insurance Company. My present work involves investing in commercial and residential properties.

My hobbies are similarly varied. Besides skiing, these include hiking, RV camping, bicycling, boating, water-skiing, bowling, amateur radio, gardening, scuba diving, weight-training, computers, ebaying, photography, and raising two boys: not necessarily in order of importance!

As the TSC Secretary, I record the TSC meeting minutes, maintain TSC records and produce this newsletter. I need your help and input! Please send any articles, fun photos and ideas to me at secretary@texas-ski.org. Thank you!



MTS 2010 Chateau Lake Louise: From L to R: Glenn "Hopper" Strother, Lone Star Skiers; Cheryl Mann, TSC President; Steve Pampel, Ski Banff Lake Louise Sunshine; Kerry Huffstutler, Los Amigos Ski Club; Dave Spence, Fairmont Hotels; Rollo Gurss, Texas Twisters

