

"Ski News"

May 2020

Message from the President of Austin Skiers

May 31 will mark the end of a very successful 50th year for Austin Skiers. Over this past year we enjoyed a record turnout at our post-trip party at Oasis Brewery, Trip Presentation meeting and our lovely Holiday party at Balcones Country Club. In addition, we had eleven “fantastically” fun trips covering scuba diving, wine tastings, snow skiing and delicious French culture and cuisine.

Unfortunately, our summer season of gathering at Happy Hours and other special activities had to be cut short due to the world-wide Covid-19 virus pandemic. This “new normal of social distancing to prevent the spread” has been difficult for our club of huggers and hand-shakers, to say the least. Like many of you, I want our “old” normal times to return soon.

As I mentioned, for the first time in our history we will conduct our Austin Skiers Annual Business Meeting virtually using Zoom, on Tuesday, May 12 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Zoom can accommodate up to 100 individual connections at one time which is about the attendance number we have had at previous Annual Meetings. We ask that only members with current memberships attend the virtual meeting which we will record for later access.

For anyone unable to connect due to Zoom’s limited capacity, we’ll share the link to the recording soon after May 12. We will also provide a space for anyone wanting to give feedback/comments related to our Annual Meeting, trips, or the club in general. The goal of the executive committee is to continue to improve on membership experience and your input is valuable to us.

May 31, also marks the end of my 3rd term as your President. It has been my honor and privilege to serve as President and watch our club grow, make new friends,

have bigger/better parties and visit many new travel destinations. Thank you for all your support and participation in this magnificent ski club. Because of you, we are the best!

Please be safe and stay well until we gather again, Jackie Bayly



Jackie Bayly, President: President@austinskiers.org



Proudly partnering with the Texas Ski Council (TSC)

Visit [Texas Ski Council](#)

for more information

Please take time to review our [trip policies](#), which include cancellation information. We encourage our members going on our trips to consider trip insurance for those unexpected emergencies before or during your trip. **Here is a link for more information on [Trip Insurance](#)**

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Austin Skiers Nominating Committee Report

The 2020 Nominating Committee consisted of six Austin Skiers members with Priscilla Johnson serving as chair. Other committee members included: Jackie Bayly, ML Goetschel, Steve Knouse, Holly Ice, and Jan Lebourgeois. Each committee member was tasked with reaching out to various club members during trips, happy hours and club meetings to share information about officer positions and gauge their interest in serving.

Our committee met to review all prospects and a slate was presented to the board in March. The following [slate](#) was approved by the board and will be presented at the Austin Skiers Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 12.

REVIEW BY-LAW REVISIONS

Click on the following link to read through the proposed [changes to the By-laws](#) before our meeting on May 12. Jot down any notes you wish to clarify or discuss. The By-Law changes will be explained prior to our May 12 meeting via a separate email. Here is a link to our original [By-Laws](#) in case you need them.

TRIP PLANNING

Hot Off the Press - Trip Line up for 2021 (subject to change)

Even though the Texas Ski Council cancelled the Bid Meeting, the Pre-Select Committee narrowed down the **60** odd **proposals** to just 20. The Trip Planning Committee finished their work on the [2021 trip line up](#) and made the recommendations below to the Austin Skiers board, which was just approved last night:

Pass	Location	Date	Lodging
EPIC	Beaver Creek	Jan 9 – 16	The Charter
IKON	Snowmass*	Jan 16 – 23	Top Of the Village
IKON	Taos Long	Jan 23 – 30	Snakedance
IKON	Taos Short	Jan 23 – 27	Snakedance
EPIC	Telluride	Feb 6 – 13	Bear Creek Lodge
IKON	Copper Mtn	Feb 15 – 19	Silver Level Condo
EPIC	Heavenly	Feb 20 – 27	Lake Tahoe Resort Suites
IKON	Snowbird	Feb 27-Mar 6	Cliff Lodge
IKON	Lake Louise*	Mar 13 – 20	Chateau Lake Louise

*Texas Ski Council Trip

I would like to thank the members of the Trip Planning Committee for all their work and dedication researching these locations and their input into the process. Please thank these members the next time you talk with them:

Jackie Bayly	Mary Gasal
Elisabeth Poigin	Hollis Matheney
Gary Roth	Bob Sharp
Cindy Berry	Mohamed Kerr
Steve Knouse	

The Texas Ski Council is planning a [virtual Bid Meeting](#) sometime in **September**. We are not sure how the process will work at this time as details are still being worked out. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months.



Tere Mayne, VP Trip Planning: tripplanning@austinskiers.org

2020 Trips Update

The [Post-Trip](#) party is now tentatively scheduled for **June 14**. We will continue to monitor the CDC guidelines & local health officials insofar as gatherings of large crowds. After much deliberation the Austin Skiers and the Texas Ski Council decided to cancel the [New Zealand/Australia/Fiji](#) scheduled for this October out of an abundance of caution in light of the global pandemic related to [COVID-19](#). We held two conference calls with those registered with Austin Skiers and there was unanimity it was best to cancel the trip.

The board decided to cancel the [Sonoma Wine Tasting](#) out of an abundance of caution and too much uncertainty about airline & hotel availability along with wineries that may or may be reopened by late August for foot traffic.

Also, as a **reminder** here are the **TSC trips** for **2021**:

Traditional: Snowmass, CO Jan 16-23

Winter Shootout: Purgatory, CO Feb 20-27

Final Showdown: Lake Louise, CAN Mar 13-20



Elisabeth Poigin, VP Trips: Trips@austinskiers.org

SAVE THE DATES

* **Annual Business Meeting (Virtual): May 12, 6:30-8:30pm**
(Details to follow)

* **Trip Presentation Meeting: August 16**
(Details to follow)



Lara Pavanelli, VP Programs: Programs@austinskiers.org

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic all Happy Hours and Activities have been cancelled through May. We will advise everyone of a new schedule once it is deemed safe to do so.



Mary L. Goetschel (ML), VP Special Activities Activities@austinskiers.org



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Texas Ski Council (TSC).

Visit [Texas Ski Council](#) for more information.



The Texas Ski Council is a member of the National Ski Council Federation. Which means Austin Skiers are members and have some great benefits. Please check them out and register at [National Ski Council Federation](#).



UPDATE: Sun & Ski Sports
has **re-opened** their store for walk-in traffic.

When thinking of shopping for ski gear this season, remember to shop [Sun & Ski Sports](#). Please **let their staff know** Austin Skiers enjoy a **15% discount off regular-priced** items in the store. In addition, the staff will do a **basic ski/snowboard tune** for **50% off**. This discount cannot be combined with other offers.

Check out their ski/snowboard bundles - goggles, ski poles, boot bags and snow apparel!
Follow them on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and other social media sites listed on their website.



Jake Sullivan, Director: Director@austinskiers.org

Renewals Season is Here!

The time to **renew** with Austin Skiers for **2020-21** has begun! We're looking forward to another exciting year of travel, socials and special activities! **Membership renews on June 1 for the low price of \$40 for Singles and \$55 for Families** (up to 6). Since we will conduct our May **Annual Membership meeting** "virtually" you'll need to renew your membership online.

We would appreciate it when you renew to take a few minutes and make sure your **contact information** is up to date: address, city, state, zip code, phone number and email. This is especially important and time saving when we need to mail name badges, check refunds and ensure you receive all the communications for which you have subscribed to.

Thanks, and we're looking forward to another great season of travel with you!

Message from the Membership/Communications Chair

Austin Skiers "active" membership stands at **455**. We appreciate your membership & participation in Austin Skiers - it is why we exist.

Hopefully you remain fortunate to avoid catching the coronavirus. However, if you did or know someone who has, please ask them to check out the "**We Are Blood**" program sponsored by the Travis County Medical Society (TCMS). It's their blood bank that has been around since 1951. They are currently looking for people to donate **COVID-19 convalescent plasma**. Check out their website and review this **form**, which provides donor criteria and contact information if you have any questions.

Austin Skiers continues it's partnership with **Sun & Ski** regarding the "**Goggles for Docs**" program. They are an international charity collecting goggles both ski and skating for health care workers on the front lines during the **corona virus** pandemic. There is **not** a donation deadline at this time since we don't know how long this need will continue. **Updates** will

be posted on the website. Please consider **donating** your used goggles or **purchase** them at Sun & Ski either in person **or** online. If you want to purchase **ONLINE**: go to their [website](#), select the goggles & verify they're in stock at the Austin store. Then select "ship to store" and [email](#) or call the store with your name, order # and phone # - so they know to mark them as a donation. If you go to the store, they have a box with a sign inside the store on your right to drop off your goggles.

While airline traffic has slowed to a crawl due to the coronavirus pandemic some people are still flying. You may recall an article from last fall in this newsletter about the **REAL ID** driver's license program. This program was passed by Congress in 2005 implementing recommendations of the "911 Commission" setting standards for the issuance of sources of identification, such as drivers licenses.

The **original** effective date was **October 1, 2020** and if you don't have the **REAL ID** – you won't be able to board a plane, go into a federal building, enter nuclear power plants (I hadn't planned to anyway). However, the acting Secretary of HHS released a [statement](#) on March 26, 2020 effectively **postponing** the effective date to **October 1, 2021** due to circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic **and** the national emergency declaration.

We look forward to providing another **GREAT** year of **ski, non-ski** trips, special activities and other social opportunities for you and your family to enjoy!

[Click here to renew your membership.](#)

Like us at <http://www.facebook.com/austinskiers>



Gary Armstrong, VP Communications: Communications@austinskiers.org

Executive Committee - Austin Skiers

Jackie Bayly - President

Elisabeth Poigin - VP Trips

Tere Mayne- VP Trip Planning

Lara Pavanelli- VP Programs

Gary Armstrong - VP Communications

Mary L. Goetschel - VP Special Activities

Steve Knouse- Treasurer

Steve Tatro - Secretary

Jake Sullivan - Director
