

# NEWSLETTER sitzmarke

June 2016 Volume 52 Issue 2



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## From Mission Control

I hope you all enjoyed our May general meeting at Dave and Busters. As an informal meeting it gave us a great opportunity to socialize, enjoy some food, bowl, play pool and just plain have a good time. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Cindy Moore for organizing the event. In addition to having a change of scenery, it gave us an opportunity to check out a different venue that we could perhaps use in the future for some of our general meetings.

So it is now June and with it come summer vacations, Father's Day, and the start of planning for a New Year at Space City Ski and Adventure Club. Though we have a small pause in our general meeting, the event schedule continues at full steam ahead. There are still trips, activities and happy hours non-stop for all to enjoy. Take the time to visit our website [spacecity.org](http://spacecity.org) and browse the calendar for your favorite fun things to do. While there, if you have not already done so, take the time to renew your membership. It is the key that unlocks the door to fun and adventure.

At the first meeting of the new Executive Committee I asked the officers to incorporate two additional objectives into their business: Having Fun and Growing the Club. I am convinced that the basic reason any of us joined the club is to have fun at whatever activity is our focus.

Skiing of course is in our collective DNA, but as we mature (notice I did not say age) we may be spending a little less time on the slopes and a little more time at breakfast, après ski, the spa, or planning a nice dinner. I would like to see our trip and activity leaders keep that in mind when planning their events. I would like to see

everyone's input as to the types of things you would like to see incorporated into our events.

The other main objective is to grow the club. That of course starts with retaining the members we have by fulfilling their needs. To that end, you will be seeing more surveys asking for your input on a number of topics. Please take the time to take part in those surveys. In addition, I would like to challenge each and every one of you to introduce a friend, neighbor or coworker to the club. Let's spread the word as to how much fun a person can have as a member of Space City Ski and Adventure Club.



**George Lopez,**  
*President*



## Countdown to Liftoff

**H**I everybody! I hope you had a great Memorial Day weekend and I know that many of you went with Deb on the always fun Fredricksburg trip. Since our last newsletter, Linda Kuper and 11 other lucky travelers returned from an exciting trip to New Zealand and Sydney. Based on all accounts it was great!

Our summer fun is about to start with a Whitefish trip leaving in August. The trip is on wait-list but sometimes spots become available. If you are interested contact TC Dennis Hughes or our recently added ATC Max Langley. I'm sure you will be hearing Max's name often; he already shared with me some exciting ideas for future trips.

Before we center our attention on next ski season, we still have one more trip in September. See Leyla Ozkardesh or Rita Cardenas to get one of the four spots available on our Danube Bike & Barge cruise down the beautiful Danube River. We still need Trip Coordinators for our Breckenridge club trip and

possibly one for a Schweitzer trip in Mid-March. So please send in your applications ASAP. We are also looking for a few energetic ATCs to work with our TCs to help keep the fun in all of our great trips. The application is the same for both positions. You will find it at the back of this newsletter.

We have been busy trying to get a great trip line-up for you and here are our planned trips with Trip Coordinators (TC) if assigned.

- **Traditional Vail** (Jan 7 – 14, 2017)  
TC: Anne Thomas  
ATC: Kate MacDougall
- **Paradiski-Club Med** (Jan 21 – 30, 2017)  
(PreTrip-Paris)  
TC: Sandra McCunis
- **Breckenridge** (Jan 21 - 28, 2017)  
TC: Open
- **WSO Heavenly Valley** (Feb 4 – 11, 2017)  
TC: Jim Jeans
- **Park City** (Feb 11 - 18, 2017)  
TC: Melinda Hughes  
ATC: Sandy Schneider
- **FSD Telluride** (Feb 25 – Mar 4, 2017)  
TC: Betty Donellan
- **WE Iceland** (Aug 23 – 31, 2017)  
(PreTrip-NYC)  
TC: Jan Ferrell  
ATC: Ellen Eastham



I hope you are excited about these TSC trips and the club trip mentioned above. I plan to have another trip survey out soon to understand what kind of club non-ski trips to plan. Please watch for it and make sure I get your views.

I am getting excited about a great trip season!

**Chuck Pena,**  
*VP of Trips*

# Trips 2015-2016

| Destination  | Date                                   | Prices*<br>Full / Land<br>Only        | Final<br>Payment<br>Date | Trip Coordinator           |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <del>Vail, CO<br/>Club—Long</del>                                | <del>Dec 5—12<br/>2015</del>           | <del>\$1,429/\$1,171</del>            | <del>1-Oct</del>         | <del>Jim Jeans</del>       |
| <del>Vail, CO<br/>Club—Short</del>                               | <del>Dec 5—9<br/>2015</del>            | <del>\$751 (Land Only)</del>          | <del>1-Oct</del>         | <del>Jim Jeans</del>       |
| <del>Snowmass, CO<br/>TSC Winter Traditional</del>               | <del>Jan 9—16<br/>2016</del>           | <del>\$1,370/\$1,062</del>            | <del>12-Oct</del>        | <del>Marti Turner</del>    |
| <del>Quebec, QB, Canada<br/>TSC Winter Expedition</del>          | <del>Jan 31—Feb 7<br/>2016</del>       | <del>\$1,671/\$1,005</del>            | <del>15-Dec</del>        | <del>Jan Ferrell</del>     |
| <del>Crested Butte, CO<br/>Club</del>                            | <del>Feb 6—13<br/>2016</del>           | <del>\$1,294/\$762</del>              | <del>15-Nov</del>        | <del>Betty Donellan</del>  |
| <del>Sun Peaks, BC, Canada<br/>TSC Winter Shootout</del>         | <del>Feb 13—20<br/>2016</del>          | <del>\$1,485/\$664</del>              | <del>1-Nov</del>         | <del>Dave Stotz</del>      |
| <del>Steamboat, CO<br/>Club</del>                                | <del>Feb 24—Mar 2<br/>2016</del>       | <del>\$1,363/\$941</del>              | <del>24-Nov</del>        | <del>Andy Smith</del>      |
| <del>Lake Louise, AB, Canada<br/>TSC Final Showdown</del>        | <del>Mar 5—12<br/>2016</del>           | <del>\$1,607/\$1,059</del>            | <del>1-Jan</del>         | <del>Bill Bomberger</del>  |
| <del>Copper Mountain, CO<br/>Club</del>                          | <del>Mar 13—17<br/>2016</del>          | <del>\$495 (Land Only)</del>          | <del>15-Jan</del>        | <del>TBD</del>             |
| <del>New Zealand<br/>Club</del>                                  | <del>April 22—May<br/>1<br/>2016</del> | <del>\$5,626/\$3,596</del>            | <del>16-Jan</del>        | <del>Linda Kuper</del>     |
| <del>Wine and Adventure Tour to<br/>Fredericksburg Texas</del>   | <del>May 28—30<br/>2016</del>          | <del>\$65 (\$61<br/>Discounted)</del> | <del>27-April</del>      | <del>Deb Cini</del>        |
| <del>Bahia Sian Ka'an,<br/>Riviera Maya, Mexico</del>            | <del>June 18—25<br/>2016</del>         | <del>\$837 (Land Only)</del>          | <del>15-May</del>        | <del>George Sargent</del>  |
| <del>Whitefish, MT<br/>Club</del>                                | <del>August 20 - 27<br/>2016</del>     | <del>\$1,360/\$780</del>              | <del>1-Mar</del>         | <del>Dennis Hughes</del>   |
| <del>Danube River Boat/Bike Tour<br/>TSC Summer Expedition</del> | <del>Sept 24 - Oct 2<br/>2016</del>    | <del>\$3,605/\$2,003</del>            | <del>24-June</del>       | <del>Leyla Ozkardesh</del> |

## \* Published prices are before cash discount.

Information shown on this Trip Schedule is subject to change. Contact the Trip Coordinator (TC) or Assistant Trip Coordinator (ATC) for the most up-to-date information. PRICING: FULL packages include air, all transfers, and per person lodging based on double-occupancy. LAND ONLY packages do not include air. Published prices do not include baggage fees, equipment rentals or lift tickets, and are subject to change. All trip deposits can be made by check or by PayPal; however, final payment must be made by check to receive the 'Cash Price'. Trips frequently have optional activities, such as a group dinner, or offer pre- and post-trip segments that are not reflected in the price published above. The TC is your source of information as to what is included in the package price and the cost of available options. Each trip has a different 'final refund' date -- that is the last date you can withdraw from the trip without a penalty. Refer to the club's Standing Rules 5.1-5.4 for the governing policies on trips, cancellations, refunds, etc. DEPOSITS: All trips require a per person deposit to make a reservation.



## Having a Blast



**G**reetings! It's June! I love June ... summer is here but the awful-stifling-dense heat of July and August are still in the distance. This summer my focus is on water activities! In May we sailed out of the Kemah/Clear Lake bay with a questionable crew but capable captain. Nothing says "let it go!" like being on a sailboat! Thank you Bil Cusack for coordinating this wonderful event!

On June 18th we are running a Pontoon Boat excursion at Lake Conroe with an option to stay the weekend in Conroe, have dinner and enjoy the evening with your water-logged friends. To join us you need to contact Margaret McCord straight away! 281-536-0563 or [margaret@margaretmccord.com](mailto:margaret@margaretmccord.com). \$52 Members, \$55 NonMembers (boat and lunch)



July brings our third water activity, Stand Up Paddleboarding! At best you will learn a new sport, at the least you will get some exercise and burn some calories. What do you have to lose? This learning session is being held at a training facility called 288Lake, located off Hwy 288. Ali Pethick, the Activity Coordinator, got us a great deal at \$39 Members/\$42 NonMembers for 30 minutes of formal lesson and 1.5 hours of practice time. It also includes the Lake Entry Fee and your paddleboard rental. Again I ask, what do you have to lose? Let's fumble through this sport together! July 10th, 10am -Noon. Register now at [www.spacecity.org](http://www.spacecity.org) or contact Ali at [ali.pethick@gmail.com](mailto:ali.pethick@gmail.com).



If you have volunteered your time during the 2015-16 Club Year you will receive an Evite to our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Party. Invitations will go out mid-to-end of June but reserve this date on your calendar now: Saturday, July 23, 2016. You will receive an Evite if you volunteered your time for our Club between May 1, 2015 - April 30, 2016. If you did not volunteer during this time you may pay your way to join the party. Details to come.

Dust off your bowling balls and mark August 7th on your calendar. Larry Hord is heading up our popular Bowling Tournament again! We love all levels of expertise, even none at all! This

is just for fun folks, and we always have fun at this event. You will be paired up with similarly skilled or nonskilled folks and the price is only \$20 for two hours. This includes your shoe rental and chance at a couple prizes. Register online now at [www.spacecity.org](http://www.spacecity.org) or contact Larry Hord at 713-480-4396.



New event! Friday, September 9th, join us for an evening of baseball and fireworks! We will be on the Mazda Club Level which provides a great value for your money. Watch the Astros face off with the Cubs and then stay for fireworks set to honky-tonk music. Geez ... baseball ... beer ... food ... fireworks ... honky tonk music .... all the makings of a fun Friday night! Sign up now at [www.spacecity.org](http://www.spacecity.org) or contact Marsha Lutz at: [marsha.lutz@comcast.net](mailto:marsha.lutz@comcast.net).



In the summer months, when we have no General Meetings, it is even more important for all of us to be mindful of visitors at Happy Hours and at our summertime activities. Our Club's Officers work hard to attract new members and we ask everyone to help us in this endeavor. While you are busy connecting with friends please remember to reach out and invite the unfamiliar faces to your tables and conversations.

Check back in July y'all!

**Jo Barrie,**  
*VP of Activities*



Motley crew aboard the Escapade on Clear Lake



## Coming Up!

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
|             |   |
| June 4      | SCSC Volunteers at Sandcastle Competition |
| June 18     | Pontoon Boat at Lake Conroe               |
| July 10     | Stand-Up Paddleboard Lesson               |
| July 23     | Annual Volunteer Appreciation Party       |
| August 7    | Bowling Party                             |
| September 9 | Astros vs. Cubs and Fireworks Night       |
|             |   |

## Happy Hours

**ANEJOS (UPTOWN PARK)**  
**JUNE 23, 2016**



**1180 Uptown Park Blvd**  
**Houston, TX**

**CORKSCREW**  
**JULY 28, 2016**



**1308 W. 20<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Houston, TX**

**AUGUST 25, 2016**

**To Be**  
*Announced*

## Time to Renew your Membership

We have a great list of trips and activities planned for the 2016/17 season. As you know, trips and activities fill up quickly so if you haven't already renewed your membership, do so today. You won't want to be left out.

Renew online at [www.spacecity.org](http://www.spacecity.org)

- Log In with your User Name and Password
- Go to Membership and select My Membership Profile
- Click on the Subscription tab (just above your contact information).

Easy! Contact me at [membership@spacecity.org](mailto:membership@spacecity.org) with suggestions and/or questions.



**Leslie Cashio,**  
*VP of Membership*



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## Marketing Update



One brilliant idea V.P. of Membership Leslie Cashio had is that we make a concerted effort to bring back into the fold the many, many past club members who have gone astray and not renewed in years. To do that we will implement a calling committee to contact those past members and find out why they have not been back, see if they realize our fairly recent plunge into many more non-ski trips, and simply tell them we miss them and would love to have them back. Perhaps we have a reunion mixer somewhere in August or September and invite them all to it? These are people who have already experienced the joy our club brings, so I think many might come back if we just reach out.

I thought I would share a part of the marketing plan I have proposed to our president, but that are not yet official. George has set out a hefty goal for this executive committee; to grow the club by 25% this year! Can you guess what office would be most instrumental in this endeavor? That's right; Vice President of Marketing which is Yours Truly. Steve Ying has graciously taken on the main duties of the monthly publishing of the Sitzmarke as the Director of Public Relations so I can actually concentrate on growing the club this year. Some of the ideas I will try to implement this year to grow our club revolve around five major ideas: Bring back past members, cross-market with biking, running and other active outdoor clubs and venues for new members, market to Houston area professional organizations, have booths at community events that attract the type of demographics we desire and really make Meet Up and social media start working for us!



If you would like to be on the committee to help with this huge endeavor this summer, please contact me at [marketing@spacecity.org](mailto:marketing@spacecity.org) . Also, if you are still friends with past members who haven't been around for a while, feel free to call them yourself and let me know you have contacted them. If you have new phone numbers or emails for past members, please make sure you pass them on to me, as the biggest problem will be not having current information for these folks!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
[marketing@spacecity.org](mailto:marketing@spacecity.org)



Cindy Moore marketing Space City  
Ski Club at the Trotter Family Y

I have already started the effort of reaching out to bicycle clubs and putting our fliers in biking stores (we have a bike trip on the Danube in September.....duh?) We have already manned a table at the Healthy Kids Day on April 30th at the Trotter Family Y and will be marketing at the upcoming Sandcastle event. We have purchased vertical feather banners to display at outdoor events (George Lopez's fantastic idea.). We will be manning a booth at the July 2nd Villages Independence Day Celebration again this year, thanks to Linda Kuper.





If you know of any good Houston professional networking organizations that you think I should approach, I will take any suggestions. I will be happy to speak at meetings and attend mixers, etc. to get the word out. As far as fitness organizations I plan to approach Bayou City Road Runners, Houston Fit, Fort Bend County Fit, Houston Bicycle Club, Northwest Cycling Club (we are already on their June board agenda) and Bayou City Outdoors. Since I work part-time for the Y, I will see if there are any other avenues I can explore through cross-marketing with the YMCA's. I have much more in my preliminary marketing plan, but that is enough for sharing right now!

**Cindy Moore,**  
*VP of Marketing*

## SCSC 2016-2017 PHOTO CONTEST



## PHOTO CONTEST CATEGORIES

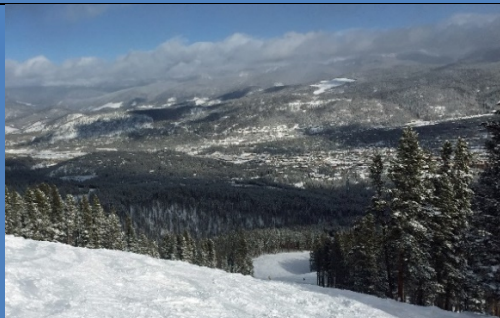
**SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO:**

[marketing@spacecity.org](mailto:marketing@spacecity.org)

BEST SELFIE



LANDSCAPE



SKI ACTION



PEOPLE



LOCAL TOWN



## Trip Report (New Zealand) - The Dirty Dozen's Adventures Down Under

The Dirty Dozen (our group name) had a great trip to the wonderful lands down under. The trip was filled with memories of places, animals, people and scenery. Leaving Houston late on Friday evening, we had a great flight on Air New Zealand that was fantastic due to the complete service we received (i.e., pillows, blankets, food, wine, beer, movies all without additional fees!!). We slept (at least some of the time) and arrived Sunday morning in Auckland to wonderful fall temperatures and continued on to Queenstown. Each day in New Zealand was full of activities – exploring a historic mining town, hiking around various lakes, hiking on Iron Mountain, a winery tasting, viewing bungy jumping, riding a historic steamship, watching a sheep shearing, seeing sheep farms next to deer farms (no kidding!!), walking in the Botanic Gardens, playing Frisbee golf, fishing in Lake Wakatipu and dining on the trout, sea kayaking in the fiords, walking on the tundra, cruising in Milford Sound, riding a jet boat on 2 rivers, and exploring Queenstown at our leisure.



Our first hike was on the Queenstown Hill where we saw beautiful views of the town. It was not as easy as we thought but we still had an incredible time. We saw red mushrooms, huge red wood trees, ferns and mosses.

We came upon a cairn field and I decided to leave a “rock, stick and pinecone” cairn in the form of a downhill skier (wanted to be sure they knew we had been here). The true hikers on this hill were Vicki Faulkner, Craig Campbell, Stan Kuper, Barbie Miller, Joan Waddill, Mark Monroe and Bob Fried. Betty Ann Adams, Kip Kiplin, and Olga Adair decided early that they were not up for it after traveling through multitudes of time zones. That evening our guides, Claire and Elder, escorted us to dinner at a restaurant at the wharf across from our lakeside hotel.





Over the next few days, we had hikes around Lake Hayes, Lake Wanaka and Lake Te Anau. We were surrounded by beautiful fall foliage, deer farms, fairy mushroom villages (ask Vicki and Dana to explain), art studios and metal sculptures in the trees, purple “bluebonnet” flowers, and giant tree ferns. Craig, Vicki and Stan were more adventurous on one of the hikes so they followed Claire to the overlook on Iron Mountain. We had lunches prepared by our guide, Elder, on the lake picnic grounds and found gelato shops to satisfy our sweet tooth afterwards. Bob was usually the leader in finding the gelato shops.



With Queenstown being on Lake Wakatipu, we found several boating adventures. Wednesday afternoon was free time, so Stan, Betty Ann, and Kip chartered a fishing boat to catch lake trout. Stan had a small one that wasn't a keeper, but Kip landed a 14" brown trout that provided an entre prepared at a local restaurant for a nice romantic dinner for him and Betty Ann. In the harbor of Queenstown is a historic steamship, the TSS Earnslaw, which took the group to a sheep ranch for dinner and an exhibition of shearing a sheep.



Mark, who is a licensed sea captain, approached the captain of the steamer to see if he could take the helm. His trusty sidekick, Stan, went along and both of them were allowed to steer the ship on the way to the ranch. Our last full day in Queenstown we took a Jet Boat ride on the Kawarau and Shotover Rivers. They call it “43 KM of pure adrenalin” and they weren't kidding. It was like a carnival ride on steroids, spinning us around at high speeds on very

shallow water. Barbie saw the ride on the video afterwards because she had her eyes closed the entire trip. What a rush and a great ending to our stay in Queenstown.



While we were on the south island of New Zealand, we visited a place that is like none other in the world....Milford Sound. We were very fortunate to see Mitre Peak on a clear afternoon at sunset. Our guides rushed us there when we cleared the mountain tunnel into the Fiord area because they had only seen clear skies on very rare occasions.



We came to Milford Sound to experience sea kayaking and did we have a day to remember. Olga, Betty Ann and Kip chose to do the harbor cruise instead and they were the only ones that stayed dry. Our provider had long johns, sweats, rain suits, baseball caps and life vests for us to wear which still didn't keep all the water from reaching our skin after 3 hours in the rain. The weather in the fiord is cool and rainy most days which provides spectacular waterfalls on

the sheer cliffs that rise from the ocean. There were hundreds of waterfalls surrounding us as we kayaked around the fiord with sights of fur seals sleeping on shore, several species of birds enjoying the cool rains, and the seals following the kayaks back to our pull out spot. Joan had the only waterproof camera so she was the designated photographer for this adventure.

We managed to find a lot of great pubs in New Zealand, even the oldest one that was in the Cardrona Hotel after one of our hikes. Boy do they have some great local beers...just ask Bob, Mark, Stan, Vicki, Dana, Joan, Barbie, Craig or me for a testimonial!! It's a shame that none of these are available in the US. This Cardrona area also has another landmark that we visited, the "Bra Fence". This fence has hundreds of bras attached to it which allows people to honor breast cancer survivors and those still fighting it.



A visit to Queenstown would not be complete without seeing where commercial Bungy Jumping started. We watched several people jump, but nobody in our group was ready to take the plunge. Bob really wanted to pay for Linda to jump but she declined.

After 8 fun filled days, we had to say good-bye to Joan, who was returning to Houston, and our fabulous New Zealand guides, Claire and Elder, and our trusty van "Nancy". (Our provider assigns names to all of their vehicles!!!) Eleven of us continued our journey to Sydney for more adventures. Our hotel was located in the Chinatown and Darling Harbor area of town with lots of fun things nearby.





Our experiences included tours of Sydney; lunch at the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia; tour of the Blue Mountain area west of Sydney; visiting a wildlife center to interact with the animals; viewing incredible rock formations, waterfalls and vistas; touring with a woman of Aboriginal descent in the Sydney historic area; touring the Opera House; attending a symphony at the Opera House; visiting the fish market at the harbor; riding the ferry to Manly for beer and the beach; climbing the Sydney Harbor Bridge; making a Space City video on the bridge; sharing fresh apple pie from the local fruit stand; experiencing a historic pub tour; and dining at outdoor restaurants in Chinatown and the Darling Harbor area.



Most of the group agrees that a highlight of Sydney was the visit to Blue Mountains and the wildlife center. That day started with the animal center where we saw Dana and Stan feeding Wallabies from ice cream cones; Vicki, Betty Ann and Kip taking photos with Koalas who were busy eating their favorite Eucalyptus leaves; petting wombats; seeing kangaroos and a Tasmanian devil; and many birds like white cockatoos, parrots, and emus. We headed to the Blue Mountains which have this name because of the vapors that are released from the Eucalyptus trees in the area giving an aura of blue color to the mountains from a distance. The Three Sisters Rock Formation and waterfalls were seen by the group on short walks along the ridges of the mountains. We had lunch at the old Hydroelectric Boiler Room in the area and experienced the famous "meat pie" that Aussies eat like we eat hamburgers. On our way back to Sydney, we ventured through some fruit orchards and made a stop where Barbie purchased fresh apples to share and Vicki bought a pie for us to share that evening after dinner.



Our evenings were free time in Sydney, so we divided into many groups and did various activities. Bob, Mark and Stan spent their evening on a historic pub tour while Olga, Barbie, Dana, Vicki and Linda had dinner at an outdoor restaurant on Darling Harbor. Betty Ann and Kip spent an evening with friends that live in the area. We had the pleasure of attending a symphony at the Opera House one evening, adding a memory to treasure.



On our days with free time we also divided into pairings with Olga, Betty Ann and Kip visiting the fish market and taking a harbor cruise; Dana, Vicki, and Mark taking a ferry to Manly (a suburb area of Sydney) to find the famous beach and local cuisine; and Bob, Barbie, Craig, Stan and Linda climbing the Sydney Harbor Bridge. Our final touring adventures were in the Rocks

historic area with an Aboriginal descendant and the tour of the Opera House with lunch. Following these tours, Bob, Mark and Barbie decided to catch the ferry to Manly in search of a bar with only 5 minutes to chug-a-lug beers and catch the returning ferry so as not to miss the symphony that evening. According to Barbie, those were the costliest beers she has ever consumed within a 5-minute period.

Needless to say, we were very busy on this trip. Some of the experiences were exhausting, some were scenic, some were funny, some were relaxing and all were lifetime memories. At our post trip party Chuck Pena stated that "you know a trip was successful when participants drive from San Antonio to be a part of the gathering!" Our trip would not have gone had it not been for our two new friends from Club St. Bernard in San Antonio (Betty Ann and Kip) who joined us on the last possible day of signup. They saved the trip and became a big part of the "Dirty Dozen". The group embraced them and we became a traveling family for 2 weeks. Thanks to all of the wonderful people who had great adventurous spirits that made this trip so fantastic.

Well, as I started this article, I told you that we had many memorable moments together. The Dirty Dozen hiked, walked, drank, climbed, ate, enjoyed music and most of all each other's company. We truly became a family. Thanks to all of them for allowing me to guide them on this adventure of a lifetime. Ga'day mates,

**Linda Kuper**  
(aka Mom Kuper),  
*Trip Coordinator*



## • Whitefish, MT – CLUB TRIP

AUGUST 20-27, 2016

Dennis Hughes - TC

[dennis@spacecity.org](mailto:dennis@spacecity.org)

713-805-1757



Ever wonder what they do in the mountains in the summer? The authentic mountain town of Whitefish, Montana provides for a unique vacation experience – a five-star town in the heart of the Rocky Mountain wilderness near Glacier National Park. This is a town built on the personalities, charm and wisdom of its local residents who work hard and play harder. While Glacier National Park is open year-round, summer in Whitefish offers close access to the hanging valleys and emerald peaks of this World Heritage Site, just 25 miles from town. Fish a clear mountain stream, hike an alpine trail, or embark on a historic driving tour of the famed Going-to-the-Sun Road. More than 700 miles of well-marked trails provide an incredible variety of hiking to explore mountain lakes, glaciers, plant life, and glimpses of the full-time residents such as grizzly and black bears, mountain goats, bighorn sheep, moose, deer and more.







## RED BUS TOUR - GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

With their multiple doors and rollback canvas tops, the Reds are as much a part of Glacier National Park as the Going-to-the-Sun Road. While on a tour of the Park, you will marvel at the views from Logan Pass - 6646 feet high on the Continental Divide - the highest point on the breathtaking Going-to-the-Sun Road. Transfer to the Park via 50 person coach for a Full Day Tour. Sack lunch provided by Whitefish Mountain Resort.





## SCENIC LIFT AND USFS NATURE CENTER PRESENTATION

A scenic lift ride is a great way to get outdoors and enjoy Mother Nature. The approximately 15 minute ride to the summit offers a chance to cool off, enjoy the scenery & visit the USFS Nature Center Presentation for local knowledge of flora and fauna and to take a guided nature walk.

## ALPINE SLIDE

Grab a sled and race down the Alpine Slide controlling your speed through straight ways and banked curves. A fun experience unlike anything else you've ever done. The Alpine Slide is fun for all ages.

What are you going to do the rest of the time? Golf, rafting, fishing, hiking, shopping, the options are unlimited. You decide. Join me in Whitefish, 2016.

## PACKAGES OFFERED Aug 20<sup>th</sup> – Aug 27<sup>st</sup>, 2016

| PACKAGE   | PRICE<br>(Pay by PayPal) | DISCOUNTED PRICE<br>(Pay by Check) |
|-----------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| FULL      | \$1,360                  | \$1,310                            |
| LAND ONLY | \$780                    | \$745                              |

DEPOSIT: \$150 by check or online via PayPal. FINAL PAYMENT: Due by 3/1/2016

Make the check payable to 'SCSC' & mail to 'P.O. Box 22567, Houston TX 77227' write *trip name on the check & on the outside of the envelope*. Online payments using PayPal are available.

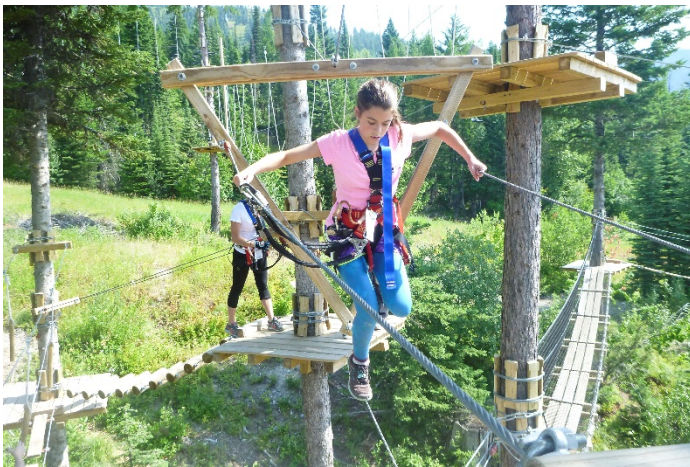
## TRANSPORTATION

### AIR ITINERARY (Full Package) & LAND TRANSFERS

*Check our website for the latest info.*









## Danube River Boat/Bike Tour, Austria TSC SUMMER EXPEDITION

SEPTEMBER 24 – OCTOBER 2, 2016

**Leyla Ozkardesh – co-TC**

[leyla@spacecity.org](mailto:leyla@spacecity.org)

281-785-2325

**Rita Cardenas – co-TC**

[rita@spacecity.org](mailto:rita@spacecity.org)

281-455-5769

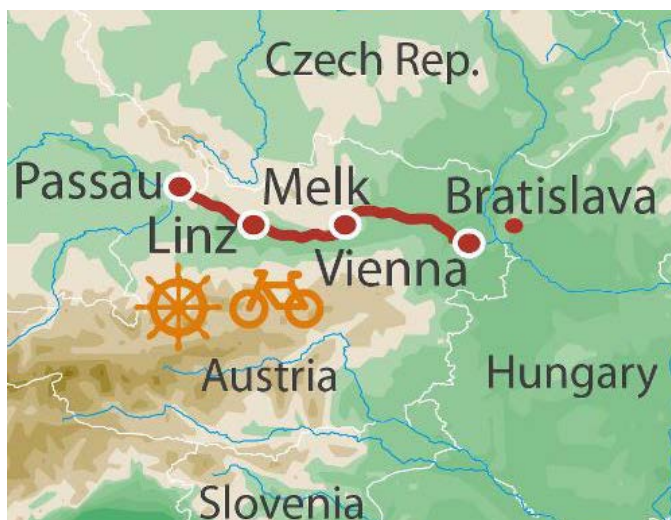


Leyla Ozkardesh & Rita Cardenas

The Danube Impressions Excursion is an easy, leisurely and enjoyable bicycle tour along the meandering lush green river banks of the Danube River going from village to village on quiet bike paths. This makes it an ideal way to explore the rich art, history and architecture of the Austrian and German countryside. The bicycle route we will be riding is flat with only a few gradual up or downhill sections, so if you can ride a bike 20-30 miles with 2-3 hours on the saddle, you can probably complete this bicycle tour with no difficulty. The guide is on the boat and will describe the ride to everyone each day. Then, everyone is free to do the ride on their own and at their own pace. Most of the sights will be seen by bicycle.

We begin in Passau and tour to Vienna, a firework of places of interests! Sights like St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Town Hall and the world's oldest Ferris wheel (Riesenrad) are easy to reach. At the Naschmarkt (famous food market), a stroll will become a cultural and culinary adventure. We will tour new wonderful sites on the way back to Passau. This bike tour along the German/Austrian Danube is a very special pleasure because your "hotel" riverboat is always with you.

Please imagine yourself sitting in a café alongside the majestic Danube River, enjoying a snack, wine or espresso with your friends. Your bike is just outside, waiting to take you further along your journey of cycling the most famous bicycle path in Europe, passing castles, monasteries, vineyards and more. And





knowing that after each day's ride, you will join your TSC friends onboard the boat for dinner, drinks and stories of the day's adventure. Sound good? Then this might just be the cycling-themed holiday you've been dreaming about!

### DAY 1 - PASSAU

We begin in Passau, the "Bishop City", close to the Bavarian/Austrian border and also known as the City of Three Rivers. It has long been regarded as one of Germany's most beautiful cities. It is recommended to spend time visiting the world's largest Catholic Church organ or a typical Bavarian beer garden before we board the boat at 5pm.



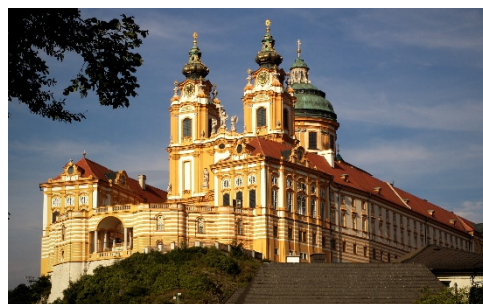
### DAY 2 - MAUTHAUSEN TO GREIN (22 MILES)

Our first biking day takes us directly along the Danube where we will enjoy the natural state of the meadow landscape. We have opportunities to visit the medieval village and former concentration camp of Mauthausen and celtic village Mitterkirchen or an alternate slightly hilly route to "Clam Castle" which takes you through the beautiful back country of the "Strudengau". Optional trip to Grein - Austria's oldest city theatre and a castle.



### DAY 3 - GREIN TO MELK TO TULLN (30 MILES)

Starting at the Strudengau, the valley expands and our bike tour leads you to Melk with its gorgeous baroque Benedictine monastery. On board the boat, we travel down the river to Tulln famous for its numerous market gardens while enjoying the sunset and evening illumination of the Wachau.



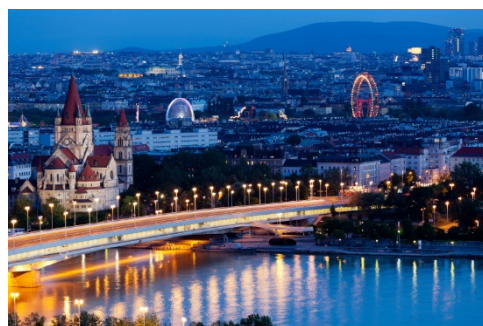
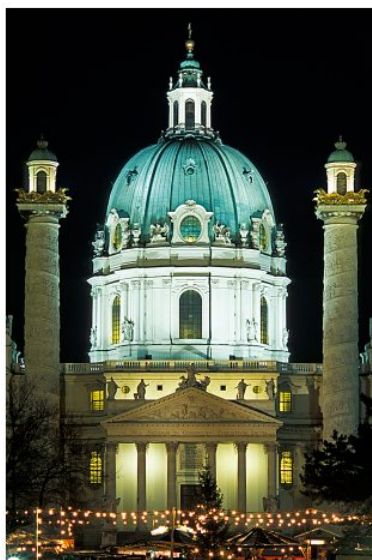
### DAY 4 - TULLN ONTO VIENNA (22 MILES)

Starting in Tulln, a key historical crossing point is where we will find a number of well-preserved architectural monuments dating to the High Middle Ages and even back to Roman times. At Vienna's entrance embedded in beautiful scenery, is the monastery of Klosterneuberg. Stroll through wine vineyards and enjoy panoramic view of Vienna.



### DAY 5 - VIENNA (REST DAY):

A day to explore beautiful Vienna - an abundance of sights! Famous sights like St. Stephen's Cathedral, the city hall and the world's oldest Ferris wheel (Riesenrad) are easy to reach. A stroll through the Naschmarkt (famous food market) is a wonderful cultural and culinary adventure. You can also relax at any of the cozy coffee houses or at a typical traditional Viennese wine tavern. An optional Waltz and Opera concert at the Hofburg is offered.





### DAY 6 – WACHAU/ROSSATZ-EMMERSDORF (29 MILES)

This day's biking enchants you with small dreamy towns, vineyards, castles, monasteries and ruins. Weißenkirchen- perfect for a wine tasting right alongside the cycle path.

### DAY 7 – GREAT DANUBE LOOP-ENGELHARTSZELL (22 MILES)

Awaken your senses as we cycle through the Danube valley. Follow the walking trail to the lookout high above the Danube Loop with breathtaking views of the Danube valley. Tonight on board there will be a farewell dinner and a crew show - it is sure to be a night with lots of fun and entertainment.

### DAY 8 – PASSAU

We disembark at 10am as we say farewell to our friends. You might spend time in the lovely city of Passau taking in all its wonders. Take a walking tour through the cobblestone streets of this Baroque town renowned for its lovely stained glass and nearly 100 churches. See the Altes Rathaus, the old town hall with 14th-century origins, murals on the façade and a glockenspiel in the tower; and visit St. Stephan's Cathedral, home to a magnificent pipe organ that is the world's largest.

### RENTAL BICYCLES INCLUDED

The rentals are modern and high standard hybrid touring bicycles. They offer 28-Zoll-Unisex-tourbikes with deep comfort-entrance. The bikes are equipped with a 21-derailleur-gear with override, caliper breaks and robust wheels. The bicycles are mostly not older than 3 years. If you prefer to rent an electric bike, you will receive modern, high quality E-Bikes – Additional \$82. Bring own helmet or buy one for \$30.

### LODGING

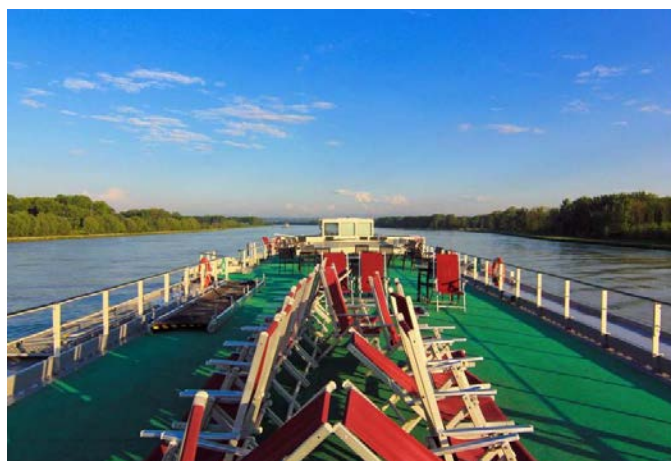
Our floating hotel for the week will be the My Story. It is a very spacious and traditional ship. The MS My Story was built in 1971 and renovated in 2013/2014. The Sun Deck with its awnings allows you to enjoy the passing scenery. There is a sauna on board too! The Panorama Restaurant and the Panorama Lounge with its bar provide not only excellent food and drinks, but also a sense of conviviality with old friends and new acquaintances.

The outside cabins are about 97 sq ft of space. There are individual fresh air controls plus a central AC / heating, shower and WC, Satellite TV, hair dryer and roomy cupboards. All cabins are equipped with two lower beds, one of which can be folded against the wall during the day to provide a homier atmosphere.



**WHAT'S INCLUDED**

- 7 nights lodging
- Captains welcome party
- Daily Cabin cleaning, towels, bed
- Full Meals – Breakfast, Lunch on board (non-cyclists) or packed lunch (cyclists), afternoon coffee, dinner (2-3 dishes to choose from) (No beverages included)
- Gala Farewell Dinner
- Farewell crew show with live music
- Tour guide on board (does not cycle with group)
- Daily informational meeting

**TRANSPORTATION****AIR ITINERARY (Full Package) & LAND TRANSFERS**

*Check our website to the latest info.*

**PACKAGES OFFERED Sep 24<sup>th</sup> – Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016**

| PACKAGE   | PRICE<br>(Pay by PayPal) | DISCOUNTED PRICE<br>(Pay by Check) |
|-----------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| FULL      | \$3,605                  | \$3,530                            |
| LAND ONLY | \$2,003                  | \$1,953                            |

**DEPOSIT: \$300 by check or online via PayPal. FINAL PAYMENT: Due by 6/24/2016**

**Make the check payable to 'SCSC' & mail to 'P.O. Box 22567, Houston TX 77227' write *trip name on the check & on the outside of the envelope.* Online payments using PayPal are available.**

**DANUBE BOAT/BIKE TOUR EXTENSIONS****PRE-TRIP: BUDAPEST EXTENSION \$650 PER PERSON**

- Sept 22 Arrival by plane to Budapest
- Sept 22 Transfer airport Budapest - hotel Budapest by bus & 1 guide in each bus
- Sept 22 Day of rest at Budapest (no lunch included)
- Sept 22 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay at Best Western Grand Hotel Hungaria
- Sept 23 Breakfast at Best Western Grand Hotel Hungaria
- Sept 23 Tour Budapest by bus whole day program (no lunch included)
- Sept 23 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay at Best Western Grand Hotel Hungaria
- Sept 24 Breakfast at Best Western Grand Hotel Hungaria



- Sept 24 Explore Budapest on your own  
Sept 24 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay at Best Western Grand Hotel Hungaria  
Sept 25 Transfer from Budapest hotel to Passau pier (~6-7 hrs) by bus & 1 guide per bus

**POST-TRIP: PASSAU & OKTOBERFEST EXTENSION \$469 PER PERSON**

- Oct 2 Disembarkation in Passau + transfer pier - hotel Weisser Hase  
Oct 2 Day of rest at Passau (no lunch included)  
Oct 2 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay in Passau hotel Weisser Hase  
Oct 3 Breakfast at the hotel Weisser Hase  
Oct 3 Transfer by bus to/from Munich Oktoberfest (no guide on the bus), day on your own at the Oktoberfest (no lunch)  
Oct 3 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay in Passau hotel Weisser Hase  
Oct 4 Breakfast at the hotel Weisser Hase  
Oct 4 Day to explore Pasaua on your own  
Oct 4 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay in Passau hotel Weisser Hase  
Oct 5 Transfer from Passau hotel to Munich airport by bus (no guide at the bus)



## THE ART OF TRIP SIGN-UP AND THE FINE PRINT

Trip Sign-Up: HERE IT IS! Your chance to sign-up for your favorite SCSC ski trip(s) for 2015-2016. The trip registration form is in the back of this issue of the Sitzmarke and online. Go to [www.spacecity.org](http://www.spacecity.org) to sign up online starting August 1<sup>st</sup> and pay your deposit using PayPal, or you may follow up your online registration by mailing a check to the TC. You also have the option of sending your trip registration form by USPS mail; however, the envelope can be postmarked no earlier than August 1<sup>st</sup> and you will need to wait for the trip TC to notify you if you are on the trip or come to the September General Meeting to verify your registration.

1. Trip sign-up for all trips begins August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. We take sign-ups in three ways: 1) mail your trip registration form and deposit payment to the TC or 2) give your registration form and deposit payment directly to the trip TC at an SCSC event or 3) signup online and pay your deposit by PayPal. If you sign up by mail, make the check payable to 'SCSC' & mail to P.O. Box 22567, Houston TX 77227. Write trip name on the check & on the outside of the envelope. The envelope cannot be postmarked prior to August 1<sup>st</sup>. Any signup postmarked prior to August 1<sup>st</sup> will be at the back of the line of day one sign-ups if it becomes necessary to determine the order that registrations were received.
2. You must be a current member in good standing to be added to a trip. Contact Patty Finch, VP of Membership ([membership@spacecity.org](mailto:membership@spacecity.org)), if you have questions regarding your membership status.
3. You may sign up yourself and one other SCSC member per trip (plus children for Family Optional trips) (see by-law 2.8.A.)
4. If you choose to register by mail, include the trip registration form with your deposit. The deposit for domestic trips is \$150 per participant and international trips is \$300 per participant. Checks are to be made payable to 'SCSC' and write the TRIP NAME in the memo field on your check.
5. If you choose registration by mail, mail your trip registration form and check to the TC listed for that trip. Additional information, TC telephone numbers and e-mail addresses, is listed in this Sitzmarke.
6. If the registration meets the above guidelines, your name(s) will be added to each trip's Participant List in the order received. If a trip's participant roster is full, additional registrations received will be added to a waitlist in the order received. The TC will hold deposit checks for waitlisted members until a space becomes available on the trip. For the participants that are confirmed on the trips, the checks will be deposited immediately.
7. These procedures apply to ALL members (except the trip's TC and ATC) and all trip participants are subject to SCSC Standing Rules, Policies and Procedures.
8. SCSC is not responsible for any problems with the U.S. Postal Service or the internet, including delayed delivery or lost mail.
9. Information shown on the Trip Schedule is subject to change. Contact the TC or ATC for up-to-date information.
10. Any registrations received which do not meet the above qualifications, may be returned to the sender.
11. Land packages have been approved by The Executive Committee for this year's trips. On the trips which have a limited number of available land packages, if all are filled, you will be given the option of being on a "Land Wait List" or switching to a full package.
12. Because of the restrictions noted below for land packages, be sure you have concrete travel arrangements made before you sign up for one of these. SCSC will not be responsible for any difficulties or extra expense you incur due to delayed or canceled flights or other transportation problems.

### Rules and Restrictions for Land Packages

13. The price of the land package will be the full trip price minus participant's airfare. Ground transportation will be included and available on selected trips to land package participants if they can meet the group at the destination airport on time. Ground transportation will not be delayed for land package participants arriving later than the group.
14. Other than the full package, this is the only package price available; no other combinations of lodging and/or transportation will be offered. Note: As in the past, members may "Shadow" a trip by arranging



their own transportation, lodging, etc., and pay only for the parties and trip options. Please arrange to do this in advance as some of the trip options (group dinners, parties, and lift tickets) are reserved well in advance of the departure date.

15. Normal cancellation policies apply: 1) the added stipulation that, on or after final payment date, land package participants must be replaced from a land package wait list and full package participants must be replaced from a full package wait list in order to receive a refund.
16. Be sure this is the package you want - It may not be possible to convert your trip from land package to full package, or vice versa. The Club may not be able to secure additional airline seats.
17. If you sign up for a land package, please notify the TC of your transportation plans in advance of the trip. The TC can tell you where to meet the group at the airport and other pertinent details.

## Trip Registration Form

FOR USE BY SCSC MEMBERS ONLY

(Complete ONE Registration Form and prepare ONE deposit check PER trip)

Deposit (per participant) is \$150 for domestic trips & \$300 for international trips.

Make the check payable to 'SCSC' & mail to P.O. Box 22567, Houston TX 77227. Write trip name on the check & on the outside of the envelope. **Each envelope must contain the registration form and deposit.**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY - WE MUST BE ABLE TO READ THE DATA ON THIS FORM

Trip Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Trip Dates \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

### Participant #1

### Participant #2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check one:**

Full package ☐ Land package ☐

**Please check one:**

Full package ☐ Land package ☐

**Note for Full Package participants:** Trip price includes all current air taxes & fuel surcharges subject to change until ticketed. Does NOT INCLUDE any additional fees imposed by the airline such as baggage fees.

**Note for Land Package participants:** Ground transportation will be included and available, on selected trips, to land package participants if they can meet the group at the destination airport on time. Ground transportation will not be delayed for land package participants arriving later than the group.

I understand the following (per standing rules 5.1 - 5.4): Cancellations after trip sign-up must be *in writing* to the Trip Coordinator and all cancellations are subject to a \$30 per person cancellation fee. If I cancel on or after the final payment date, I may forfeit the full deposit amount if I cannot be replaced on the trip. After that date, the deposit plus club cancellation fee are non-refundable

Signature(s) (Required) \_\_\_\_\_



|                 |                  |                    |                   |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Abadie, Debbie  | Ferrell, Jan     | Lopez, George      | Schiro, Judy      |
| Adair, Olga     | Finch, Patty     | Lowther, Bruce     | Schneider, James  |
| Allan, Theresa  | Fowler, Sandy    | Lutz, Marsha       | Schneider, Sandy  |
| Ashley, LaDaune | Goel, Bobby      | Macken, Don        | Shoobridge, Derek |
| Aubrecht, Lori  | Hays, Ron        | McCunis, Sandra    | Simandl, Sharon   |
| Barrett, Gary   | Hodges, Jim      | McKeough, Kay      | Slade, Steve      |
| Barrie, Jo      | Holzman, Roger   | Moore, Cindy       | Smith, Andy       |
| Bomberger, Bill | Hord, Larry      | Musemeche, Pat     | Stokes, Chip      |
| Burrows, David  | Hughes, Dennis   | Nanny, Jill        | Stolnacke, Paul   |
| Campbell, Craig | Hughes, Melinda  | O'Connor, Joan     | Stolnacke, Sandra |
| Cardenas, Rita  | Jeans, Jim       | Ozkardesh, Leyla   | Stotz, Dave       |
| Cashio, Andy    | Joe, Leland      | Pearce, Marianne   | Stotz, Diane      |
| Caspar, Barry   | Johnson, Bob     | Pena, Chuck        | Swanson, Marilyn  |
| Cave, Lorraine  | Kawasugi, Tami   | Pethick, Ali       | Traver, Stuart    |
| Cini, Deb       | Kirkman, Keith   | Reidenbach, Robert | Turner, Marti     |
| Cusack, Bil     | Koteras, Maria   | Robinson, Larry    | Walter, David     |
| Dale, Gayle     | Kuper, Linda     | Rogers, Ann        | Ward, Leslie      |
| Davis, Gary     | Kuper, Stan      | Sargent, George    | Waters, Marda     |
| Donellan, Betty | LaRoe, Camille   | Schidlowski, Karin | Ying, Steve       |
| Dorn, Ann       | Learned, Halcyon | Schidlowski, Kurt  | Zemlicka, Jo Ann  |
| Edwards, Debra  |                  | Schillinger, Peggy |                   |



## Our Leadership Team 2016-2017

|                       |   |                 |  |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|--|
| President             | - | George Lopez    | <a href="mailto:president@spacecity.org">president@spacecity.org</a>   |
| VP of Activities      | - | Jo Barrie       | <a href="mailto:activities@spacecity.org">activities@spacecity.org</a> |
| VP of Trips           | - | Chuck Pena      | <a href="mailto:trips@spacecity.org">trips@spacecity.org</a>           |
| VP of Membership      | - | Leslie Cashio   | <a href="mailto:membership@spacecity.org">membership@spacecity.org</a> |
| VP of Marketing       | - | Cindy Moore     | <a href="mailto:marketing@spacecity.org">marketing@spacecity.org</a>   |
| Treasurer             | - | Maria Koteras   | <a href="mailto:treasurer@spacecity.org">treasurer@spacecity.org</a>   |
| Secretary             | - | Ann Dorn        | <a href="mailto:secretary@spacecity.org">secretary@spacecity.org</a>   |
| Auditor               | - | Keith Kirkman   | <a href="mailto:auditor@spacecity.org">auditor@spacecity.org</a>       |
| Director Of Publicity | - | Steve Ying      | <a href="mailto:steve@spacecity.org">steve@spacecity.org</a>           |
| Director Of Trips     | - | Beverly Roberts | <a href="mailto:beverly@spacecity.org">beverly@spacecity.org</a>       |

## Our Board of Directors 2016-2017

|             |   |                |  |
|-------------|---|----------------|--|
| Chairperson | - | Melinda Hughes | <a href="mailto:melinda@spacecity.org">melinda@spacecity.org</a> |
| Director    | - | Jim Hodges     | <a href="mailto:jim@spacecity.org">jim@spacecity.org</a>         |
| Director    | - | Marti Turner   | <a href="mailto:marti@spacecity.org">marti@spacecity.org</a>     |
| Director    | - | Sandy Fowler   | <a href="mailto:sandy@spacecity.org">sandy@spacecity.org</a>     |
| Director    | - | Bill Bomberger | <a href="mailto:bill@spacecity.org">bill@spacecity.org</a>       |
| Director    | - | Ali Pethick    | <a href="mailto:ali@spacecity.org">ali@spacecity.org</a>         |
| Director    | - | Patty Finch    | <a href="mailto:patty@spacecity.org">patty@spacecity.org</a>     |
| Director    | - | Bobby Goel     | <a href="mailto:bobby@spacecity.org">bobby@spacecity.org</a>     |

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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**.



## Sitzmarke

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SPACE CITY SKI & ADVENTURE CLUB

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Tundra before Millford Sound (New Zealand)

By Linda Kuper

### **ADVERTISING & MEDIA INQUIRIES**

Cindy Moore, [marketing@spacecity.org](mailto:marketing@spacecity.org)

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

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](http://www.spacecity.org).

### **GENERAL INQUIRIES**

Space City Ski & Adventure Club

PO Box 22567, Houston, TX 77227

[www.spacecity.org](http://www.spacecity.org)

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