

# NEWSLETTER sitzmarke

March 2018 Volume 53 Issue 10



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## FROM MISSION CONTROL

BY BILL BOMBERGER, PRESIDENT

It is now approaching March and we are heading into the last few weeks of our ski season. For those of you who read my ramblings, "No, I am not responsible for the snow conditions." Up to now the snow conditions have not been favorable for a lot of us. I will be heading off to the last trip of the season, Snowmass, and I am doing my best snow dances to make it snow.



Space City Ski and Adventure club is just that, a club. We are not a travel agency, security officers or baby sitters. Everyone in the club is an adult, experienced adult for that matter. On trips or overnight activities there can and will be some issues with roommates. Please remember to keep your emotions in check and cooperate to find a mutual resolution.

We are now starting to plan for the next 13 months, elect new officers and plan for more activities for the club. Please assist us with your ideas and destinations for the club.

We need Volunteers to assist in making the club as much fun as possible.

## COUNTDOWN TO LIFTOFF

BY BEVERLY ROBERTS, VICE PRESIDENT OF TRIPS

Hello from the trip desk!!

Ski season is here. I hope you are able to join one (or more!) of our fantastic ski trips and create some incredible memories with your fellow club members.

Our January trips to Steamboat, Crested Butte, Big Sky and Cortina have completed, and according to all reports, were great fun. Some had great snow, some not so great, but all had great activities, great parties, and great people. The trip articles will soon be out, so everyone can share the stories and adventures from the slopes!



The February trips began with the SLC Sampler trip. This has been followed by the TSC Winter Shoot Out trip to Beaver Creek. The SCSC ski trip slate will wrap up (boohoo!!) with the Snowmass club trip in March.

After our ski trips are completed, it will be time to begin planning the 2019 trip slate!! SkiBidFest 2018 is scheduled for April 20-22 in San Antonio, Texas. At Bidfest, the ski clubs that make up the Texas Ski Council will meet and hear presentations from a variety of domestic and international tour operators. Each club will vote its preferences, and the club votes will be tallied to determine the selections for the 2019 TSC sponsored trips. Selections will be made for the 2019 January Traditional, the Winter Expedition, the Winter Shoot-out, the Final Showdown, and the non-ski Summer Expedition. SCSC members are encouraged to attend. This is a great opportunity to meet skiers from across the state, as well as learn more about the destinations under consideration for both TSC and club trips. It is also an opportunity to provide feedback to the club leadership on preferences, and to see the TSC vendor/destination selection process in action. Go to the TSC web site - [www.texas-ski.org](http://www.texas-ski.org) - for registration instructions, meeting schedules, agendas, and other important information.

After BidFest, we have three outstanding non-ski trips that will take you to all points on the globe. Check with the TCs for the latest trip availabilities, and join the wait list so you can snag an opening or cancellation.

- See the wonders of the Far East with the Experience China trip. You will see the Great wall, the Terra Cotta Soldiers, and so much more. Contact Jill Nanney [Jill@spacecity.org](mailto:Jill@spacecity.org)
- Explore the southern European coastline on the Croatia Bike and Boat trip. You will cycle through the beautiful landscapes of the Croatian coast, or, if you feel like a relaxing day, enjoy the changing scenery from the boat deck. Contact Rita Cardenas [Rita@spacecity.org](mailto:Rita@spacecity.org)
- Join the TSC Summer Expedition to Patagonia in South America. There, you will marvel at dramatic landscapes, waterfalls and glaciers, as well as experience the cosmopolitan world of Buenos Aires. You may also choose optional pre and post trips to Easter Island and Mendoza. Contact Sarah Granbery [Sarah@spacecity.org](mailto:Sarah@spacecity.org)

Following is the remaining SCSC 2018 trip schedule.

Think snow! Then think travel, and biking and hiking!  
Beverly Roberts – VP Trips



Trip	Schedule	TC	Full Pkg	Land
Snowmass	Mar 3-10, 2018	Ann Dorn	\$1,171	\$876
China	May 16-25, 2018	Jill Nanney	\$2,115	N/A
Croatia Bike	June 23-30, 2018	Rita Cardenas Leyla Ozkardesh	N/A	\$2,488
Patagonia	Oct. 17-26, 2018	Sarah Granbery	\$4,029	\$2,296

## HAVING A BLAST

BY LYNN BURCH, VICE PRESIDENT OF ACTIVITIES

We had a fabulous Super Bowl Party at Stuart Traver's beautiful home. We had 68 people attend and more food than you can imagine. Everyone brought something to share and it was all delicious. George Sargent brought his Margarita machine and was making Mango Margaritas most of the night. We had several football pots going with winners by the quarter and then one big pot where there was only one winner who was Debbie Moser. Rita Cardenas took care of all the football pots, Debbie Moser and I took care of the kitchen and getting the food out, and Jo Barrie checked everyone in. The four of us plus Robert Rowley got there early to help Stuart get everything ready for the party.



The February 17 Dinner was at Union Kitchen on Memorial in Lantern Lane Center. This is where we had planned to have the September Dinner when Harvey

hit us. 26 attended and enjoyed good food and good company in our own private room. Pictures are on page 8.

The Happy Hour on February 22 at McIntyre's at 1230 W. 20th in the Height's area was a success despite the rain. We had about 30 people. It was a fun place with a Chicken Food Truck. They have a lot of swings on the patios and a few of the ladies tried them out.

"Memphis" the musical at Hobby Center on February 25 has ten of us meeting at Hard Rock Café to eat before going over to the performance. Pictures in next month's Sitzmarke.

Dance classes are suspended thru March. They start back April 4 and are going to have different dances.

We have cancelled the March 10 Wine Tasting class at Total Wine on San Felipe because of low sign ups. When choosing the date, I did not account for the large amount going to the Snowmass trip or the Rodeo. We will reschedule for a later date this summer.

March 24 will be Dinner at Baba Yega's in Montrose. Please sign up early and don't wait until the last week as I have to let the restaurant know how many are coming Monday of that week.

The March 29 Happy Hour will be at Punk's in Rice Village.

Please check the website often for new activities. This is where you learn about them and can sign up.

Thank you to all the members who participate in the events, as long as you keep coming and signing up for activities we will keep having them and adding new ones.

## The Nominating Committee is pleased to present to the SCSC membership the following slate of officers for 2018-2019:

President- Jan Ferrell  
 VP of Activities- Lynn Burch  
 VP of Trips- Beverly Roberts  
 VP of Membership- Anne Thomas  
 VP of Marketing- Bil Cusack  
 Secretary- Diane Stotz  
 Treasurer- David Gresko

## EXTRAVEHICULAR ACTIVITIES MARCH EVENT CALENDAR

March 12	Monthly General Meeting Officer Elections Live Oak Grill
March 24	Dinner at Baba Yega 2607 Grant
March 29	Happy Hour at Punk's 5212 Morningside

## RECRUITMENT UPDATE

BY ANNE THOMAS, VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP

### NEW MEMBER SPECIAL!

If you have put off joining Space City NOW IS THE TIME to join with our new member special. Join this month and you will receive 14 months for the price of 12. What a deal! Join now and the annual membership will be valid through April 2019. For only \$40 (online credit card is okay) you pay less than 10 cents per day as a single member to receive:

- New friends in a well-established Houston club
- Social activities throughout the month
- Meet others with common activity interests
- First alerts on activities

- First alert and registration for new trips- watch beginning in July for our 2019 slate of snow and adventure trips



Trip registration online - you must be a member in good standing to register for our trips.

Eligible to join waiting lists for awesome trips such as Patagonia

10 % off regular price merchandise at Sun and Ski

10 % off regular price merchandise at Saint Bernard's

How to join online - Look on the left side of our web page:  
[www.spacecity.org](http://www.spacecity.org)

Join  
Membership

Select the option - Single or Dual membership and pay online with a credit card or PayPal.

We currently have 459 paid members aka Volunteers. As an all volunteer organization, your presence and service are appreciated. And if you have not joined, wait no longer. Today is the day to be an official member.

For all Membership questions please contact me at  
[Membership@SpaceCity.org](mailto:Membership@SpaceCity.org)

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# MEET THE SCSC OFFICER NOMINEES

## JAN FERRELL FOR PRESIDENT

Why do I want to be President of SCSC? Glad you asked. I thought long and hard about putting my name in the hat. Here goes:



I've been involved with ski clubs for over 30 years whether it was here or in San Antonio's club Los Amigos. I was president there as well as VP Membership. I was VP Membership for 2 years with SCSC and on the board. Many of you have been on ski and non-ski trips with me. I ran the NYC/Iceland/Norway trip last August. I am retired from AT&T and finding that retirement is often busier than when I "had a real job".

Being involved with SCSC has been rich with trips, activities, old and new friends. I volunteer with many organizations but I can tell you that volunteering with SCSC has been the most fulfilling and fun.

The bottom line for wanting to be president is that I care. I care about our club and its members. I care that we stay vibrant and alive as a club and that we offer fun activities and trips.

I care enough that I want to be your president and that is exactly what I want to be --your president.

## BEVERLY ROBERTS FOR VP OF TRIPS

My name is Beverly Roberts, and I have been nominated for a second term as VP of Trips for Space City Ski and Adventure Club. Last year, in my first term as VP of trips, I learned a LOT about the selection and administration of trips for our membership. I'm hoping to leverage that experience to develop a trip slate for 2019 that will have interesting and diverse choices. We'll have lots of ski options, and some additional non-ski adventures.



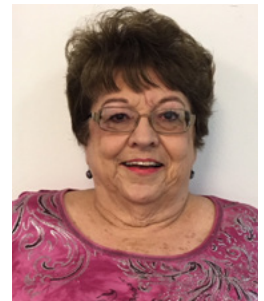
I hope to reach out to you at club meetings, happy hours and club events to collect trip suggestions and feedback. I want to hear what you have enjoyed on your trips, and where we need to make additions, changes and corrections. The trips are all about YOU!! If there is a location

that you are interested in – ski or non-ski/adventure – talk to me about it!! I have a lot of ideas about where to go, but the trip slate is about where YOU want to go!! Also, if you are interested in a particular destination, you might be a great candidate for the TC or ATC of that trip. TCs and ATCs have the opportunity of influencing the selection of their favorite location, or the selection of a location that they would love to visit. They also get to meet a lot of great people, and have the satisfaction of seeing individuals come together as a group. Consider volunteering (PLEASE!!). It will be work, but you will also enjoy many rewards, and will help Space City continue the tradition of offering great, well-priced trips.

If you select me as the VP of trips, my objective is to offer a slate of trips so that every member that is able and interested in traveling will find something that appeals. Help me make 2019 the best year ever to travel with Space City Ski and Adventure!!

## LYNN BURCH FOR VP OF ACTIVITIES

It has been a fun and exciting privilege to be your Vice President of Activities this year and I look forward to more fun activities in the 2018-2019 year to come.



I plan on continuing the monthly Dinners and Happy Hours around town as well as the Dance Lessons that are on Wednesdays each week April thru November. I am continually looking for new things for us to do, so if you have any suggestions or would like to run an event, please let me know. We already have tickets bought for the Astros vs. Detroit Tigers for July 13. I am looking to see if anyone is interested in going to Cynthia Woods Pavilion to see Lynam Skynrd on May 12 before I buy tickets.

Does anyone have a Galveston Beach house that we could use for a party in Galveston? If so, please let me know. Hiking, Biking and other excursions will be planned as long as our members continue to participate. The one thing I would ask you to do is sign up early for events and not wait until the last minute.

I am excited about the coming year and plan to have a lot of fun activities for SCSC members to enjoy.

## **DIANE STOTZ FOR SECRETARY**

Hi! My name is Diane Stotz and I've been nominated to be the Secretary for Space City Ski & Adventure Club for 2018-2019. My husband, David, and I have been members since 1989, and we have been on many ski trips since we've joined. David continues to ski and I've retired from skiing because of arthritis in the knees. Instead of skiing, for the last few years we've traveled with Space City's foreign "adventure" trips to Iceland, South Africa, Galapagos, Tuscany and Spain. This spring we're looking forward to spending time in China.



I've been involved with the ski club for many years: ATC-twice, TC-twice, DOT, DOP, Nominating Committee-three times, and AC (Activity Coordinator) – six or more times. For the past ten years I've been very involved with volunteering: I'm the lead person in my congregation's Care Team, I volunteer at Emergency Aid Coalition, and I volunteer with the League of Women Voters. Before I began volunteering, for twenty years I worked as an Administrative Assistant in the Human Resources Department at different companies.

In my spare time, I spend time with David, our pets, two dogs and two cats, dance West Coast Swing & C&W, and have lunch dates with my friends.

I want our club to be successful. I look forward to being a reliable and enthusiastic Secretary for Space City Ski & Adventure Club.

## **ANNE THOMAS FOR VP OF MEMBERSHIP**

I enjoyed being the VP of Membership so much last year that agreeing to volunteer again was an easy decision. Working with other officers on the Executive Committee was enjoyable and interesting.



I joined the club in 2004 and frequently register for two SCSC ski trips each year, unless I am lucky enough to participate in three. Also I was a TC (Trip Coordinator) for numerous long and short trips since 2007.

This past year I represented Space City on the Texas Ski Council as VP of the Winter Shootout. I had the best of all worlds - serving as an officer for Space City while also running a trip on the TSC level. I retired recently which made it easy to volunteer time and energy to both SCSC and TSC

in the same year.

My educational background and career focused on Risk Management and Insurance with a BBA & MBA from The University of Georgia's RMI program. My first working years were in corporate risk management with Esmark in Chicago and BFI in Houston. Later I shifted to professional liability insurance consulting and brokerage to hospitals and healthcare entities. Membership duties must be in my blood as I served as Membership Chairman for a professional organization.

Speaking of Membership - March is the great time to join as we are having a membership special - join in March to receive 14 months for the price of 12. A new annual Membership is valid until May 1st 2019 so join now!

I look forward to serving Space City Ski & Adventure Club as the VP of Membership.

## **BIL CUSACK FOR VP OF MARKETING**



I have been a skier since I was 22 years old. Most of that time I was going on expensive trips for short periods. About 5 years ago I decided there had to be a better way. A quick Google search hooked me up with something called Space City Ski Club.

On their website I learned they were having a monthly happy hour that very week!

My first encounter was with some happy people (who I interviewed) that had many good things to say about being a member. "I met my wife here!", and "my best friend and I ski together as members". Many had been members for a good many years.

All this convinced me that this is the group I was looking for.

Fast forward 5 trips, dozens of adventures, a good many friendships, and now I call whatever we do 'home'. And now this... a new challenge, a new calling, but one I am comfortable with, having bootstrapped a business nearly 40 years ago that still keeps food on the table and skis under my feet.

All this is to say I am happy to be your new VP of Marketing. I am ready to dig in and brainstorm, make an action plan, and help take the club forward into its next 40 years. So, thanks for asking, thanks for your faith, let's pull together into our next chapter SCSC... Bil Cusack



## DAVE GRESKO FOR TREASURER

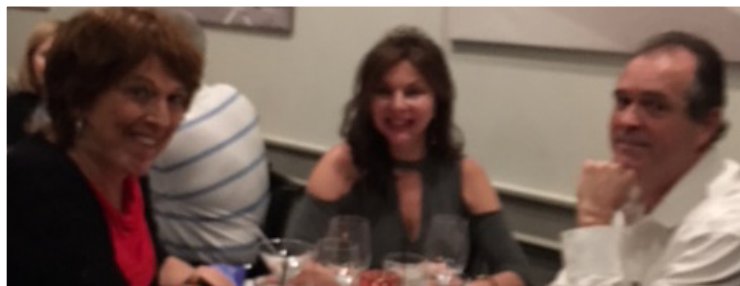


Hi! My name is Dave Gresko. I've been nominated to be the new Treasurer for the 2018-19 trip and adventure year. My wife, Diane, and I have been ski and adventure club members for close to six years now. While we may not be that big into the "ski" part of the club, we've had a great time on many "adventures"! My first trip (and only ski trip) was to Winter Park. I had a great time meeting the other skiers and enjoying the SCSC experience. Since then, Diane and I have been a part of international adventures to South Africa, Tuscany, and Iceland. If you've been on a trip with

us, you'll know us as "the tall couple"! We're also semi-regulars at the dance classes, as well as other fun excursions like the Fredericksburg trip, Buffalo Bayou walk, and the Polish Feast at the Polonia Restaurant.

In my "spare time", I'm the Risk & Insurance Manager for Noble Energy, Inc. Previous to that, I worked for several other energy companies in a variety of capacities including risk management, project management and finance. All of my jobs involved "tracking the money", so I feel I bring the requisite experience to be successful as the club's Treasurer. I view this as my opportunity to give back to the club and its membership for the many hours invested by others to make the events I've been a part of so enjoyable. I look forward to working with the other board members and coordinators to make your SCSC events, trips and adventures fantastic!

## DINNER AT UNION STATION



Plan to attend the  
Texas Ski Council  
Bidfest April 20 to  
April 23 in  
San Antonio, Texas.



## Snowmass, Colorado

March 3-10, 2018

Full Pkg \$1296 Land Only \$880 (subject to slight change)

TC Ann Dorn [anndorn@yahoo.com](mailto:anndorn@yahoo.com)

### WHY CHOOSE THIS TRIP

- Pre Ski trip party to get to know all fellow skiers. (Drinks, food and entertainment are included)
- Deluxe Ski-in/Ski-out lodging at the top of Snowmass Village.
- It's "Mass"ive with 3,362 skiable acres and 4,406 ft. vertical drop.
- Lift ticket for four great areas – Snowmass, Aspen, Aspen Highlands, & Buttermilk with terrain for all levels.
- Fun après ski happy hours, Club Dinner and Dance Party and other events.



**LUXURIOUS SKI-IN SKI-OUT LODGING: TOP OF THE VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS** Located at the top of Snowmass Village, Top of the Village Condominiums are ideally located for skiing as well as après-ski. What could be better than starting the day by walking out the door to ski? Our accommodations at Top of the Village will be upscale 2 bedroom/ 2 bath and 3 bedroom/ 3 bath condominiums with fireplaces, private balconies, and views of the surrounding mountains. They offer amenities including fully-equipped kitchens, elevators, washer/dryer in each unit, complimentary Wi-Fi, daily maid service, and concierge

service. Free shuttle service is also provided within Snowmass, making it easy to get around for groceries or other outings. A heated pool and hot tubs will be ready for relaxation at the end of the day.

**WHAT DOES THIS TRIP INCLUDE?** We will start a Big Bang Pre-trip party which will include hot and cold appetizers and drinks to get to know our fellow skiers and warm up for our Hot Ski trip. Your round-trip bus transportation from Denver International Airport to Snowmass is also included, along with seven nights accommodation at Top of Village and a Welcome Pizza party on Saturday night to hand out lift tickets and meet everyone. **Please Do not let us stop!!!!** After après ski happy hours every day, we may have more surprise parties for those who still have enough energy for night fun. We have already reserved a clubhouse on Wednesday for dinner and dance party. (Yes! it is all included except you bring your own favorite beverage).

**Great Skiing.** Snowmass has something for everyone! With 4,406 of vertical rise & 3,362 acres of varied terrain, Snowmass has the largest lift-served vertical descent in America and has been hailed as the #1 overall resort in America by both Ski.com and Transworld Snowboarding magazine. From wide cruising runs on Big Burn, to the experts-only thrill of Hanging Valley Wall, there is terrain here for everyone. Want more runs? Turn on the "Power of Four" mountains by taking a free short bus ride to Aspen for more expert terrain, Buttermilk for more easy-going gentle cruising runs, or Aspen Highlands, a local favorite. Skiers and riders of all abilities will have plenty of great skiing on this trip.

**MOUNTAIN STATS (SNOWMASS ONLY)** · 3362 skiable acres · 4406 vertical rise, summit elevation 12,510 ft., base elevation 8104 ft. · 94 trails, 21 lifts including 2 gondolas, 1 high speed six passenger, 7 high-speed quads · Easiest 6%, More difficult 47%, Most Difficult 17%, Expert 30%.

**We want you to have the most memorable fun trip of 2018 with us. Please mark this one on your Calendar!!!**

# CROATIA BOAT & BIKE TOUR

## NATIONAL PARKS OF DALMATIA

JUNE 22 – JUNE 30 2018

TCs: Rita Cardenas [Rita@spacecity.org](mailto:Rita@spacecity.org)

Leyla Ozkardesh [Leyla@spacecity.org](mailto:Leyla@spacecity.org)

We are excited to offer this trip to the beautiful island of Croatia. Many of our club participants enjoyed the Boat & Bike trip to Danube last season and we hope to continue the momentum. We have chartered a yacht for this journey so only Space City participants will be aboard. There are 32 spots available and they are sure to go fast, so sign up quick! We are offering this trip as Land Only. The price for the flights for individuals was much more reasonable than trying to acquire air as a Group.

We ask you plan your travel to arrive in Split, Croatia airport (SPU) by 2:30pm Saturday June 23, 2018. The airport is 7 minutes from the boat dock. We will have a planned shuttle TBA or it is an quick taxi ride. The boat departs at 3:00pm Saturday June 23rd. Each traveler must make the effort to arrive on time as the boat cannot wait for delays. The trip disembarks Sat June 30th after breakfast around 9am; however we have flexibility for earlier departures.

Jennifer Cole, NonStop Travel Inc., will provide assistance with flight reservations if needed. Her contact information is [Jennifer@nonstoptravel.net](mailto:Jennifer@nonstoptravel.net) Tel #310-324-5500

There are 16 cabins on the yacht with various room configurations. We will work with each participant to assign cabins. We ask that single travelers help to find a roommate as they sign up. As the trip fills up, we may need to create wait list for single travelers until there is a qualified roommate. Land Only Package \$2488 per person (pending board approvals). The last day for refund less cancellation fee is 2/28/2018. The final payment is due 3/16/2018.

**SIGN UP QUICKLY!** Don't delay your decision to join us as we will be opening the trip to other clubs to ensure we meet our financial obligation.

**[Click here for  
Bike Tours Website of Space City Trip Details](#)**

### ABOUT THIS TRIP

Croatia is a country full of beautiful, well-kept coasts with thousands of islands, reefs, and bays. Numerous Roman ruins, charming hills, and breathtaking beauty awaits you here. Situated along the Adriatic Sea, Croatia stretches from the slopes of the alps to the banks of the Danube and Drava Rivers.



If you have always desired to cycle in Croatia but have worried about the mountainous terrain, you need worry no longer. You can bike Croatia using e-bikes and will conquer the hills almost effortlessly. You will not be denied the breathtaking views that these mountain climbs provide.

You will discover the charm of the Adriatic in a very unique way. After a hearty breakfast each morning, you cycle through history and culture and at midday meet the ship at a harbor for lunch. In the evening, the ship will be waiting in the next harbor for you to dine as the sun sets, followed by a stroll through the historic harbor towns.

Come bike in Croatia, land of a thousand islands!

### WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- 8-day- trip on a motor yacht (Princeza Diana) with a crew of four
- 7 nights on a motor yacht in a cabin with shower/toilet - DBL occupancy
- Meal Package - 7x breakfast, 7x dinner, 4x lunch including welcome and farewell dinners on board
- Electric bicycle with 8 gear hub shifting with pannier
- Unlimited bottled drinking water (other beverages/ alcohol served on board will be tallied and charged to passengers at the end of the cruise)
- Guides on board
- Guided cycling tours as described in itinerary
- Overview maps for the daily tours (on board)
- Bed linen and towels
- English-speaking tour guide
- Entrance fees for the National parks
- Harbor fees & Visitor fees

### WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?

- Individual travel to Split Airport



- Beverages / Alcohol on board (tally sheet is utilized)
- Taxi transfer from airport to the ship (approx. €20)
- If do not make the scheduled shuttle
- Bicycle Protection (€10 for hybrid bike and €20 for electric bike)
- Tips for crew and guides
- Helmet - there are a limited number of helmets available for rental so bring your own.

## SKILL LEVEL

This cycle tour requires a basic level of fitness from all participants. Spend some time on your bike to prepare. The routes go to heights of 670- 1640 feet above sea-level. The mileage ranges from 9-34 miles and does go through hilly and mountainous terrain. The rides will be completed without any time-constraints, but you should be used to cycling distances up to 30 miles a day through hilly terrain. Participants will need to master long and steep climbs which will present no problem with the use of the electric bike. Streets are mostly asphalted with little traffic however during high season when we are going, there may be a few busy streets. Alternative daily activities such as swimming and walking are available for non-cyclists. All cultural and natural highlights of the tour will be available to everyone, without having to cycle.

## ITINERARY

Day 1: Trogir – Rogoznica

Day 2: Rogoznica – Vodice – Slanica – Nature Park Telašćica, 15 mi. (23 km)

Day 3: Molat and Dugi Otok Islands, 23 mi. + 11 mi. (38 km + 18 km)

Day 4: Islands of Ugljan and Pašman - Zadar, 12 - 25 mi. (20 - 40 km)

Day 5: Biograd – Vodice – Skradin, 35 mi. (55 km)

Day 6: Krka Waterfalls – Šibenik - Zlarin Island

Day 7: Primosten – Trogir, 28 mi. (45 km)

Day 8: Trogir, disembarkation.

**Day 1:** Arrival in Split, Croatia. Depart from Trogir harbor - Rogoznica. Dinner on the boat

Individual arrival by car to Trogir harbor or by plane to Split airport which is about 3 mi. (5 km) away from the harbor of Trogir. Check in is between 2 and 2:30 pm. Be prompt as the boat will depart at about 3 pm. Later in the afternoon, there will be time to adjust the bicycles. There will be a special welcome dinner on board!

Covered with pineforests that reach the sea, the island of Rogoznica is a paradise. The village of Rogoznica, a small fishermen's village, is hidden in a deep bay well protected from the waves and open sea.

**Day 2:** Rogoznica – Vodice – Slanica – Nature Park Telašćica (15 miles/23 km)

In the morning, the ship sails to Vodice where your cycling tour for today will begin. You will then cross the bridge to the island of Murter. In Slanica, in the Northwest of the island, the boat awaits to cross over to the island of Dugi Otok. On the way, you pass by the National Park Kornati - an archipelago in crystal clear water which is known for its rich, underwater world. Today's destination is the Telašćica Bay. The Mir salt lake is situated in this nature park. At the end of the day, you can take a short hike to the impressive cliffs

**Day 3:** Islands of Dugi Otok and Molat (23 miles + 11 miles/38 km + 18 km)

From the park, we will cycle across the almost traffic-free island of Dugi Otok until we reach the pine forest, agave, and tamarisk bay of Božava. From there the boat takes us to the flower island of Molat where we are free to explore the island by bicycle. Tonight is spent in the quiet port of the island.

**Day 4:** The Islands of Ugljan and Pašman – Zadar (12-25 miles/20-40 km)

During breakfast, the boat cruises to Preko on the island of Ugljan. From here, our tour will take us to Tkon on the island of Pašman. There is plenty of time to explore the two islands of Pašman and Ugljan, recently connected by a bridge, on your bikes. The tour follows the eastern coastline of the islands giving you a great view across the channel to the mainland.

After a loop tour, we will meet the ship again in Preko. A short crossing takes us to Zadar, the centuries-old political, cultural and intellectual capital of Dalmatia. Our tour guide will take us for an informative walk through the lively streets of the old town center, characterized by 3,000 years of history.



**Day 5: Biograd – Vodice – Skradin (35 miles/55 km)**

The morning begins with a boat trip to the city of Biograd followed by a bike tour around the Vraner Lake. Our goal is the resort of Vodice. The Vraner Lake is the largest freshwater reservoir in Dalmatia and offers many migratory birds an opportunity to rest their wings. In Vodice, you can enjoy lunch on board the boat. An afternoon crossing by boat brings us closer to the Krka waterfalls which we will have time to explore on Day 6 with our tour guide.

**Day 6: Krka Waterfalls – Šibenik – Island Zlarin**

After breakfast, it is time to discover the unique naturally formed waterfalls of the national park of the Krka-Canyon. Afterwards, the boat will take us to Šibenik out of the Krka river mouth and into the Adriatic. Here the Cathedral of St. Jacob is under UNESCO-World-Heritage protection and is regarded as the most magnificent sacral buildings on the Adriatic coast. The old town of Šibenik is also worth a visit before we cross over to the coral island of Zlarin in the afternoon.

**Day 7: Primošten – Trogir (28 miles/45 km)**

In the morning, we cruise to Primošten. From here, we cycle through the hinterland passing small villages, all the way to Trogir. Many magical views of the town and the island of Čiovo are inviting for short breaks and taking pictures. The afternoon offers enough time for a stroll through the world cultural heritage old town of Trogir. After dinner, we end our eventful trip with a special farewell dinner and celebration with crew and tour guides

**Day 8: Departure - Disembarkation at Trogir**

After breakfast, we disembark and head home.

**Changes**

The captain reserves the right to make changes to the planned route due to changing wind and weather conditions, and where required by organizational necessities

**OUR YACHT - LODGING - Princeza Diana (Deluxe class)**

High-quality furnishings, generous and spacious design and excellent culinary experiences are just a few of the attributes on board of our deluxe category ships. This fleet is made up of newly built steel ships, whose construction and planning have been directly influenced by us and our fellow island-hoppers.

At 125 x 26 feet, the Princeza Diana is a 3-mast deluxe class motor yacht that was launched in 2011. This ship is the princess of our fleet, an epitome of pure elegance. Spacious guest cabins with air conditioning, shower cabins and WC. The spacious salon as well as the canopied quarterdeck, with upholstered seating, are situated on the top deck. You're invited to play music on the piano and to relax you will find sunning mats and deckchairs on the sun deck. The Jacuzzi on the top deck is a highlight with its 360° panoramic view. The exterior of the Princeza Diana can fulfill any wish of an islandhopper: It doesn't matter whether you're looking for a deck chair or a mat, whether you want to hang out in the sun or in the shade. Everyone will find his favorite spot in this rich place. The spacious area invites for both: socializing and sunbathing in a peaceful atmosphere. The bathing platform ensures an easy access into the Adriatic, which is perfect for water lovers. Of course, it's possible to shower off the salty water after your swim in the deep blue Adriatic.

**OUR BIKES**

We will use electrically assisted bicycles (e-bikes). They will be equipped with a waterproof, rear side saddlebag. Women's bikes are available in 46 or 52cm frame sizes and the men's bikes are available in 56 and 60cm frame sizes.

If you enjoy to be active and outdoors but prefer leisure activity, the rental e-bikes insure comfortable cycling fun. All of the e-bikes are Pedelects requiring the rider to continuously pedal but insuring an effortless climb up every hill.



# EXPERIENCE CHINA

**Time to knock another one off your bucket list!**

**Join us for an 8 night China “Sampler” Tour**

May 16-25, 2018

Full Package \$2,115; Land Only \$1,650 \* subject to final verification

TC Jill Nanney [pj\\_nanney@hotmail.com](mailto:pj_nanney@hotmail.com)

## Trip at a glance

- Round-trip direct air from Houston (IAH) with Air China; Intra-China transportation and transfers; taxes, fees, & fuel surcharges
- 3 nights in Beijing, 2 nights in Xian, 3 nights in Shanghai
- See the Great Wall of China, Tiananmen Square, the Terra Cotta Soldiers, Shanghai Acrobats and more!
- Accommodations at superior first-class hotels
- 16 meals: 8 buffet breakfasts (B), 4 lunches (L), 4 dinners (D)
- Comprehensive sightseeing, entrance fees, and activities as indicated in itinerary
- Experienced, English-speaking Tour Director and local guides
- Note: You will need a Chinese Visa – currently single entry is \$140 for U.S. Citizens  
[china-embassy.org/eng/visas/fees/](http://china-embassy.org/eng/visas/fees/)

## Day-By Day Itinerary

**Day 1:** Depart USA. This magical journey begins in the afternoon, departing Houston on a nonstop flight bound for Beijing.

**Day 2:** Arrive Beijing. We'll be greeted at the airport and transported to an upscale hotel centrally located in downtown Beijing, within easy access to Tiananmen Square. This evening, the Tour Director will host a welcome dinner and briefing. Penta Hotel (D)



**Day 3:** Full Day Forbidden City/Summer Palace with Lunch. Start the day with a visit to the famous Tiananmen Square, the largest public square in the world. Then enter the Forbidden City, an architectural masterpiece and home to the National Palace Museum. After an included lunch, we'll venture outside the city to see the Summer Palace, summer resort of the Empress Dowager. (B, L)

**Day 4:** Beijing & The Great Wall. On today's exhilarating excursion, we'll venture outside the city to the legendary Great Wall, which extends nearly 4,000 miles. There will be time to view and mount the well-preserved ramparts of this ancient wonder before proceeding to the Ming Tombs, burial site of 13 emperors of the Ming Dynasty. Tonight we will enjoy an elaborate Chinese Dinner Banquet featuring



the famous Peking Duck. Following dinner, we'll attend the “Legend of Kung Fu” show, a special stage performance that blends music, martial arts and a moving story. The show highlights the fascinating Chinese martial arts, known as Kung Fu. (B,L,D)

**Day 5:** Beijing. After breakfast we'll join an excursion to Beijing's ancient back alleys (Hutong) by rickshaw and witness the way the Chinese have lived for centuries. You'll interact with locals and visit a home of a local family and have lunch with them! This is an experience you will never forget.

Later today, fly to Xian, ancient capital of China for eleven dynasties and historic gateway to the old silk trading route. Then settle in at the hotel in Xian and enjoy dinner and a night at leisure. Golden Flower Hotel (B, L)

**Day 6:** Xian. On a guided morning excursion, you'll visit one of the world's most amazing archaeological discoveries: a life-size Terra Cotta Army of soldiers and horses guarding the tomb of Emperor Qin Shi. It was unearthed in 1974 after being buried with the first Qin emperor for 22 centuries!





Tonight, savor a delicious dumpling dinner, a local specialty and delight in a spectacular folklore show featuring music, dances and costumes from the Tang Dynasty. (B,D)

**Day 7: Xian/Shanghai.** Shanghai is often described as “Paris of the East,” an intriguing, dynamic city that weaves the seaport legacy of its past with impressive new 21st century architecture. Upon arrival in the afternoon, embark on a guided orientation drive and stroll down the Bund, the bustling and exciting waterfront along the Huangpu River. Enjoy a night at leisure. (B)

**Day 8: Shanghai.** Start your day with a guided walk amidst the scenic ponds, colorful pavilions and walkways of the

16th century Yu Yuan Garden, a delightful reminder of old Shanghai. The balance of the afternoon is at leisure to explore at your own pace. Rejoin the group tonight for a breathtaking performance of the renowned Shanghai Acrobats. A Chinese dinner will be included in tonight’s activities. (B,D)

**Day 9: Suzhou Excursion.** On this most memorable excursion, exit the city and journey to the charming, canal laced Suzhou often called “Paradise on Earth.” Embark on a short cruise on the ancient “Grand Canal” and enjoy a walk of the old town, followed by a visit to one of Suzhou most famous Chinese gardens. After an included lunch, visit a silk workshop to learn about silk production. Return to Shanghai late this afternoon and enjoy your final night at leisure. (B, L)

**Day 10: Depart.** After breakfast, depart late this morning on our flight back home. After a brief layover in Beijing, we will connect back to Houston and land today mid-afternoon. (B)

In the spirit of keeping things simple, this will be one trip (no pre-or post-trips) and there will be a limit of 24 people max. So don’t miss out and sign up today!

## TSC Patagonia

October 17-26, 2018

Pre-trip to Easter Island (Oct. 14-18)

Post trip to Mendoza, Argentina (Oct. 24-28).

TC: Sarah Granbery [sarah@spacecity.org](mailto:sarah@spacecity.org)

**PATAGONIA?** Uh sure, but where exactly is Patagonia? According to Wikipedia and a few of our well-traveled

members, it is a region shared by Argentina and Chile at the southern tip of South America.

TSC has chosen Patagonia as the destination for the 2018 Summer Expedition. This exotic adventure includes stops in Santiago, Punta Arenas, Torres del Paine, Perito Moreno Glacier, and El Calafate. The main trip is scheduled to leave Houston October 17th and return October 26, 2018.





Also offered are a pre-trip to Easter Island (Oct. 14-18) and a post-trip in the wine region of Mendoza, Argentina (Oct. 24-28).

The main trip includes 7 nights lodging, 16 meals, airport transfers, and ground transportation.

- The land only package for the main trip is currently priced at \$2,300 plus \$450 for 2 internal flights.
- The full package is currently priced at \$4000. Airfare for the full package is estimated at \$1699, and includes roundtrip airfare to South America plus 2 in country flights.

The final cost of the trip is subject to change, pending published air fare rates and TSC participation levels.

The trip coordinator, Sarah Granbery, will have more details to share at the General Meetings.



## OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM 2017-2018

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**Space City Ski and Adventure Club is a proud member of the Texas Ski Council and the National Ski Council Federation.**

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# TSC Newsletter





# MARCH HAPPY HOUR

## PUNK'S

2401 DUNSTAN  
(MORNINGSIDE & DUNSTAN)  
RICE VILLAGE

MARCH 29 5 TO 8:30  
Happy Hour prices until 7

Beer \$4 and \$5 Punk's Frozen Margaritas \$5  
Selected Wine \$6 \$4 OFF Specialty Cocktails  
Assorted Appetizers from \$2 to \$5



## MARCH GENERAL MEETING & OFFICER ELECTIONS

6:30-8:30pm Monday  
March 12, 2018

### LIVE OAK BAR AND GRILL

10444 Hempstead Road  
Houston, Texas 77092

Don't miss the March 12 General Meeting at Live Oak Bar and Grill. Mingle, eat and drink with your friends and possibly win a great gift card door prize!

Easy to find outside of the 610 Loop, West of Hwy 290, on Hempstead Road just west of Dacoma.

## Sitzmarke

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## Sitzmarke