

TSC Newsletter



New Beginnings

by Andrea Yowman, TSC President



Welcome to the 2017 Ski Season. We are off to a great start in planning and driving attendance for great line-up of trips including Vail, Heavenly Valley, Telluride, Paradiski Ski Domain – French Alps and Iceland. Thanks to the Board and Delegates for the continued support. We are focused on growing the

organization and ensuring our members received the greatest value while having a positive experience when they go on a TSC trip.



And let's remember the TSC Youth Foundation which was put in place to promote health and fitness among youth of all socio-economic levels through active outdoor recreation by financially assisting active participation in family oriented group snow sports trips. If we get the kids, we get the

parents. In addition, we are looking forward to growing our relationship with our partners in the Ski Industry. Thanks to all who have continued to support the Texas Ski Council. We would not have this outstanding organization without the many volunteers who work towards a common goal.



In the spirit of growing the organization, please join me in welcoming the Tulsa Ski Club to the Texas Ski Council. The delegates voted to accept them into the organization at the June delegates meeting. The Tulsa Ski Club is the premier, year-round organization for fun and activities in Tulsa. With 400+ members, they don't just ski. They enjoy year-round activities including backpacking, camping,

rafting, bowling, and lake parties. With monthly socials, golf tournaments, and more. The Tulsa Ski Club is a nonprofit organization and a great place to meet people and develop new friendships with active people. Starting in 1961 with just a few members, the Tulsa Ski Club was formed as a nonprofit organization, 503(b), to promote the common interest of snow skiing. Their club members enjoy a variety of year-round activities and social events. Activities range from Skiers Night Out (SNO) at the best restaurants around town to organized trips that are diverse in cost and location. During the last few years the club has sponsored trips to places as close as the Illinois River and as far away as Egypt and Innsbruck.

Modes of travel include sleeper buses, aircraft, canoes, rafts, cruise ships, boats and cars. Although snow skiing and snowboarding remain their foundation and the primary interest of many members, some members never ski. What Tulsa Ski Club members have in common, though, is the desire to go somewhere, do something, and get together regularly to share the fun of it. We look forward to having the Tulsa Ski Club as part of the Texas Ski Council.

While new to the position of TSC President, I am not new to TSC.



I have been a member of the Ski Jammers Ski Club of Houston, TX since 1989 and actively involved in both the Texas Ski Council and National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS) for over 20 years. I have held several leadership positions at the local club level including

President, Vice President, Trip Chair and Public Relations. At the NBS I have held the positions of President, Regional Vice President and Regional Director. Serving on the TSC Board over the years have included the positions of VP for Final Showdown to Sugarloaf, Summer Expedition Coordinator for the Alaska cruise, VP Final Showdown to Lake Louise, Canada. As an intermediate skier, I have led trips in size from 20 to over 1,200 and excited to be in the current leadership position. Together we will take the TSC to the next level. The new board is hard at work in reviewing how we operate and challenging the status quo. The board members all bring a unique set of skills with great ideas and energy and I look forward to working with everyone. Please send me your feedback and ideas. It's all about the clubs and your members.

Also, please join me in thanking the outgoing board and committees for all of their hard work and execution during the 2016 season through the BidFest. We greatly appreciate everyone's efforts and look forward to their continued involvement in the organization.

Andrea

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Marketing Update

by Kerry Huffstutler, VP, Marketing

How did I end up in this position? I still can't believe I agreed to this but to those who convinced me to do this, I will be taking you up on your offers to help. This is my second year to serve on the TSC Board of Directors, taking over the Secretary position in April 2015. I am from San Antonio and a 15-year member of Los Amigos Ski and Travel Club. I served on the LASC board for the last 7 years holding three positions including President for two years and Past President for the last three years. I have run several TSC club trips with South Africa and Telluride being two of my favorites. I love to ski and travel but my favorite thing to do is be KK to my 4 precious grandchildren. I am looking forward to serving as TSC's VP of Marketing for 2016-17.

VP of Marketing is in charge of bringing a good slate of trips to BidFest and promoting the Texas Ski Council in hope of bringing in new members to the council and to our 13 clubs. I hope I can bring a fresh perspective to our marketing and expand the social media presence. I will work to improve the TSC bid processes for the benefit of all our clubs. Communication and transparency are very important to me, please feel free to email or call me with any suggestions or questions.

Many thanks to Marsha Lutz who has held this position for the last two years for helping me transition into this very daunting position. She did an amazing job, she was organized and calm in this, at times, very stressful "volunteer" position while working a full time job. She gets a lot of credit for her dedication in fine tuning the processes that produced this great lineup of TSC trips for 2016-17.

These are the TSC trips for 2016-17 selected by the Delegates at BidFest 2016 which was held in San Antonio April 1 – 3:

Traditional – Vail, Colorado

Winter Shootout – Heavenly Valley, Nevada

Final Showdown – Telluride, Colorado

Winter Expedition – Paradiski, France – Club Med

Summer Expedition 2017 - Iceland

There were a total of 57 bids, 23 domestic and 34 international, submitted for consideration by the TSC this year. Of the bids received, the Pre-Select members narrowed those down to 24 to be presented at this year's BidFest. Once all the bids are presented to the delegates, clubs caucus and then reconvene to vote and re-vote until we come up with our winning trips. It is very difficult to predict the outcome and as it happened this year, often the delegates do a complete turnaround on their choices during the BidFest voting. There are several factors that contribute to this, as many clubs take their own trips, in addition to TSC trips, which may affect their level of interest in some of the bids. It is important to keep the trip selection process as transparent as possible, with the end result being

a slate that pleases most members of the clubs. They send their delegates to participate in the process but we really encourage all club members to come, observe and be a part of the process and fun. When clubs caucus, it is open to all of their members.

One of my goals is to spend time communicating with the decision making club members way ahead of bid request time to find out where members want to go in the next couple years. That is where you come in. What's next on your bucket list? Oh, the places you'll go!! I want lots of input please.

Also, if you have a concern with a particular vendor, let's talk about that and attempt to clarify what the problem is and resolve it. I want to improve the system, so I am very open to your ideas. I will also be reaching out to our current and potential BidFest vendors, and would love feedback, ideas and suggestions. We want to make sure BidFest is an event worth your attendance, benefiting both our delegates, club members and vendors.

I represented TSC at Mountain Travel Symposium in Keystone, Colorado after BidFest. I met with many tour operators, hotels and ski resorts from all over the world. It was also a great opportunity to network with other councils to exchange ideas on how they conduct business. It was nice spending time with other club representatives especially those from TSC.

One of my first tasks is to form the Pre-Select Committee. It is a very important job and requires reading and evaluation of the bids making sure they are complete and in compliance with the TSC criteria. So you need to have some trip planning experience, time to properly vet the bids, and the ability to attend the Pre-Select Committee meeting in Houston on Saturday, March 4, 2017, to select the final slate to be presented at BidFest. The committee consists of myself and six others, four are from clubs predetermined from a rotating schedule set up several years ago and two are at-large positions. For the 2017 Committee, the four predetermined clubs are:

West/North Texas Area
DFW-Young at Heart
Ski Rangers

South/East Texas Area
Armadillo Ski Club
Club St. Bernard

So I am looking to fill the two at-large positions. Please contact me if you have someone in mind. As we prepare for our second club Delegate meeting in Dallas in August, please be sure Delegates are communicating back to your club members what is going on at the TSC level. All club members should be receiving this newsletter from your delegate.

Have a wonderful summer and I hope you are excited about the upcoming trips that will be here before you know it.

Kerry

Vail, Colorado TSC Traditional

January 7-14, 2017

by Derlyn Gordon, VP Traditional

As another ski/adventure season begins for TSC, we are excited to experience the places we will go!

The first trip of the season for TSC is renowned Vail, Colorado, January 7-14, 2017. VP of Traditional is Derlyn Gordon. I am excited to be returning to TSC as VP of Traditional. I have been around TSC for a few years. I began my TSC journey as a member of the nominating committee, and served on the Pre-Select Committee. My first TSC trip to run was Winter Expedition Coordinator to Spain in 2012. In 2014, I was Final Showdown VP to Keystone and Winter Expedition Coordinator to Quebec City, Quebec, Canada in 2016. Now I'm back as your Traditional leader!

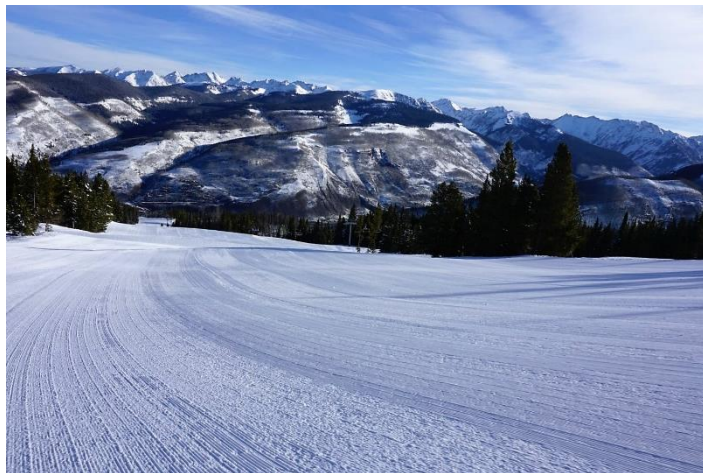


I am a member of the Texas Twisters Ski and Adventure club of Lubbock, have been since 1993. I have been very active in the club and still am today with the Twisters. I have been on the board of the Twisters in some capacity for twenty years. I have served as Treasurer, President and currently VP of Trips.

Vail is a favorite resort for TSC. Vail started running lifts in 1962. Vail is now one of the largest ski areas in the world and continues to push the limits on improving lifts, gondolas, on-mountain facilities, events, and helping to foster a dynamic town experience.



It has one of the largest snow making facilities so your conditions will always be in tip top shape no matter what time of year. Being one of the largest ski areas, you will find terrain for any level of skiing.



Just this year, **Vail will introduce another 6-passenger lift to replace the Avanti Express Lift (#2). This is the 7th lift upgrade Vail has made since 2007. Vail Resorts is committed to providing the upmost exceptional experience.**



A vibrant village, incredible and accessible terrain, lodging and dining to suit every budget, a mix of locals and guests from around the world... Vail is the most incredible of ski resort experiences.

Derlyn

Heavenly Valley – Lake Tahoe - TSC Winter Shootout

February 4-11, 2017

by Marsha “MJ” VP Winter Shootout

This year’s Winter Shootout is in California at the Heavenly Mountain Resort and I, Marsha “MJ” Miller ...your Texas Ski Council “TSC” Trip VP have the opportunity to assist you in experiencing this phenomenal trip. I am very honored that the TSC has given me this opportunity to assist in one of their spectacular trips.

Just a little bio about myself. I have been with Lone Star Skiers since the early 90s. Before that, I was with Mt. People and Alpine Ski Club. I have fond memories of all current and former ski clubs most notably because of the trips with the TSC. Because I have benefited so much from our clubs and the TSC, I volunteered for this position. I had no idea which location I was to be assigned, but I am elated. I have skied Heavenly Valley in the past and **IT IS HEAVENLY**. I am so lucky to be on this trip and honored to help you in any way you need assistance.

With 4,800 acres of beginner to advance ski terrain, you can enjoy the most incredible views of Lake Tahoe. It’s so big, you can ski two states in one day. The choices are endless with 34 miles of wide-open groomed cruisers, 1,600 foot plunges in the double-black-diamond canyons, and the most outrageous tree skiing in North America.



After your day of skiing you can enjoy Heavenly Valley’s night life with bars, restaurants, and shops. In addition, your TSC has scheduled a welcome party on Sunday afternoon, after you have enjoyed the Super Bowl at the Lake Tahoe Resort.



On Monday you can visit Northstar Ski area which has a full village of shops, ice rink, and restaurants. If you wish you can take a short bus ride to Truckee Town, an off the beaten path town of shops and restaurants. The buses run about \$15 each.

On Tuesday we will have our club races, so gear up with your fastest skis and cunning maneuvers.

Next on our agenda, we have a trip planned on Wednesday for Virginia City, a silver mining town with boardwalks, shops and restaurants, including a 20-minute Trolley Car City Tour and a 30-minute Mine Tour.

On Thursday, as our week wraps up, you can also visit the Kirkwood ski area for skiing and eating at their local restaurants. Later that day, TSC will host the Banquet with a DJ and dancing from 6:30PM til 9:30ish.

All you have to do is sign up for the event you wish to partake in and sit back and enjoy your vacation.

I am privileged to help you in any way you desire. Please sign up early so you can reserve your spot on this wonderful trip to Heavenly Valley. Enjoy!!

Marsha “MJ”

Telluride, Colorado – TSC Final Showdown

February 25 – March 4, 2017

by Marsha Lutz, VP Final Showdown



Hello! I am Marsha Lutz – your TSC VP of the Final Showdown to Telluride, Colorado. This is my 6th year on the TSC Board. I just finished up being VP of Marketing after a 2-year term. Before that I was Secretary. But before those executive officer roles, I was a VP of Trips twice - to Sun Valley in March 2012 and Steamboat in January 2013.

Between those two trips and all the other ones I attended before and after, I am sure I have been on a trip with most of y'all at some point.

I am very glad to be leading the TSC ski clubs to Telluride. I don't have a single favorite ski destination since they all have their own uniquely great things, but Telluride surely is up near the top of my list and from what I hear; many skiers and nonskiers feel the same way. Some even claiming it as their favorite! There is no wonder why that might be as it has so much natural beauty, great variety of skiing and what I call western-style glitz.

I have been a member of Space City Ski Club for 31 years and have volunteered in some capacity for them well over half of those years. For SCSC, I have been their Trip Coordinator on 5 trips, been a Director of Trips twice and VP of Trips. I have also

held a few other offices, but trip coordination is what I like best.

I have been to Telluride twice before. Once I stayed in town and the other time at Mountain Village – creating two different trip experiences and both were great! Mountain Village has all the elements needed to create a modern alpine European elegance. This is a nice contrasting complement to the rustic charm of a former mining town still found in downtown Telluride.

I will be working with the Sports America Tours, Telluride resort reps and the club trip leaders to put together a great week of activities. Many fantastic events are already planned. Check out my article on the TSC website for a preliminary schedule.

I'm sure you have heard the phrase that some say named the town. "To Hell U Ride" was called out to the miners embarking on the treacherous mountain journey miners took to reach the remote town. But for skiers today, there is nothing hellish about this place. I think it is more heavenly – but that is another TSC trip. So we will just stick with "TSC in Telluride."

Don't get left behind. Sign up early! Contact me if you have any questions. Marsha.lutz@comcast.net

Marsha

French Alps, Paradiski Domain

TSC Winter Expedition

January 22 – 29, 2017

by Peggy Montgomery, Winter Expedition Coordinator



I am looking forward to leading a group of approximately 160 Texas Ski Club Members on a trip to the French Alps. This article will give you a little bit about me, but more significantly an overview of what you have to

look forward to on this trip.

I have been involved with the Texas Ski Council for numerous years, either as an active Board member, or more recently working behind the scenes to ensure the Bid Meeting runs smoothly! For three of the past four years I have been the Bid Chair for the TSC Ski BidFest which is held in April of each year. This past year I Co-Chaired the meeting with Demeatra Reed and am pleased that she has eagerly agreed to head up the 2017 Bid Meeting efforts. Prior to that I served on the TSC Board starting my tenure after participating for several years on TSC committees such as nominating, Pre-select, Bylaws/Standing Rules and, of course, several for the Bid Meeting – where sometime in the past – too long ago to remember – I had my first opportunity to chair that Committee! Eventually, I took the leap to the TSC Board,

French Alps, Paradiski Domain Continued....

starting as a Trip VP for a Winter Shootout to Heavenly Valley (at a time when it had been seven years since the last TSC trip, meaning a group of 750 TSC club members signed on for the trip) – quite a challenge for a first time TSC VP of Trips experience! I have participated in being either a VP of Trips or Winter Expedition Coordinator a few more times. I moved on to VP of Marketing and eventually President of the Council. Prior to the TSC I also ran several trips and participated as an officer or board member, as well as on committees for Space City. Up until the middle of 2010, my husband, Jerry, and I were active members of Space City while we both pursued careers in Houston. During that time, I was a litigator for Exxon, then ExxonMobil, and Jerry worked in sales. Upon my retirement in 2010, we moved to Austin and joined Capital Downhill and Austin Skiers. Subsequently, with the closing of Capital Downhill, we worked with others to keep its memory going with Capital Ski and Adventure Club. We are now in the process of joining Texas Twisters. While neither of us skis as much anymore, we still find ourselves going on trips because of how much we enjoy our “Across Texas Friends” and having fun with them, not only on ski trips, but other non-ski trips in the past few years. Finally, in closing out my background information, please know that I believe one of my primary responsibilities as a TSC Board Member is to look for future Board Members, so don’t be surprised if on this trip I promote, and encourage you to participate actively, in the TSC at a Council level.

Now, for the important part of this article – **SKIING THE FRENCH ALPS!**

Come join me for a fantastic experience at Club Med’s La Plagne 2100 and Aim Resorts located in the Paradiski Domain of the French Alps – where food, drinks and lift tickets are included with lodging for this fun-filled week. We leave our United States location on January 21st and fly to Geneva, where we are transferred by bus to the resorts! Upon arrival we will meet up with those who opted to do the Pre-trip to Paris (leaving on January 18, 2017). Your stay includes your lodging, meals, ski pass, skiing/snowboarding lessons, as well as sleds available on loan at these ski-in/ski-out resorts and a day trip to Lyon at no additional cost. **Top quality Rossignol equipment** and the **Ski Service®** to ensure your satisfaction are offered at extra cost.

LESSONS FOR ALL LEVELS is INCLUDED (fitness classes, alpine skiing and snowboarding). Group lessons from age 4 and up. A test on the first morning will determine your level, and the right class for you – (Beginners: this is your first experience of Alpine skiing; Class 1: you can control your speed, and are at ease on blue slopes; Class 2: you can negotiate red slopes at a reasonable speed; Class 3: you are at ease on all slopes; Expert: you are at ease on all types of terrain and snow. What a great opportunity to perfect your skills!

We will be skiing or snowboarding from the door of our lodging into one of the world’s largest ski domains—the vast Paradiski, covering 264 miles (altitudes from 4,101 to 10,663 feet). There are 3 ski Resorts making up the Paradiski, this Famous Olympic Ski Domain – La Plagne –where we are based; Second is Peisey-Vallandry, a resort of Altitude and the ideal starting point for discovery; and Les Arcs—internationally renowned, innovative and ambitious.

In the valley of Champagny le Haut (alt: 1500m), natural waterfalls freeze over because of the intense cold. It has therefore become a favorite playground for climbers from mid-December to the beginning of March, with its “Ice Tower”, an artificial ice-climbing structure unique in Europe, which has been created in this favorable context. The fun activity is open to all. When night falls, it’s time to party! With over 30 bars, pubs and night clubs, you will find La Plagne’s festive night ambiance. Fun and hospitality await you with theme nights and a wide variety of atmospheres. The restaurants in La Plagne are as varied as people’s tastes. From snack food at the foot of the slopes to gastronomic restaurants for gourmets, not forgetting the essential local specialties: fondue Savoyarde, tartiflette, Savoyard sausages and crozets. With over 60 options, you will always find a menu that will get your taste buds tingling! You will find all the shops and services you need for a great holiday in La Plagne, so go on...spoil yourself!

Finally, the area’s altitude is between 10,262 feet and 4,100 feet with 139 ski lifts, a snow park, 264 miles of ski runs: consisting of 37 black, 65 red, 132 blue, 12 green and 95 miles of cross-country ski trails. The ski pass included in your Club Med package gives you the freedom to enjoy “Paradiski domain” ski area, equipped with a “hands free” ski pass system ensuring greater fluidity for skiers.

Included in your package is a day to Lyon, France. Lyon, a city in France’s Rhône-Alpes region, sits at the confluence of the Rhône and Saône rivers. Its city center reflects 2,000 years of history, with a Roman amphitheater in Fourviere, medieval and Renaissance architecture in Vieux Lyon, and the modern, redeveloped Confluence district on the Presqu’île peninsula between the rivers. Traboules, covered passageways between buildings, connect Vieux Lyon and La Croix-Rousse hill.

To start the trip off right, there is an option for a pre-trip with three nights in Paris with departs the US on January 18th. There are also other optional excursions during the week to Chambery, Geneva and Grenoble. If you are interested in extending your vacation on the back end a post trip with three nights in Geneva is being offered. More details on these offerings in the next article!

Peggy

Iceland - TSC Summer Expedition

August 23-31, 2017

by George Kelly, TSC Summer Expedition Coordinator



Hello to all. I am George Kelly. I have served on the TSC board as treasurer, VP Traditional Trip Coordinator (Snowmass, January 2016) and now as the TSC Summer Expedition Coordinator 2017 to Iceland

"Ring of Honor".

At the bid meeting in San Antonio this past April, five ski clubs signed up to go on the Summer Expedition 2017 to Iceland with a total of 144 participants. I will be making contract with each of these club's President and/or VP of Trips in the next few weeks to start answering questions that will help in making this a really fantastic trip for your club members.

I do look forward in heling making this a great trip for all.

George

My home club is the Dallas Ski Club. I have been a member for 34 years. During this time, I have served the DSC as a general board member for a number of years, VP Trips three times, and as the DSC President three times. When not serving as member of the DSC board I have led a minimum of 14 trips. I also have the honor of being 1 of the only 23 members of the Dallas Ski Club since its beginnings in 1955 to have been elected into the DSC's

Secretary Report

by Ann Rogers, TSC Secretary

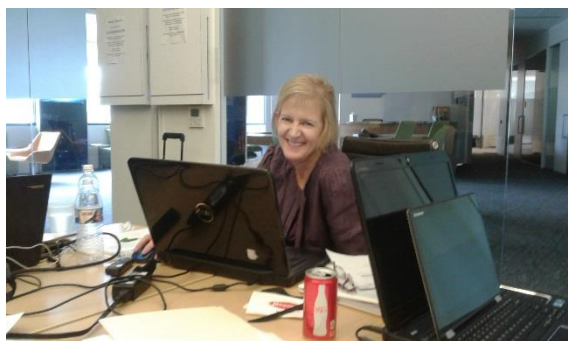


This my second year to serve on the TSC Board. Last year I was the VP for Winter Shootout, so now I am your secretary. Why did I do this? No, seriously, I enjoy being part of the Board and giving back to the organization that has given me so many travel memories. I always wanted to go to Egypt and I did with the TSC in September, 2010. That was a bucket list trip!

Communication with our members is so important so I encourage all of the TSC member clubs to get this newsletter out to your club members. Please either forward the emailed pdf newsletter or refer members and anyone asking to the TSC website to view the TSC newsletters. This is an important way that the TSC can communicate with the clubs' members and potential new members.

A special thanks to Kerry Huffstutler for all your help in getting me up to speed.

Ann



Andrea hard at work at May Board meeting.

TSC Important Dates

Texas Ski Council 2016 - 2017 Calendar

April 1-3 2016	Quarterly Delegates Meeting – San Antonio <i>Ski Area Bid Selection, Officer Election & Installation</i>
May 2, 2016	Lodging requests accepted for 2016-2017 ski season (After 9:00 am, CDT)
May 14, 2016	Officer Training/Planning Meeting & Board of Directors Meeting - <i>Houston</i>
June 1, 2016	<i>Articles due for TSC Newsletter</i>
June 11, 2016	Quarterly Delegates Meeting – Austin
June 30, 2016	Newsletter Email Target Date
July 1, 2016	Club Deposits due to Ski area for 2016-17 trips
July 16, 2016	BOD Meeting - Houston
August 20, 2016	Quarterly Delegates Meeting – Dallas
August 20, 2016	Club Dues and Roster Due to TSC Treasurer
<i>September 15, 2016</i>	TSC Tax Return Due
October 29, 2016	BOD Meeting - Houston
November 12, 2016	Quarterly Delegates Meeting – Teleconference
November 18, 2016	Participation Fee Due - Traditional
December 8, 2016	Participation Fee Due - Winter Expedition
December 21, 2016	Participation Fee Due - Winter Shootout
<i>January 7 - January 14, 2017</i>	<i>TSC TRADITIONAL –Vail, CO</i>
January 11, 2017	Participation Fee Due - Final Showdown
<i>January 21 - January 29, 2017</i>	<i>TSC WINTER EXPEDITION – French Alps, Paradiski Domain</i>
<i>February 4 - February 11, 2017</i>	<i>TSC WINTER SHOOTOUT – Heavenly</i>
February 18, 2017	Preselect & BOD Meeting - Houston
<i>February 25 - March 4, 2017</i>	<i>TSC FINAL SHOWDOWN—Telluride, CO</i>
<i>April 7-9, 2017</i>	Quarterly Delegates Meeting – San Antonio <i>Ski Area Bid Selection, Officer Election & Installation</i>
5/6/2017 TBD	BOD Meeting - Houston
6/10/2017 TBD	Quarterly Delegates Meeting - Location TBD
April 1, 2017	Participation Fee Due - Summer Expedition
<i>August 23 - August 31, 2017</i>	<i>TSC SUMMER EXPEDITION - Iceland</i>

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