



"Ski News"

May 2021

[Message from the President of Austin Skiers](#)

Over this past year we endured one of, if not the most challenging ski/travel seasons ever in the 51 years Austin Skiers has been in existence. We held several Virtual Happy Hours, conducted the first Virtual Annual Membership Meeting and TSC BidFest along with a Virtual/In-Person Trip Presentation in August at Balcones Country Club. All the while the Executive Committee moved to holding our meetings every month via Zoom. However, in recent weeks we've re instituted our Happy Hours, we plan to have an In-Person/Virtual Annual Membership meeting on May 23.

For anyone unable to connect due to Zoom's limited capacity, we'll share the link to the recording soon after May 23. 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 1st term as your President. I hope to again next year if re-elected by you. It has been my honor and privilege to serve as President. Thank you for all your support and participation in this magnificent ski club. Because of you, we are the best!

Still thinking snow,

G.D. "Tim" Atkinson



Tim Atkinson, President: President@austinskiers.org

Remaining Trips for 2021
(subject to change)

<u>Pass</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Lodging</u>
NA	Zermatt, UT	August 14-19	Zermatt Resort & Spa

OPEN FOR [REGISTRATION](#)/ [Full Itinerary](#)

Trip Planning Roundup

The Trip Planning Committee has been hard at work researching trips for our **2022 ski and travel** season, as well as reviewing TSC trip proposals for **2023**. We know how you like **back-to-back trips**, so we have a couple for you. In the middle of the ski season, **Snowmass**, **Steamboat** and **Telluride** back up to each other. And at the end of the ski season, our TSC trip to **Mammoth** will backup to **Heavenly**, both of which fly into and out of Reno, making for a great 2 week get away for those passionate skiers. And we have a trip to **Sun Peaks Canada** which is larger than Snowmass and Aspen put together and offers a wonderful snow experience at a great value.

The committee also researched a few **non-ski** destinations. We are trying for the first time an **adventure** trip to **Zermatt, Utah this summer!** Included in the price, is lots of fun activities along with lodging and ground transportation to the resort. Be sure to talk to **Steve Knouse** for more details on this exciting trip. In addition, we have a week long trip to **Russia** with the **Texas Ski Council** in the fall of **2022**. We are continuing to investigation a couple more non-ski trips which will be listed next month. One trip might be to the **tropics in Central America in October of this year** and the other trip could be **overseas** to taste **whisky**, in **May of 2022**. Stay tuned for more information on the trips as they develop. But for now, the slate of trips [[Download Trips List for 2021-22.PDF](#)] being offered are as follows:

Trip List for 2021-2022

Venue	Date	Pass
Fun in Zermatt, UT	Aug 14-19, 2021	
*Park City, UT	Jan 8-15, 2022	Epic
*Zell-am-See, Austria	Jan 21-29, 2022	
Snowmass, CO	Jan 22-29, 2022	Ikon
Steamboat, CO	Jan 29-Feb 5, 2022	Ikon
*Telluride, CO	Feb 5-12, 2022	Epic
Sun Peaks, Canada	Feb 19-26, 2022	
Vail, CO	Feb 26-Mar 5, 2022	Epic

*Mammoth, CA	Mar 5-12, 2022	Ikon
Heavenly, CA/NV	Mar 12-19, 2022	Epic
*Russia	September, 2022	

*Texas Ski Council trip



Tere Mayne, VP Trip Planning: TripPlanning@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](#) AND [Trip Cancellation Policies](#) (**for each trip** as they are not necessarily the same).

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](#).**

Proclamation

Whereas the COVID pandemic has made the work of the **Vice President of**

Trips an order of magnitude more difficult than in any previous year,

Whereas in carrying out the duties and responsibilities of this position, **Elisabeth Poigin** has selflessly and faithfully donated immeasurable time, skill, counsel, dedication, and service far beyond all expectations, and

Whereas Elisabeth Poigin is **retiring** to her native **France** and may less enjoy the fellowship and adventure she has shared in Austin Skiers,

Now be it resolved that Elisabeth Poigin is hereby granted a **lifetime** membership in Austin Skiers, with all honors and privileges pertaining thereto.

A motion passed unanimously by the Executive Board, this 17th day of April 2021.

Tim Atkinson
G.D. "Tim" Atkinson, President

Proposed Bylaw Changes

After careful review of the current bylaws the Executive Committee is proposing the following changes to be presented at the Austin Skiers **Annual Meeting** on Sunday, **May 23** for a vote.

<<<Nominating Committee Report>>>

The **2021** Nominating Committee consisted of six Austin Skiers members with Cindy Berry serving as chair. Other committee members included: Tim Atkinson, Bill Seymour, Steve Knouse, Chris Vrba and Gary Armstrong. 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 the slate as listed below was submitted to the board in March with a recommendation to approve all positions.

The following [slate](#) was approved by the board at the **April 6** Executive Committee meeting and will be presented to the membership for approval at the [Austin Skiers Annual Meeting](#) on Sunday, **May 23**.

- * President - Tim Atkinson
- * VP Trips – Cindy Berry
- * VP Trip Planning - Tere Mayne
- * Treasurer - Steve Knouse
- * Secretary - Mary Jo Humphreys
- * VP Communications - Gary Armstrong
- * VP Programs - Lara Pavanelli
- * VP Special Activities – Bill Estes
- * Director – Chris Vrba

Thanks to outgoing board members: Jackie Bayly, Director; Elisabeth Poigin, VP Trips; and Mary Lisa Goetschel, VP Special Activities. We appreciate your service you provided to our members this past year. There are plenty of ways to spend your time, but you choose Austin Skiers and we are all grateful you did. Give some thought over this next year if you might consider donating your time to Austin Skiers. We're always looking for good & dedicated people.

Happy Hours/Special Activities

Happy Hour

[Juliet's Italian Kitchen](#)

Thursday, May 20

4:30 - 6:30 PM

[MAP](#)

NOTE: We have a 10-top table reserved. After that it's first come/first serve.

Please wear your name badge

We continue to work to provide a safe environment to get together for Happy Hour, which includes wearing masks & practicing social distancing. The venues we select will have outdoor seating, although few **will provide reserve seating** for us due to already limited capacity imposed by COVID-19 restrictions.

A separate email will be sent outlining the details of the venue date, location and time and will be posted on our website under Calendar Events.



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

REMINDER

Annual Membership Meeting/Trip Presentation

Join us for Our

Annual Membership Business Meeting

**Sunday, May 23
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM**

Balcones Country Club
8600 Balcones Club Dr.
Austin, TX 78750

Take time to catch up with ski club friends and hear a review of club operations and accomplishments from **2020-21**. We will also vote on the slate of officers for **2021-22** and discuss plans for the new year, which will be shared with the membership in a separate communication. You can sign up for the meeting by clicking on this [link](#).

[Zoom](#) is an [option](#) for those who prefer to stay home.

Lunch will be provided consisting of a salad of mixed greens with grilled chicken & balsamic vinaigrette, Coffee/tea station & cookie. This is for **Members Only** - [guests](#) can attend, but will have to pay **\$20** for the meal.
(Only current members are asked to vote.)

[MAP](#)

Please wear your name badge

Annual Trip Presentation

The **August Trip Presentation** date/time have not been set but will be announced at a later date.



Lara Pavanelli, VP Programs: Programs@austinskiers.org



Proudly partnering with the
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](#).

ST BERNARD



Austin Skiers appreciates the support of our local ski stores, [Sun & Ski Sports](#), [MarineMax Sail & Ski](#) and [Saint Bernard Sports](#) for hosting our club meetings this fall and winter. Please shop local, these stores are adding more ski related inventory every week and giving our members discounts during each meeting.

Reminder...

- Sun & Ski provides a 10% discount to our members on full priced ski items.
- Saint Bernard Sports is extending their 15% discount thru May 2021!
- Do you need rentals? Visit Marine Max Sail & Ski to rent equipment and clothing for skiing and boarding

Stay safe and stay well! Jackie



Jackie Bayly, Director: Director@austinskiers.org

Message from the Membership/Communications Chair

Gary's tidbits...

Just as a reminder the monthly newsletter will be published within about 5 days following the monthly executive committee board meeting.

Even in a very difficult year where travel and social interaction has become a significant challenge, we are grateful for so many of you continuing your membership in the Austin Skiers! Throughout the fall we've had people joining for the first time and past members renewing in spite of the pandemic. We added **6 NEW** members this month making the total active membership **356**.

The debate is settled - **2021-22** "...will be the [biggest for winter season ski passes in history](#)." Vail's big news last month was they instituted a **20-percent across-the-board price** cut to all of its **EPIC** season pass products. This took rates back to the 2015-'16 season when the Vail portfolio of resorts number **11** as opposed to today's **70**. See the details on their website at [Vail.com](#). This applies solely to North American pass products only. Restrictions and exclusions apply. Here is a link to a map of the **EPIC** and **IKON** resorts. Other ski passes include [Mountain Collective](#) and [Powder Alliance](#), which are also compared in the [article](#).

*** TRAVEL Info:**

A. **State-by-State Restrictions:** Whether you're traveling with the club on a ski trip or going on your own you'll need to know the various [state restrictions](#) due to COVID-19. Check out the *Condé Nast Traveler* [article](#), which provides a comprehensive review of each state with travel restrictions.

B. **Domestic/International Travel:** There is another pretty comprehensive [article](#) by *Condé Nast Traveler* addressing domestic and international travel regarding airline, cruise and hotel reservations changes and cancellations. It also includes a country-by-country guide to: how Europe is reopening; Caribbean Islands reopening this summer; and how Asia, Central and South America and African Countries are reopening.

C. **Re-Entry to United States:** According to an email I received on January 22, 2021 from [Trip Advisor](#) if you're traveling internationally the CDC recently issued a COVID order that may impact your plans for re-entering the United States.
Effective January 26, 2021 for travelers arriving in the United States:

"You will need to get [tested](#) for COVID-19 **no more than 3 days** before departing to the United States **AND** show a [negative](#) test result to the airline before boarding **OR** show documentation of recent recovery from COVID-19 to the airline before boarding. This new order applies to **(1) all air passengers** — including U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents — **aged 2 years and older**. **(2)** It also applies [regardless of the length of time spent](#) outside of the United States.

[Acceptable documentation](#) of recovery from COVID-19 includes both a [positive viral test](#) result within 3 months of travel (or the time- period specified in current

CDC guidance) **AND** a **letter** from a healthcare provider **OR** public health official stating that the passenger is cleared to end isolation. Passengers

who have tested positive for COVID-19 will need to delay their travel until they meet the criteria to end isolation; learn more [here](#).

If you need more information visit this [FAQ](#) page at [CDC](#)." Trip Advisor also has posted [links](#) to countries located in: North America/Caribbean, Europe, Asia, Middle East, South America, Africa, and Oceania that provides current travel guidance and number of cases for each country.

D. **Airlines**: I thought it might be helpful to repeat this article as travel plans continue to be formulated and you need to know if you're traveling via Airlines for the upcoming Ski Season or other personal travel here are links to some of the airlines website specifically regarding what you can expect insofar as how they're handling "social distancing:" [Alaska](#), [American](#), [Delta](#), [Frontier](#), [jetBlue](#), [Southwest](#) & [United](#). You might want to check out the website "[The Points Guy](#)" who has a lot more information about each airline - aircraft cleaning, face masks, passenger loads and other measures. Austin Skiers does not endorse nor has verified the information they provide. We encourage you, which I'm sure you're doing, to also check out the particular airline you're flying, which may have more up-to-date information.

* For the sake of the readers I've created a [PDF reference file](#) you can download including clickable links of the above travel information.

Convalescent Plasma:

For those of you that have recovered from **COVID-19** or know someone who has and developed the antibodies from the virus, please consider donating your **convalescent plasma** through "[We Are Blood](#)," which is the local blood bank for the Travis County Medical Society. They are in **desperate** need for donations! They have an [online form](#) you can submit your information to see if you qualify. If so, the total amount of time at their facility will take you 1-1/2 to 2 hours. They recently announced as of **October 28, 2021** they will be providing **COVID-19 Antibody Testing** for any **donation**. **Reservations** are mandatory! Your donation can literally **save a life!**

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

NOTE:

Just as a reminder the monthly newsletter will be published within about 5 days

following the monthly executive committee board meeting in order to provide the latest information to you.

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

Follow us on: [Instagram](#)

Like us at on: [Facebook](#)



Gary Armstrong, VP Communications: Communications@austinskiers.org

Executive Committee - Austin Skiers

G.D. "Tim" Atkinson - 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

Mary Jo Humphreys - Secretary

Jackie Bayly - Director

