

NEWSLETTER sitzmarke

May 2019 Volume 55 Issue 1



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From Mission Control	2
Countdown to Liftoff	2
Upcoming Event Calendar	3
Having a Blast	3
From the Marketing Desk	4
Recruitment Update	4
Schweitzer 2019 Trip Report	4
We LOVE our Volunteers	9
Trips 2018-2019	11-14
Leadership Team	15
Happy Hours	16

FROM MISSION CONTROL

BY JAN FERRELL, PRESIDENT

Finally, spring is here—or maybe not as it has hit 80 + a few days already. Our April meeting had over 50 people! SCSC won Division 1 in racing at Whitefish. Beverly Roberts, Ann Rogers and I were presented with plaques. Pretty cool.



As always, we had door prizes. Jo Barrie won a backpack and beanie (this year's must-have fashion statement). (Jo, you absolutely must wear that at meeting. Photographers will be there for our website and slideshow). The big winners also included Keith Kirkman – Whistler & Blackcomb blanket, Diane Gresko – Amazon gift card and Louella Steller – Amazon gift card. Our presenter was our newly elected V. P. Membership. Bruce Lowther. Welcome Bruce!

May will be our last meeting until September which is our kick-off for the coming trips. May is a great meeting to say “see you in September” to your friends at SCSC. Be sure and check the website frequently to see what we are doing during the summer. Our V.P.-Activities, Lynn Burch, has worked her magic to keep us busy. Register, register, register! Also, you will find some of the trips scheduled for next year. Beverly will keep us up to date on club trips.

Please send your “What I did on my summer vacation” photos to our VP Marketing, Bil Cusack.

It's been pleasure and an honor to be your President again.

Thank you and see you in May,
Jan

COUNTDOWN TO LIFTOFF

BY BEVERLY ROBERTS, VICE PRESIDENT OF TRIPS

Hello from the trip desk!!

Breaking news! Several club officers and SCSC members have just returned from the Texas Ski Council Bidfest Weekend. We had a packed weekend, listening to presentations from tour operators on potential TSC winter and fall trips. New this year – TSC trips for both 2020 and 2021 were selected. This is a signifi-



cant process improvement and will make our club trip planning much more effective. Now, we can plan 2020 club trip locations with the 2021 TSC locations in mind and avoid planning a trip one year that is picked as a TSC trip the next year (which has happened several times over the last few years). The presentations and subsequent discussions also revealed opportunities to partner with other clubs on trips that were not selected as TSC trips. Our Japan trip in 2020 was a combined trip with the Austin ski club and was very successful.

So, here's the big reveal (for those of you who have not yet visited the SCSC website):

2019-2020 Season

Traditional: Keystone, CO: Jan 4-11, 2020

Winter Shootout: Crested Butte, CO: Feb. 22-29, 2020

Final Showdown: Sun Valley, ID: Mar. 7-14, 2020

Winter Expedition: Chamonix, France: Jan. 24-Feb. 1, 2020

Fall Expedition: New Zealand: Sep. 25-Oct. 3, 2020

OR Oct. 2-10, 2020 (TBD)

2020-2021 Season

Traditional: Snowmass, CO: Jan. 16-23, 2021

Winter Shootout: Purgatory, CO: Feb. 20-27, 2021

Final Showdown: Lake Louise, Canada: Mar. 13-20, 2021

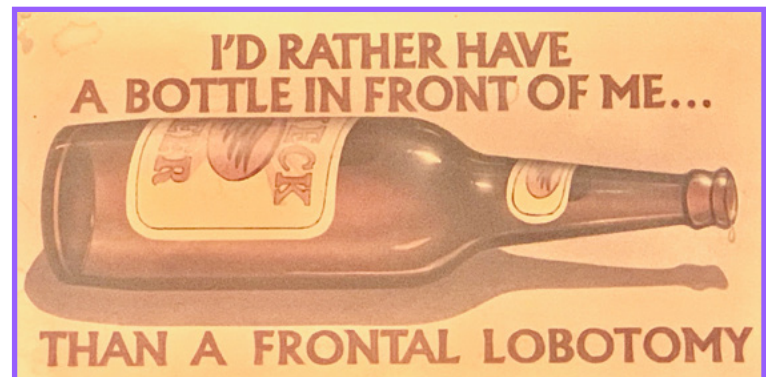
Winter Expedition: Sellaronda, Italy: Jan. 29-Feb. 6, 2021

Fall Expedition: TBD

So, what's the next step? We're beginning to work on club trips! Kasia Rezmer is already in the planning stages of the very popular December Vail trip. Other club trips under consideration include Beaver Creek, Deer Valley, a trip to Alyeska that incorporates the beginning ceremonies of the Iditarod dog sled race, a multi-club trip to Banff, a cruise through the Greek Islands, a beachy-type trip, and several others that are still in the research stage. If you have a suggestion for trips (ski or non-ski), PLEASE talk to me. I would love to help you set up and lead your dream trip!! We also need volunteers to run the TSC trips. Talk to me!!

Last – don't forget the trips remaining this year! (Vail December will be announced later)

Beverly Roberts – VP Trips



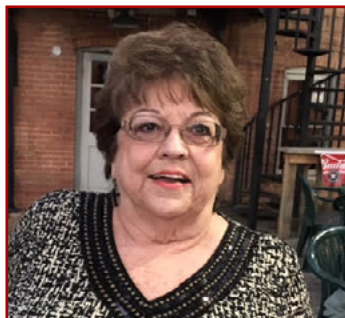
Space City Ski Club 2018-2019 Trips

Destinations	Date	TC	Contact Link	Full Pkg \$/pp w/air	Land Pkg \$/pp
Punta Cana D.R. All-Inclusive	5/4/2019 - 5/11/2019	George Sargent	puntacana@spacecity.org	N/A	\$962
Peru	5/29/2019 - 6/7/2019	Jill Nanney	peru@spacecity.org	\$2,756	N/A
Portugal Cruise (TSC)	9/25/2019 - 10/5/2019	Melody Bohlmann	portugal@spacecity.org	Varies	N/A
Portugal Post-Trip	10/5/2019 - 10/8/2019	Melody Bohlmann	portugal@spacecity.org	\$1,489	N/A

HAVING A BLAST

BY LYNN BURCH, VICE PRESIDENT OF ACTIVITIES

The April Happy Hour was at Rainbow Lodge. We had a huge turnout since everyone loves Rainbow Lodge and it is such a beautiful place.



March 31 Karen Leeson was going to lead a bike ride with a stop at Saint Arnolds Brewery for a drink or snack but it got postponed because of the weather.

The April Dinner at Yao's on Westheimer (where we had the first dinner in 2017) had 30 people attend. We had our own room with 3 tables of 10. Everyone loved the food and there was so much that most of us took home leftovers. Jan Ferrell bought a Peking Duck and another kind of duck dish for her table to share.

April Happy Hour is at the Heights Bier Garten on Shepherd which has lots of outdoor seating and two buildings, one side has all sorts of beer and the other side has cocktails. There is food available and plenty of parking in the back.

The last meeting of the season is May 13 at Dave & Busters. We then skip the 3 summer months for meetings but not for FUN!!

On May 17, we are going to the Horse Races at Sam Houston Race Park for the races and 50 cent beer and \$3.00 wine. I only bought 18 tickets so sign up early. Then on May 23 we are going back again to try our luck at Bingo at the SPJST Hall since we had so much fun last time.

The May Dinner is at Cavatore's Italian Restaurant across the street from Rainbow Lodge on May 25, and Happy Hour is at Cottonwood just outside the loop on N. Shepherd on May 30.

Dance lessons are continuing monthly with April doing Nightclub Two Step, but May could change. Check the website for details.

Both Game Day and Game night will be on their usual Tuesday schedule at Tea + Victory.

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.

EXTRAVEHICULAR ACTIVITIES UPCOMING EVENT CALENDAR

April 23	Game Night at Tea + Victory
April 25	Happy Hour at Heights Bier Garten
May 1 to 29	Dance Lessons every Wednesday skipping May 8
May 13	Monthly Meeting Dave & Busters on Richmond
May 14	Game Day at Tea + Victory
May 17	Horse Races at Sam Houston Race Park
May 23	Bingo at SPJST Hall
May 25	Dinner at Cavatore's Italian Restaurant
May 28	Game Night at Tea + Victory

Evidence of Keith Kirkman's Long Ski Journey!



FROM THE MARKETING DESK

BY BIL CUSACK, VICE PRESIDENT OF MARKETING

Well, the club end-of-year is upon us. But as Lynn says, the fun just keeps on going both with club activities and our own summer trips and family outings.

We would love our members to share photos of your summer activities with the rest of us. We will put them on the screen at club meetings where you can show friends where that story you just told happened. (ha).

ALSO Space City has a YouTube channel and we need content to post. The best way to do that AND/OR share your photo album is to email your video and pictures to me or save it to a Google drive and share that folder with me. I will upload your video to our Youtube channel and add them to the club page.

Cheers! Bil Cusack

RECRUITMENT UPDATE

BY BRUCE LOWTHER, VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP

It's that time of year, all single year memberships expire April 30th. Renew now so you can continue to enjoy ongoing activities and sign up for some great trips in August. If you renew before May 31st you will get a discounted price:

Single 1 year - \$35

3 year - \$88

Family 1 year - \$65

3 year - \$163

Go to www.spacecity.org - Membership tab - Member Signup

While you're at it, get your best friend, favorite relative, neighbor or co-worker to join us. Your reference is the best way to grow the club.



SCHWEITZER 2019 TRIP REPORT by LINDA ERDMAN, Asst. Trip Coordinator

The fun started with a pre-trip pizza party on January 3rd at the original Fuzzy's, George and Barbara Bush's favorite pizza place. Little did we know at that time that pizza would be an ongoing theme for this trip.



Derek Shoobridge was at Hobby at 5:15 A.M. printing out boarding passes with the help of ATC Linda Erdman and LaDaune Ashley (Derek's better half). For being so early in the morning, the group was in high spirits and ready to get started on the last club trip of the season.

Joining us on the flight were Debbie Abadie, Bill Bomberger and Sharon Simandl, Craig Campbell, Andy and Leslie Cashio, Tom Grauer, Leslie Hajdo, Jim Hodges and Marina Wang, Melinda Hughes, Stan and Linda Kuper, Kasia Rezmer, Beverly and Charlie Roberts, Steve Slade, Dave Trevitz, Beverly Vosko, and Joan Waddill.

Some of the group, including Stan, had TSA PreCheck and



were whisked through the line while the rest of us, including his wife Linda, waited patiently to get through security. Being a nice guy, Stan decided to get coffee and muffins and meet Linda at the gate. When Linda arrived at the gate, no Stan. Long story short, he was at the wrong gate (gate 45 instead of gate 4) because he read his boarding number as the gate number. He was assigned a jewelry fine.

Having finally located Stan, the group was ready to go. The flight to Phoenix was uneventful with a lot of time to kill once we got there. The gates were confusing and several members of our group almost got on the plane to Albuquerque instead of Spokane, including Stan (is there a theme here?).

We arrived in Spokane right on time and met up with Mike and Nora Montgomery, Paul and Sandra Stalnacke, Anne and Tom Thomas, and Susan Stanley. Our group now numbered 30.

On the way to Schweitzer, we made a "35 minute" stop at Walmart. Derek warned the group that anyone who wasn't back on the bus on time would be left and guess who didn't

make the deadline....Derek and LaDaune. We considered hiding the bus but decided that after such a long travel day, they might not be in the mood for a joke.

After 6 (yes, we counted) hairpin turns up the mountain, we made it to Selkirk Lodge in Schweitzer Village around 6:30 P.M., got checked in and headed to the welcome reception where we caught up with Fred and Ali Pethick, Keith Kirkman and Ross Baker. They all spent the previous week skiing Whitefish and drove over to join us. At the reception, our tired little brains went into information overload as we promptly forgot most of what we were told. Then it was off to bed with visions of snowflakes in our heads.



The lodge provided a hot breakfast every morning at Chimney Rock Grill and that became the place to meet to tell stories about the prior day and make plans for the current day. Although it was great not having to worry about breakfast, many in the group were really tired of plain scrambled eggs by the end of the week.

Monday was a beautiful day so most of the group hit the slopes when they opened. Some in the group took advantage of the free mountain tour. Unfortunately for Stan, Fred and Ali, LaDaune and myself, the tour took off early when it got too cold to wait. Luckily, one of the ski instructors, Mary Jo, took pity on us and gave us a private mountain tour.



Of course, Trail Boss Keith took off with the "Big Dogs" on the trip (Jim, Melinda, Beverly R, Charlie, Bill, Ross, Leslie H and Kasia) and we didn't see them again until lunch. Here they are posing with Andy and Leslie C and minus Beverly R and Charlie.

The mountain was everything that was promised; lots of powder and trees and non-existent lift lines most of the week. Temperatures and sunshine were perfect for keeping the snow dry and the views from the mountain were spectacular, especially those of Lake Pend Oreille.

Monday was a short ski day with the group heading into Sandpoint for a little shopping followed by a trip to Mick-



Duff's Beer Hall for a few drinks and then dinner and more drinks at Ivano's Ristorante. Marilyn Swanson met up with us at Ivano's and the group was almost complete.

Everyone had a good time, especially Charlie. Not sure how it all happened but he ended up having the time of his life when the offer came up to have his photo taken with the ladies on the trip.



Tuesday morning, almost everyone was feeling more refreshed with one big exception. Charlie was heard to say that he had been over-served on Monday night...imagine that!!





It was another beautiful day and most of the group headed for the slopes and regrouped at the Sky House for lunch and to enjoy the incredible view. After lunch, the lady “Big Dogs” left for a mogul lesson and Charlie said to Leslie C that the men would be skiing a lot harder in the afternoon since the girls would not be there to slow them down (open mouth, insert foot). Charlie bribed Leslie with the promise of a pitcher of beer so she would keep her mouth shut.

The smack talk continued with Leslie C. It is rumored that she told LaDaune “if you can’t keep up, see ya later” (Leslie and Andy do like to ski fast, at least in the early part of the week before their knees hurt). LaDaune, Sandra, Marilyn, Joan and a few other stragglers took up the challenge; not sure how successful they were.



As for the Big Dogs, Keith is reported to have recommended that Bill and Charlie take a remedial course in getting on chair lifts since they both had incidents where they fell while loading.

One thing the group quickly noticed about Schweitzer Village is that the dining and entertainment options are extremely limited but you would never know it by our group. I was so proud of the way they turned every get-together into something special and fun. I agree with Leslie H that the trip had a particularly sociable group of fellow skiers. Lunch and après ski had very high attendance and great camaraderie; the best I’ve ever seen on a club trip.

For example, Tuesday night’s après ski was at Powder

Hound Pizza. As more and more of the group showed up, happy hour hijacked the scheduled game night and quickly turned into dinner. Anne and Tom T were so excited to join the fun that Anne didn’t bother to change out of her bedroom slippers. Nora, ever the good sport, packed up the games and brought game night to us. The staff was extremely accommodating and stayed open until the last of our group left. Unfortunately for Steve, he was coming down with something at this point so this was the last we saw of him until time to go home.



Wednesday morning, the winds picked up and visibility was limited so some of the group decided to have a spa day while others decided to go into Sandpoint. Of course, the better skiers weren’t deterred but some of them made a short day of it. The visibility was so poor that Derek thought he had skied into new territory with two unmarked chair lifts only to realize he was back at the base and the lifts were the Basin Express and the Great Escape Quad.



Linda K, Linda E, Sharon, Susan and LaDaune went shopping in Sandpoint with Linda K deciding she needed to be Susan’s personal shopper which Susan was having no part of. The ladies discovered lots of beautiful dogs in Sandpoint with their favorite being Jackson (a standard poodle who likes to have his photo taken).

Ash Moza arrived at the lodge on Wednesday night and the group of 36 was complete. During his short time at Schweitzer, Ash managed to get stuck on the Snow Ghost lift (the oldest, slowest lift) for 30+ minutes. When he disembarked, the lifty offered him a coupon for a medium hot

chocolate. Ash won the “Swiss Miss” Award and was officially recognized on the trip back to Spokane.



Bad visibility continued on Thursday morning. Some of the group went up and then decided that the bunny hill had better visibility and those runs were worth a shot. Of course, the biggest problem was that the Musical Chairs lift is designed for kids and even the short adults had trouble getting on and off so that

was embarrassing. Susan, LaDaune, Marina, Sandra, Marilyn, and Linda E were up for the challenge. There is even a terrain park on the bunny hill that LaDaune was rocking.

Après ski at Chimney Rock Grill that afternoon turned into dinner with almost all of the group showing up. Special thanks to waiter Michael for re-arranging the restaurant as the group kept growing larger. This was our only night with the entire group since Fred and Ali headed back to Whitefish on Friday.



Friday was a beautiful day so the group was back out at full force. Tom G was spotted skiing to Stella lift totally out of control, almost impaling himself and remarking “well, that was reckless of me” after the fact. No kidding!!!

Mike took LaDaune, Marilyn and Linda E on an adventure after they got separated from Sandra and Debbie. He led them to the Little Blue Ridge Run (the longest run on the mountain). At the top of the run, the group met Jorge who it turned out was from Houston. Jorge skis totally out of control...this was only the second time in his life that he had skied and he had never taken lessons. The group tried to stay out of his way but did stop to help him pick up his gear when he wiped out. Mike was very patient and waited for the girls and Jorge to catch up. Everyone eventually made it down and the girls admitted they were glad they did it but vowed that once was enough even.

Jorge joined the group at Outback and told them about how he came over from Cuba and now has his own business. He is a very sharp and interesting 26-year old with a bright future. The funniest story he told was how he struggled trying

to learn how to say Whataburger which still comes out Whatabooger. We laughed till we hurt.

On the other side of the mountain, Dave, Beverly V and Craig were skiing down Springboard looking for an easy way onto Phineas Forest trail when they spotted a promising opening. Craig said “I think it opens up past those sticks behind that wall of evergreens” so Dave took off but once he got below the evergreens yelled back up “You don’t want to come down here!!” Over the next 10 minutes or so, a small pruning saw would have come in handy.



While skiing alone, Paul had an unusual view up on the ridge. The cloud bottoms were about 6 feet up so he could see down the slope but his head was touching the bottom of the clouds...how cool it that?

Friday night was a surprise birthday party for Keith who would have been more surprised if his inner circle had not gone out of its way to NOT wish him Happy Birthday... very suspicious. Kasia headed up the group assigned to keep Keith distracted until time for the party. We had pizza, cupcakes, snacks, beer and wine. Keith got a big stack of birthday cards, a couple of pathetic renditions of “Happy Birthday”, two candy bars and a cupcake with a candle. In honor of Keith’s birthday, he had his photo taken with the ladies but somehow Dave made it into the photo.



Jim made the mistake of telling Marina and Susan that Friday was his last real ski day since he would be skiing with them on Saturday. The girls immediately protested and Leslie C tried to help Jim out by saying he actually meant it was his last “tree day” but that didn’t fly. Jim was assigned a jewelry fine and it was rumored that he was required to ski down the bunny hill and use the Musical Chairs lift as a penalty.



Saturday was the last ski day and it was beautiful. Most of the group skied or snowboarded while LaDaune, Linda K, Sharon and Linda E went on the hosted snowshoe tour followed by tubing. Linda K thought the tubing was the best fun of the week even though she got off the tube incorrectly and had to chase her tube back down the hill twice. She ended up with the

“Most Snow on My Outfit” award.

Leslie H, Keith, Kasia, Bill, Ross, Melinda, Beverly R, Jim and Charlie concluded the Big Dog Traditional Skiing by en-masse skiing. This was so impressive to a local that she asked if they also went to the bathroom together.



The final get-together was Saturday afternoon with leftovers from the birthday party, including pizza (again). When Beverly R showed up with her “Attention Shoppers, 30% off apparel at the Alpine Shop next door and the store closes in 30 minutes” announcement, Kasia, Susan, Melinda and Marina quickly followed her back to the shop. Beverly acted as their personal shopper and then asked for a sales commission since there were 5 shirts sold but the sales lady just smiled and said NO. The ladies rocked their new tops on the trip home.

Sunday morning was “Spring Forward” so we had one less hour to get ready. Being overachievers, almost everyone was on the bus early and ready to go. A quick headcount and we discovered that Bill and Sharon were not on board. A call to Bill revealed that Sharon had one more e-mail to send before they were ready to go...so much for being on vacation.

We had a pleasant ride to Spokane where we said goodbye to everyone that we picked up there. Then it was off to Denver and then on to Houston after a 3+ hour layover. We finally

made it to Houston around 11:30 P.M. Sunday night.

There were a lot of good memories made and new friendships formed on this trip. I agree with Debbie that it was great skiing with different people and getting tips from some of the better skiers. We were very lucky that there were no major injuries, only a few bumps and bruises from falls (which made the spa very popular).

I don’t think anyone on the trip will be eating pizza for a while (or scrambled eggs). Both Craig and Tom T commented on how they came, they skied and they ate too much pizza....ditto for most of us.

Special thanks to Keith for bringing the leftover beer and wine back to Houston, to Sharon for acting as the trip’s photographer and to Nora for always being the first to volunteer to help with anything we needed.

The last trip event was the post-trip party on April 6th. Since several people were on both the Vail and Schweitzer trips, the party was a joint Vail/Schweitzer event co-hosted by Kasia (TC Vail) and Derek at Linda and Bob Erdman’s house on Chocolate Bayou. Joining us from the Vail trip were Barry Casper, Mary Heafner (with guest Dennis), George and Darlene Hirasaki and David Stotz (with wife Diane) as well as Keith, Ash and Joan who were on both trips. LaDaune, Bill and Sharon, Andy and Leslie C, Fred and Ali, Paul and Sandra, Tom G, Leslie H, Marilyn (with husband Larry) and Beverly V (with guest Jim) rounded out the group.

The threat of heavy rain kept several people away but it turned out to be a beautiful afternoon so they ended up missing a great finale to their respective trips. Catering was done by a local food truck and everyone was encouraged to try multiple dishes, all of which were very tasty.

The group spent their time visiting, relaxing and taking boat and golf cart rides. At the end of the day, several of those commenting about the long drive to Chocolate Bayou had such a good time that they were inviting themselves back down to the bayou for future events. All in all, it was a good day and a good way to end both trips.



WE L  VE
OUR VOLUNTEERS

2018/2019 VOLUNTEERS

WE COULD NOT RUN THIS CLUB WITHOUT YOU

Debbie Abadie
Ross Baker
Jo Barrie
Melody Bohlmann
Bill Bomberger
Chris Bowley
Cynthia Broom
Lynn Burch
Craig Campbell
Laura Carmin
Leslie Cashio
Robert Clements
Leeza Clements
Kim Crutchfield
Bil Cusack
Dana Dale
Gayle Dale
Ann Dorn
Linda Erdman
Jan Ferrell
Joe Flores
Sarah Granbery

Terry Gray
Dave Gresko
Diane Gresko
Karol Hutson
Keith Kirkman
Tami Kawasugi
Gin Knebel
Maria Koteras
Linda Kuper
Stan Kuper
Camile LaRoe
Karen Leeson
Bruce Lowther
Marsha Lutz
Don Macken
Margaret McCord
Cindy Moore
Debbie Moser
Pat Musemeche
Jill Nanney
Ali Pethick
Fred Pethick

Kasia Rezmer
Beverly Roberts
Rowena Roche
Thuy Rocque
Ann Rogers
Pat Salinas
George Sargent
Derek Shooobridge
Sharon Simandl
Louella Steller
Diane Stotz
Dave Stotz
Anne Thomas
Tom Thomas
Stuart Traver
Karen Tyrell
Sandy Upchurch
Judy Vaughn
Dana Wardell
Mike Willis
Jo Ann Zemlicka

YAO'S DINNER



Mamajuana* or Bust!

At The

Luxury Bahia Principe Ambar

An Adult All-Inclusive Resort

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

May 4th Returning May 11th, 2019 – 7 nights!

Land Only \$962 Air Estimated at \$650**

See Below Regarding Airfare

TC: George Sargent george_sargent@yahoo.com



George and Rowena at the Ambar in 2014



Mamajuana



Map By George Sargent Via Google Maps

Join the Space City Ski and Adventure Club at one of the best beach adventures in the world. Travelers will be rewarded with your first Mamajuana* (customary and a must try) or a cocktail of your choice upon arrival at the **Luxury Bahia Principe Ambar**. Okay. That's a long name so I'll just call it the Ambar. The Bahia Principe is a mega resort including multiple locations catering to the whims of patrons from around the world. The Ambar is a secluded section for adults only yet Ambar patrons may visit other areas of the resort. TripAdvisor reviewers give the Ambar a 4.5 rating out of 5. I've been there and it is a nice place!

The club and I will be looking for 28 excited participants to take advantage of this tropical paradise. Additional bookings will be at the prevailing rate provided the resort has openings.

The Ambar includes just about everything you could want. There are 2 pools so you can't go far without finding a favorite tanning location. It has 5 different restaurants for fine dining and many more in the other family oriented sections. It's impossible to go hungry. The drinks are unlimited and the cocktail bars are all

over the place including a swim up pool bar and watering hole on the beach. Outdoor activities even include the use of kayaks and catamarans available upon request.

The Ambar actually has two areas. We will be located closest to the beach. All the rooms at the Ambar are totally remodeled within the past year. So our rooms should be nice and fresh. The rooms will come with either a king size or two full size beds. You get to choose. The bathroom includes a hair dryer and the bathtub is hydro-massage. Other room amenities include Wi-Fi, a stocked mini bar, coffee and tea making facilities.

The beach is deep with shady palm trees growing in sugar white sand. But don't be afraid to venture directly to surfside where the blue water extends well beyond your distant view. It's your choice, just lay back and enjoy or soak in the crystal waters. You can't go wrong either way.

Punta Cana offers other great activities. Our group will plan several day excursions that may include options for zip lining, catamaran island exploration, swimming in cenotes and horseback riding on the beach. Punta Cana is known for its golf courses. If you are an avid golfer, I'd like to find a volunteer to lead a group. The activities outside the confines of the resort will be a la carte. Anyone can decide what they want to do and when to do them. I'll help with that.

*Our official club drink will be the Mamajuana! Tradition has it that Mamajuana should be the very first drink consumed upon your arrival! This herbal drink should get everyone in the mood for fun. Mamajuana is a concoction made from rum, red wine and honey soaked with special tree bark and herbs. But forget the recipe. You just need to know the Dominicans consider this an aphrodisiac. You be the judge! Or just take some back home for medicinal purposes. Ha!

**Airfare: The ski club is offering this trip as a land only package at this time. The intent is to offer a group airfare package for those wishing for the club to make those arrangements. I will support you either way whether you wish to book your own or to take advantage of the group airfare. Southwest is my preferred Airlines although I may check with others. I've talked to the Southwest Airlines group department and the agent suggested airfares for our May 2019 departure may not be available until October or early November. Relax. That's still about 6 months out from our travel date. For now, I'll make a list of names interested in the group airfare. The airfare price above is strictly an estimate although it is an actual airfare price for February and March 2019.



Let The Party Begin



A View of One of the Pools



Two Views of the Grounds

Enchanting Peru

Discover Peru's breathtaking beauty!

May 29 – June 7, 2019 (10 days)

\$2756 Full Package

TC: Jill Nanney jill@spacecity.org

Trip at a Glance:

- Direct flight from IAH to Lima; airfare taxes, fees & fuel surcharges; Intra-Peru flights, ground transportation and transfers
- 1 night in Lima, 2 nights in Yucay, 3 nights in Cuzco, 2 nights in Puno
- Visit the Lost City of the Incas, breathtaking Machu Picchu, and explore Cuzco, the fabled capital of the Inca Empire. See unforgettable Lake Titicaca and the floating islands of the Uros before ending in colonial Lima
- Accommodations at First Class hotels
- 12 meals: 8 full buffet breakfasts (B), 2 lunches (L) and 2 dinners (D)
- Comprehensive sightseeing tours including admission fees
- Experienced English-speaking guides

Day-by Day-Itinerary

May 29 (Wed): Depart & Arrive in Lima. Depart Houston at 4:30 PM on your nonstop flight and arrive into Lima at 11 PM. Transfer to your hotel for a quick one night stay in Lima. (Not to worry, you will do touring of Lima on your final day in Peru!)

May 30 (Thur): Your flight departs shortly after 8 AM for a short flight to Cuzco, the fabled capital of the Inca Empire, perched at about 11,000 feet above sea level. On arrival, journey to the nearby Sacred Valley of the Incas. The valley has amazing landscapes of fertile land, mystical ruins and indigenous villages. On your way to the Sacred Valley, enjoy



lunch at Princesita private restaurant and in the restaurant's gardens experience a Shaman ceremony, one of the ancient rituals of Peru. Next, visit Awana Kancha, a weaving center that keeps ancient weaving techniques and traditions alive.

Arrive at your hotel located in the quaint village of Yucay and surrounded by lush gardens. This evening your tour director hosts a welcome dinner and orientation. (L,D)

May 31 (Fri): Pisac and Sacred Valley Excursion. On today's excursion visit the world renowned and colorful Indian market in Pisac where many beautiful crafts are traded. Later, travel through the lush valley to Ollantaytambo and explore the splendid ruins of this massive ancient fortress. The village below is a fine example of the Incas incredible urban planning skills. Return to your hotel in Yucay later this afternoon. (B,L)

June 1 (Sat): Machu Picchu Rail Excursion/Cusco Embark today on an expedition to Machu Picchu. You'll ride aboard the Vistadome train through the lush Urubamba Valley passing along stunning scenery. Arrive at "The Lost City Of the Incas" rediscovered in 1911. The beauty of its location and the genius construction make Machu Picchu travel the jewel of all Inca settlements and a top stop in your Peru vacation packages. To this day nobody can explain how the Incas managed to transport the huge blocks of limestone for the city's construction onto the mountaintop. An expert guide leads you through the ruins and shares with you the amazing story of Machu Picchu. You'll have some free time to further discover the mystical ruins and absorb the beauty of this enchanting site.



Later, re-board the train and journey to magical Cuzco. (B)

June 2 (Sun): Cuzco is a vibrant town, dotted with archaeological sites. On a guided walking tour, visit the main Inca and Colonial monuments. See the Plaza de Armas, the center of the Inca Empire and the impressive 16th century cathedral, built on the ruins of the Inca Palace. In the old town view magnificently restored colonial buildings. Your hotel is superbly located in the heart of the old town near the lively Plaza de Armas. Evening at leisure. (B)

Jun 3 (Mon): Venture today to the outskirts of Cuzco to visit the amazing ruins of Sacsayhuaman, an Inca architectural masterpiece with fabulous views of the city below. The impressive ruins of Sacsayhuaman, 3 km above the main city, awaits you with a breathtaking view onto Cusco. You make your way to the sanctuary of Qenqo, the sentinel of Puca Pucara and the temple of water named Tambomachay before making your way back to the hotel. (B)

June 4 (Tues): Cusco/Puno/Lake Titicaca. Embark on a thrilling journey to Puno. As you traverse the rugged snow-capped Andes you'll enjoy the breathtaking scenery and see quaint local villages as well as herds of llama and alpaca. Visit the charming village of Andahuaylillas, with its renowned 17th-century church. Arrive at your hotel overlooking majestic Lake Titicaca. (B)

Jun 5 (Wed): Lake Titicaca Boat Excursion. Situated on the border between Peru and Bolivia, Lake Titicaca is South



America's largest and highest navigable lake. Today, embark on an unforgettable boat journey to explore the magnificent scenery and fascinating life on and around the tranquil lake.

First, visit the floating islands of the Uros Indians that still practice the old traditions of fishing, trapping birds and living on the lake plants. The totora reeds, which grow abundantly in the shallows of the lake, are used for their boats, houses and to build the very islands on which they live. This way of life began over 500 years ago when the Uros built the islands in an effort to isolate themselves from the Kollas and the Incas. Later, proceed by boat to Taquile Island, where the indigenous inhabitants are dedicated to agriculture and crafting of high quality textiles. You'll witness their customs, traditions and unique costumes before returning to your lakeside hotel. (B)

June 6 (Thur): Lake Titicaca/Lima. Early this morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Lima departing at 8:30 am. Upon arrival into Lima around 10 am, enjoy a guided tour of both colonial and modern Lima, founded in 1535 and later dominated by the Inca nation. See the historical center and the San Francisco Church as well as Plaza de Armas and the Government Palace. Later, see the fashionable districts of San Isidro and Miraflores with their beautiful parks and elegant residences. This evening join your fellow travelers at a festive farewell dinner at a famous local restaurant. After dinner, transfer to the airport for your flight departing shortly after midnight. (B,D)

Jun 7 (Fri): Your nonstop flight departs Lima at 12:35 AM. Arrive Houston 7:15 AM.

In the spirit of keeping things simple, this will be one trip (no pre-or post-trips) and there will be a limit of 26 people max. So don't miss out and sign up today!

Featured Hotels

Lima: Hotel Jose Antonio Bellavista
Calle Bellavista 133 Miraflores, Lima, Peru

Yucay: Sonesta Posadas Del Inca Yucay Hotel
Plaza Manco II 123 Yucay Urubamba, Cusco, Peru

Cusco: Hotel Novotel Cusco
Calle San Augustin 239 Cusco 0, Peru

Lake Titicaca: Hotel Libertador Puno
Isla Esteves s/n Lago Titicaca Puno, Peru

TSC Fall Expedition Portugal and the Douro River Cruise

September 24- October 4, 2019

TC Melody Bohlmann

Experience the unique sites and culture of Portugal with a taste of Spain on this combination land and river cruise Main trip. We start our journey by flying into Lisbon and we stay there for two nights in a four-star hotel. We then travel to Fatima and sightsee in Coimbra and then board the brand new, exclusively chartered river vessel the *MS Emerald Radiance* for our seven-night river cruise along the Douro River. We also venture to Rodrigo, Vega Terron, and Salamanca, Spain. We end the Main trip in the home of Port wine, Porto, and fly back to the US. Or there is an optional three-night, four-day post trip to Barcelona for an

additional cost estimated to be \$1,489 which includes airfare but doesn't include a Barcelona city tax (approximately \$3 per person per day).



Picture source Bing.com

The Itinerary for the Main Trip:

DAY 1 –Depart the USA Depart the USA on your overnight flight to Lisbon, Portugal.

DAY 2 –Lisbon, Portugal. Upon arrival, you will be met by a Mayflower Tours representative and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure to explore Lisbon. This evening, join your Mayflower staff and fellow travelers for an included dinner. Included Meal: Dinner

DAY 3 –Discover Lisbon. After breakfast, an included tour highlights the famous sites of the city. See Jerónimos Monastery, ‘Monument to the Discoveries,’ and Belem Tower, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy a free afternoon to shop, dine and experience this cosmopolitan city on your own. Included Meal: Breakfast

DAY 4 –Fátima / Coimbra. Enroute to the ship in Porto visit Fátima, home to the Sanctuary of Fátima, an important Catholic pilgrimage site. The city’s fame originates from the apparitions of Our Lady of the Rosary that appeared to three shepherd children in the nearby fields. Continue to Coimbra and its famous university before arriving in Porto to embark the *MS Emerald Radiance*, home for the next seven nights. Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 5 –Porto / Pinhão. Today is a day of sailing through the twists and turns of the Douro Valley. Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, this area is sparsely populated by small quaint villages and typical communities with vineyards and small farms. This afternoon, the ship arrives in the village of Pinhão, perfectly situated on a river bend surrounded by terraced hillsides that produce some of the world’s best Port wine. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6 –Pinhão / Vega de Terron. Begin the day with a visit to a beautiful quinta vineyard with spectacular views of the Douro Valley. Learn about wine production and its importance to the culture and economy. This afternoon, the ship sails for Vega de Terron, gateway to Spain. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7 –Salamanca, Spain. Today’s excursion takes you to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Salamanca, Spain. During the guided walking tour, see amazingly detailed and intricately carved buildings of the university, the 12-th century Romanesque church of San Martin and the house of Shells. Regal splendor abounds in the Plaza Mayor, the heartbeat of the city. You’ll have free time to explore independently before returning to the ship in Portugal. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8 –Pocinho. Arrive in Pocinho and disembark for a morning excursion to the Coa Valley Museum. Designed to blend in with its surroundings, the concrete structure houses prehistoric stone carvings made by the early inhabitants of the Douro which were uncovered during construction of a nearby dam project. Return to the ship for lunch and relax on deck as the ship sails through idyllic surroundings on the way to Régua. This evening, enjoy an off-ship dinner at a traditional vineyard estate. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9 –Régua. After arriving in Régua, journey to the marvelous baroque village of Lamego, home to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remedies one of the most important pilgrimage sites in Portugal. See the Sanctuary

perched atop the hill, with its iconic 686-step granite staircase, decorated with the traditional Portuguese blue and white ‘azulejos’ tiles. Return to the ship in Régua after the excursion. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 10 –Porto. Having traversed the Douro River, the ship returns to Porto – a city with an eclectic mix of modern and ancient architecture. An included tour highlights the sights from historic landmarks to the scenic beauty. And it wouldn’t be complete without a visit to a wine cave for a tour and tasting of Port wine. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure in Porto. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 11 –Porto / USA. This morning, disembark the *MS Emerald Radiance* and bid a fond farewell to Portugal, filled with memories of this remarkable cruise along the ‘river of gold.’ Included Meal: Breakfast

Please note that the pricing is still under negotiation and will probably need adjustments. Also, since this trip includes a river cruise, there are different cabin levels on the ship and pricing will vary based on cabin levels. This is a TSC trip so there will be other clubs selecting cabins. Because of this, the dates for this trip could change and there will be others vying for the cabin choices. Sign up early for your best chance at the cabin of your choice!! Currently, the primary potential date is September 25, 2019 but depending on sign up levels and cabins available, the dates may be changed to early September or early October 2019.

The pricing includes airfare **provided that you register on-line and pay the non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person before October 1st**. The deposit is non-refundable unless you buy the trip insurance from the Tour Operator, Mayflower, and the non-refundable cost of the trip insurance for the Main trip is \$429. If you register on or after October 1st, the cost will go up significantly (\$675 or more) to cover airfare.

Best Current Estimates for each cabin based on per person, two in a cabin with airfare **if registered and deposit received prior to October 1:**

Riveria Deck \$4,553 (lowest level cabin 153 to 170 sq ft, at river level with small window that does not open).

Vista Deck, Cat B \$4,913 (160 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Vista Deck, Cat R \$5,273 (188 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Horizon Deck, Cat A \$5,453 (160 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Horizon Deck, Cat P \$5,543 (170 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Owners Suite \$5,903 (285 sq ft, floor to ceiling windows that open with screen)

Riverview Suite \$6,083 (300 sq ft, floor to ceiling windows that open with screen)

All cabins have bathroom with shower and hair dryer; complimentary WiFi; two twin beds that can be put together, 16 dresser, closet, telephone safe, individual climate control, flat screen TV; mini-fridge.

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM 2019-2020

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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.



APRIL HAPPY HOUR

1433 N. Shepherd

(Turn on 15th off Shepherd to go to parking lot in back)

Heights Bier Garten

Thursday April 25 5 TO 8:30 PM

Happy Hour prices until 6 PM

1 side has Cocktails for half price \$4 to \$6

1 side has select beer at \$3 and wine half price

No food specials but they have sandwiches, salads, and sausage



SCSC GENERAL MEETING

MAY 13, 2019

DAVE & BUSTER'S

6010 RICHMOND

6:30PM - 8:30PM

MAY HAPPY HOUR

COTTONWOOD

3422 N. Shepherd

THURSDAY MAY 30 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm

HAPPY HOUR PRICES TO 7 pm

\$1.00 off wine, cocktails and beer (except bottles)

No food specials but they have lots of choices

Plenty of free parking

COTTONWOOD



Sitzmarke

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Members are emailed a link to the Sitzmarke each month. Non-members may download the newsletter from our website in the *About Us/Club* Documents section on www.spacecity.org

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