

# TSC Newsletter



## The Snow Has Come and Gone...Time for 2018!!!

by Andrea Yowman, TSC President

What an amazing ski season. I can't believe a year has passed and the ski season is over. Now it is time to focus on 2018!!

Special thanks to the TSC board, committee chairs, delegates, volunteers and our ski industry partners for a job well done. Nothing is without challenges, but how we handle those challenges, is what makes the Texas Ski Council

an amazing experience, build industry relationships, grow the organization and welcome everyone to keep coming back.

Please join me in congratulating Cindy Moore of Space City Ski Club for a job well done in coordinating the Youth Foundation Trip to Keystone.

Participating clubs included Armadillo Ski Club, Los Amigos Ski Club, Space City Ski Club and Ski Jammers Ski Club, with 57 enthusiastic participants. The youth are our future and it is imperative that we continue to nurture and support them as they become our next generation of skiers and boarders.



### Texas Ski Council Ski Bidfest



industry partners for what will be a great event on April 7 – 9 in San Antonio, TX at the Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio Riverwalk.

In addition the Pre-Select Committee led by Kerry Huffstutler, VP, Marketing, have worked countless

hours going through bids and ensuring we have a great slate of trip options for the delegates to vote on for the 2018 ski season. Don't miss this fun filled weekend. In addition to the bid meeting with ski industry presentations here are a few of the great activities.

- Free Ski Show w/drinks
- Bid on amazing auction items
- Dinner & themed dance
- Dessert Reception
- Explore the River Walk
- Top Golf
- River Walk Pub Crawl
- And much more

If you are staying at the host – Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio Riverwalk

**FREE** Breakfast

**FREE** Happy Hour

Registration is now only \$85. Sign-up today:  
<http://www.texas-ski.org/insidetsc/Meetings.htm>

Contact [Dyowmanreed@yahoo.com](mailto:Dyowmanreed@yahoo.com) for special hotel rates.

*Love, peace and snow,*

*Andrea*

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## Marketing Update

by Kerry Huffstutler, VP, Marketing

After much review and deliberation, my Pre-Select Committee and I managed to create a “short list” of 20 bids from our 55 submittals! Next, the delegates at BidFest on April 7 – 9 must choose 5 from the 20. It is never easy when you have such a wide variety of great ski resorts in the Western U.S., Japan and Europe and summer travel to a wide variety of adventures around the world. The hard work of the Pre-Select Committee is just the first step in a long process of trip planning. This is not a one person job; it takes a team of people willing to spend a considerable amount of time getting into the details. I had a very dedicated group serving on the committee:

- Terry O’Neel – Armadillo Ski Club
- Christine Augustine – Club St. Bernard
- Janet Reed – Ski Rangers
- Jim Hodges – At Large Member, Space City Ski & Adventure Club
- Jackie Bayly-Bryant – At Large Member, Austin Ski Club
- Cheryl Mann – At Large Member, Lone Star Skiers

**A big Thank You to the Pre-Select Committee. I really appreciate all the time and talent you contributed to this process!**

After detailed deliberations at our Pre-Select meeting in Houston on February 18, 2017, the committee came up with the following trips to be presented at the April 7 – 9, 2017 BidFest Meeting in San Antonio.

### Traditional (1/6 – 1/13 or 1/13 – 1/20/18 – varies on resort):

- **Breckenridge** – Ski Group.net
- **Park City** – Sports America Tours
- **Steamboat** – Winter Ski & Sport

### Winter Shootout (2/3 – 2/10 or 2/10 – 2/17/18):

- **Beaver Creek** – Winter Ski & Sport
- **Crested Butte** – Sports America Tours
- **Mt. Bachelor** - Ski Group.net
- **Sun Valley** – Sports America Tours

### Final Showdown (2/27 – 3/3 or 3/3 – 3/10/18):

- **Crested Butte** – Winter Ski & Sport
- **Park City** – Sports America Tours
- **Sun Valley** – SkiGroup.net
- **Whistler** – Ski.com

### Winter Expedition:

- Cortina, Italy – Winter Ski & Sports
- Hakuba, Japan – Holidaze
- Engelberg, Switzerland – French Incoming/Sports America Tours
- Zell-am-se, Austria - Holidaze

### Summer Expedition:

- Beijing - Collette
- Croatian Coast by Bike & Barge Tours – Bike Tours.com
- Dubai & Abu Dhabi - Smartours
- India – Alpine Adventures
- Patagonia - Smartours

You will not want to miss these presentations. Register for BidFest now! Get your club members to join so they can participate in this process!

See you soon in San Antonio!

*Kerry*

## Vail, Colorado TSC Traditional

**January 7-14, 2017**

by Derlyn Gordon, VP Traditional



It was the best snow I’ve ever skied on!” stated Rollo Gurss. Vail’s Motto of “Nothing Like it on Earth” certainly held true for our TSC Traditional trip to Vail, Colorado on January 7 – 14, 2017.

Plenty of excellent snow,

and superb restaurants and fun bars made Vail on unforgettable

place to go!

There were a few challenges on the trip, but in spite of that, most people truly enjoyed their Vail adventure. Oh, so many slopes with varied terrain, so many restaurants to choose, nice accommodations, many entertainment places, and being with great friends from your club and other TSC clubs made the trip a huge success and able to put the negative things behind!

## Vail, Colorado TSC Traditional

### Continued

Our races went well for the most part once we got to the races. In Division One, Los Amigos Ski Club was the first place winners!

Space City Ski and Adventure Club received second place and third place went to Austin Skiers. In Division Two, Texas Twisters Ski and Adventure Club place first and Clear Lake Area Ski Club received second. Lone Star Ski and Adventure Club competed too and did well. Division Three was not represented at Vail.

Ellen Zimmerman of Austin, Doodie Taylor of Clear Lake, Joe Mueller of Lone Star, Martha and Rich Garza of Los Amigos, Anne Thomas of Space City and Michele Jeter of Texas Twisters were the best trip leaders ever! They handled the many challenges with grace and communicated the situations very well and made my job as VP much easier.

Thank you to our Vail Trip Leaders! Kerry Huffstutler, VP of Marketing, Peggy Montgomery, Winter Expedition Coordinator, Mike Morris, Race Director and Karen Mann, Nominations Committee Head were invaluable at the Race Directors Meeting and Final Awards Banquet. Thank you TSC Board and Committee Head Members for your help. The photographs were taken by Tom Thomas of Space City and Ram Iyer of Texas Twisters. Thank you both for your time.

Yes, we had fresh powder snow to ski, fabulous restaurants, fun bars and wonderful friends on the TSC Traditional trip to Vail, Colorado! "Nothing like it on Earth"

My Pleasure to serve as your TSC VP Traditional and hope to see you soon!

*Derlyn*



## French Alps, Paradiski Domain TSC Winter Expedition

### January 22 – 29, 2017

by Peggy Montgomery, Winter Expedition Coordinator

Well, I think all that attended this trip will agree that we had a fantastic experience at Club Med's La Plagne 2100 located in the Paradiski Domain of the French Alps. The Club Med experience left all of us wanting to do another Club Med destination for a TSC Trip!



The trip was pretty seamless, from arrival at the airport to airport return we were well taken care of. Even with all the different flight times the Club Med desk at the airport was outstanding – assuring everyone had timely transportation from the airport to La Plagne – although the bus trip was probably longer than most thought it would be! With traffic out of Geneva

and the 30-45 minute winding up the mountain to the very top of the ski area, most got extra sleep in, although once we headed up the mountains, the views were so spectacular you really didn't want to be sleeping. La Plagne 2100 was located at the top most vehicle accessible area and was still surrounded by magnificent mountains. You could step out of the door of the hotel and head down a slope or to a chair lift. With lift ticket and lessons included this made it easy for skiers to enjoy mostly sunny, almost spring-like skiing (although temps never got above freezing). While there was not a great deal of snow, the instructor/guides that came with the free lessons allowed those that opted to do lessons access to lots of skiing! Even for those that did not ski, weather permitting, were able to take Gondolas up to the Glacier and ice Sculpture Cave – where ice sculptures made by locals were on display. Some had to try a few times as the gondola to this area was sometimes closed because of high winds and it was a bit of a hike once off the gondola!



Another aspect of this trip that was terrific was the all-inclusive ground package! We drank and ate our fill of all sorts of different food. While at least one night some tried the small Fondue Restaurant, most nights we ate at the buffet Restaurant. It was amazing—the variety of food they served made it so you had lots of different dinner options for entrées throughout the week. With lots of offerings we all found something at breakfast, lunch and dinner to enjoy! Also, at lunch they generally had small plates on the deck, so you could stop off from skiing for a quick bite and drink. Then every afternoon they put out assorted appetizers during “Happy Hour”. Finally, almost every evening there was some type of entertainment—it was like being on a cruise ship, but better, as skiing was involved. The minor down side, was as it was not an adult only resort, there were about 50 kids in attendance and the bar was also the theater/activity area! However, according to the hotel staff this number for kids was actually quite small for the resort as “the Texans” had booked so many rooms. Out group was probably about 25% of the hotel capacity.

All the day excursions went off without a hitch, although, except for Lyon, which was included in the trip price, the numbers were quite small. Unfortunately, also, as the area was a bit secluded, the tours involved long roundtrip bus trips. However, all on the tours very much enjoyed what they saw in Lyon, Grenoble and Geneva. Interestingly, while it was mostly sunny and a bit warm for skiing, in the towns we went to the weather was surprisingly cold, mainly because every day was quite windy.

A very small group went on the Paris pre-trip and had a whirlwind trip with so much to do. Fortunately, Hotel Cadet, where we stayed was in a central location and only a half block from the metro. As the trip included a three day metro pass everyone was able to get around quickly and see everything they wanted to see (although, some did manage to end up going the wrong way from where they wanted to go on the metro—easy to fix, just get off and get on a train going the other way)! Most of us had quite an experience taking “trains” to Geneva—we had to switch trains four times—next time we will make sure we assure a more direct route!

I believe all that made the trip to the Alps in Southwestern France will agree that the experience was one in a million- from the scenery, to the skiing to the culture! **Many thanks to Danielle Griffin, Good Life Travel and all the Club Med Team for an outstanding job!**

*Peggy*

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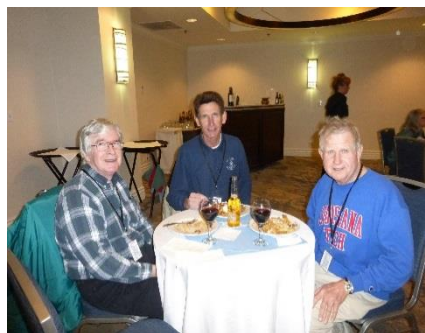
## Heavenly Valley – Lake Tahoe

### - TSC Winter Shootout

### February 4-11, 2017

by Marsha “MJ” VP Winter Shootout

We started out our week on a plus. Everyone arrived safe, sound and roaring to go. We woke up to a beautiful day, but the winds were kicking up a bit on top of the mountain. Some skied, some adapted to the elevation, some shopped, and some began watching the Super Bowl. Later we all met for our Welcome Party and found good snacks (nachos), drinks and excellent entertainment.



By Monday, the mountain was dumped on, but the winds were fierce and already Tuesday races were on hold. We had a trip to Northstar scheduled and our bus left with a bunch of skiers and tourists. On our way to Northstar, we got the scenic tour of a large boulder in the middle of the highway. Clearly not a welcome sight. We finally arrived at our destination where the skiers got off the bus and headed to the mountain. The rest of us tourists did a quick surveillance of the Northstar Village, and then caught a bus to the little town of Truckee. During our ride to Truckee, some got text messages saying that the skiing at Northstar was too wet and they were getting soaked. Later we found them at the bar in high spirits.

A part of the group that ventured off to Truckee, found more rain, but excellent food and drink at the local tavern.



**IN TRUCKEE WAITING FOR THE BUS BACK TO NORTHSTAR**

By Tuesday morning, the winds were making it too challenging (80 mph winds) and the Canyon lift had gone on wind hold. That lift was required for you to access the Epic Race venue. They had 10 more inches of snow and it was dumped after the slopes had been groomed, so races were cancelled until Friday.

By Wednesday a fierce group took on the Wild Virginia City with a mining visit and a wild trolley car tour of the little town. We were told about the popular local madam who had been murdered and how the town's men gave her a funeral that would make Royalty jealous. They held a huge parade with music and song and made a special resting place for their lady of the evening. By the end of the trip, we had found the local bars and taverns with mysteries of their own, including the ghost of the past still existing amongst the living.

## Heavenly Valley – Lake Tahoe - Continued



TRYING TO GET RICH ELLMER TO QUIT MINING  
FOR SILVER WAS A CHALLENGE



TROLLEY CAR RIDE VIRGINIA CITY



MAIN STREET IN VIRGINIA CITY



THE STREETS WERE WET, SO WE HEADED FOR THE BAR!



WAITING FOR BUS AND OUR SCENERY ON THE WAY BACK TO HEAVENLY



## Heavenly Valley – Lake Tahoe - Continued

Those who stayed behind at Heavenly found rain and limited lifts were open. Only one lift was open on the Nevada side and only one lift on the California side. The winds were incredibly high at the top with gusts up to 105 mph. There was a mix of snow and rain. The weather was warm for ski conditions, but there was 6 to 10 inches of powder on ungroomed runs. The forecast predicted another band of rain on its way. Later in the day, most of the lower lifts on the California side were open.

On Thursday, the Kirkwood and Heavenly mountains were shut down due to high winds, but our courageous bunch climbed on the bus to Northstar. About 40 minutes into their trip, their bus got waylaid on a different route which would take longer to and from the mountain, so they opted to come back to Heavenly. We then found that the mountain was officially closed and our tour operator arranged refunds for us. After a day of shopping, gambling, eating, movies and other activities that the resort had to offer, we all stopped by the hotel for their daily drink special. Afterwards, we all attended the TSC Banquet with an Italian dinner buffet followed up with a DJ and dancing. The usual routine for our Banquet is to pass out the Race Certificates and medals, but our races were postponed until Friday. Many stayed at the banquet and danced the night away.



Friday was another surprise. We woke up to snow and high winds. By 7:45AM, there was a delay for Stagecoach, Gondola and others, with no estimated time of opening. The Race Venue needed to be confirmed for racing, but it depended on when it was groomed and how much snow fell on it after grooming.

About midmorning, a tree somewhere in the area fell on a power line and power was lost to the Nevada lifts. The mountain was on a 2 hour delay and the lifts needed to be dug out and de-iced before the public could access the mountain. The mountain crews also used the lifts and snowmobiles to get to the Race Venue, so they were delayed to evaluate. The lifts were coated with wet snow that froze to the cables and chairs. This was being cleared so the lifts can run.

There were two key lifts that were necessary to reach the Epic Mix Race venue: Powderbowl and Canyon. The Powderbowl lift was currently close to running, but still over an hour away from being ready. Once that lift was running the Mountain Crew could get to the venue on foot and evaluate the surface and set up the venue. At this time, the Race Venue would not be ready by 11:00AM. The second lift needed was the Canyon lift and it was projected to be ready around noon or shortly after. This lift took people up to Ridge Run which is skied to the entrance of the Epic Mix Race venue. At best, the race would most likely be starting at 1:00PM or so.

## Heavenly Valley – Lake Tahoe - Continued

The California Main Lodge was opening up Gunbarrel lift to access advanced terrain only. Powderbowl lift was to be open for public near 11:00AM. By 1:30PM we were advised that they had been to the Epic Mix Race Venue and the races were cancelled. There was too much snow on the race run and it continued to snow more. There had been over 2 feet of fresh overnight. The gondola was shut down, but you could go to the California side and ski. Some did and some chose to stay around the town and watch a movie, gamble, shop, eat and drink.

All in all the skiing took a hit, but the companionship and comradery held true. There is nothing like friendships that have held on for many past years and future years to come.

It was my pleasure to run this trip for the TSC, but it would not have happened without the support of others. I would like to thank the Trip Leaders and Coordinators for all of their help and support during the week. Thanks to the club's race directors for volunteering, but unfortunately, we did not get to participate in the races due to the bad weather conditions. Many thanks to our TSC officers Marsha and Camille for being there when I needed advice and assistance. Last but not least, much gratitude goes to the 92 participants for their patience and understanding. They had to deal with the limited skiing conditions, but rose to the occasion with great attitudes and resilience. Thanks to all for making it a great trip in spite of all the inconveniences!

Marsha "MJ"

**Texas Ski Council  
Ski Bidfest**



**TEXAS-SKI-COUNCIL-2017-BIDFEST¶**

**APRIL-7-9,-2017¶**

**Sign-Up-Today¶**

**<http://www.texas-ski.org/insidetssc/Meetings.htm>¶**



## TSC IMPORTANT DATES

### Texas Ski Council 2016 - 2017 Calendar

Texas Ski Council 2016 - 2017 Calendar	
<b>April 1-3 2016</b>	<b>Quarterly Delegates Meeting – San Antonio</b> <i>Ski Area Bid Selection, Officer Election &amp; Installation</i>
<b>May 2, 2016</b>	Lodging requests accepted for 2016-2017 ski season (After 9:00 am, CDT)
<b>May 14, 2016</b>	Officer Training/Planning Meeting & Board of Directors Meeting - <i>Houston</i>
<b>June 1, 2016</b>	<i>Articles due for TSC Newsletter</i>
<b>June 11, 2016</b>	<b>Quarterly Delegates Meeting – Austin</b>
<b>June 30, 2016</b>	Newsletter Email Target Date
<b>July 1, 2016</b>	Club Deposits due to Ski area for 2016-17 trips
<b>July 16, 2016</b>	BOD Meeting - Houston
<b>August 20, 2016</b>	<b>Quarterly Delegates Meeting – Dallas</b>
<b>August 20, 2016</b>	<b>Club Dues and Roster Due to TSC Treasurer</b>
<i>September 15, 2016</i>	TSC Tax Return Due
<b>October 29, 2016</b>	BOD Meeting - Houston
<b>November 12, 2016</b>	<b>Quarterly Delegates Meeting – Teleconference</b>
<b>November 18, 2016</b>	<b>Participation Fee Due - Traditional</b>
<b>December 7, 2016</b>	<b>Participation Fee Due - Winter Expedition</b>
<b>December 21, 2016</b>	<b>Participation Fee Due - Winter Shootout</b>
<i>January 7 - January 14, 2017</i>	<i>TSC TRADITIONAL –Vail, CO</i>
<b>January 11, 2017</b>	<b>Participation Fee Due - Final Showdown</b>
<b>January 26, 2017</b>	<b>Participation Fee Due - TSCYF Trip to Keystone, CO</b>
<i>January 21 - January 29, 2017</i>	<i>TSC WINTER EXPEDITION – French Alps, Paradisi Domain</i>
<i>February 4 - February 11, 2017</i>	<i>TSC WINTER SHOOTOUT – Heavenly</i>
<b>February 18, 2017</b>	Preselect & BOD Meeting - Houston
<i>February 25 - March 4, 2017</i>	<i>TSC FINAL SHOWDOWN—Telluride, CO</i>
<i>March 12 - 16, 2017</i>	<i>TSCYF KEYSTONE, CO</i>
<b>April 7-9, 2017</b>	<b>Quarterly Delegates Meeting – San Antonio</b> <i>Ski Area Bid Selection, Officer Election &amp; Installation</i>
<b>5/6/2017 TBD</b>	BOD Meeting - Houston
<b>6/10/2017 TBD</b>	<b>Quarterly Delegates Meeting - Location TBD</b>
<b>April 1, 2017</b>	<b>Participation Fee Due - Summer Expedition</b>
<i>August 23 - August 31, 2017</i>	<i>TSC SUMMER EXPEDITION - Iceland</i>

## 2016-2017 Texas Ski Council Sponsors

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GOLD  SPONSORS



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BRONZE  SPONSORS



