



"Ski News"

January 2022

Message from the President of Austin Skiers

Season's Greetings Austin Skiers...

Happy New Year Austin Skiers! It's difficult to believe how quickly 2021 just seemed to fly by! We've all faced challenges this past year as COVID-19 continues to "live-on" albeit in a different version (variant). However, we continue to find ways to keep activities moving forward! I hope you're looking forward to the upcoming ski season as I am! You can find current snow conditions for your favorite resorts at [ONTHE SNOW.COM](https://www.onthesnow.com).

It was great to see almost 70 of you at our annual Holiday Party on December 12 at [Balcones Country Club](#) enjoying yourselves! Thanks to Lara for all the hard work she put into making it happen along with Sail & Ski Sports for providing some of the giveaways! While you are out holiday shopping consider stopping by [Sun & Ski Sports](#) on Anderson Lane and [MarineMax/Sail & Ski](#) in North Austin on 183 for your winter sports gear.

I look forward to kicking off the first ski trip of the season, which is a [Texas Ski Council Trip](#) (TSC) "Traditional" [Park City](#) on **January 8-15, 2022**. **Five** of our trips are **SOLD OUT** at this point. Check out Cindy Berry's, VP Trips update for more

details. We suggest you may want to sign-up on the Wait List just in case there is a cancellation.

On behalf of our [Austin Skiers](#) Board of Directors, I wish you and your family a Wonderful Holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year - Salute!

Thinking Snow...

G.D. "Tim" Atkinson



Tim Atkinson, President: President@austinskiers.org

Trip Line up for 2022
(subject to change)

Pass	Location	Date	Lodging
EPIC	* Park City	Jan 8 – 15	Snowflower
	* Zell am See	Jan 21 – 29	Superior Grand Hotel
IKON	Snowmass	Jan 22 – 29	Top of the Village
IKON	Steamboat	Jan 29 – Feb 5	Trappeur's Crossing
EPIC	* Telluride	Feb 5 – 12	Mountain Lodge
	Sun Peaks, CAN	Feb 19 – 26	The Coast Hotel
EPIC	Vail	Feb 26 – Mar 5	Highline Vail (Doubletree)
IKON	* Mammoth, CA	Mar 5-Mar 12	

[Scotland/N. Ireland](#) May 19-29 Multiple Properties
(Pre-Trip):Manchester May 14-19

*Texas Ski Council Trip

Please take time to review our [Trip Policies](#).

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](#).**

VP of Trips Report

We now have 5 trips **SOLD OUT** - [Vail](#), [Snowmass](#) & [Telluride](#), [Park City](#) & [Steamboat](#) Also, we still have room on [Mammoth](#) (Couple OR Single Supplement) AND SF, [Sun Peaks](#), [Zell am See](#) & [Scotland](#). Any questions you have about open spots on trips please contact the Trip Chair directly.

I'm sure many of you already check out the snow reports and know the West received a lot of snow recently and it continues. An easy way to find out snow reports and skiing conditions is [ONTHE SNOW.COM](#). For the **January** trips click on the name of the trip of interest for up-to-date information: [Park City](#), [Snowmass](#) & [Steamboat](#).

You can also [download](#) a PDF file of the **2022** trips for your convenience.

Even if a trip is **SOLD OUT** or near capacity, please consider registering and sending in your deposit as there are inevitable cancellations for a variety of reasons.

If you have any questions regarding the trips, you can contact the trip chairs or myself. Looking forward to an exciting year of skiing & travel!



Cindy Berry, VP Trips: Trips@austinskiers.org

<<<Nominating Committee Seeks Candidates>>>

The Austin Skiers Nominating Committee is looking for members willing to serve to recommend to the board a slate of candidates for next year. The committee will have **two** face-to-face **meetings** over the next **three months** with follow up thru email and phone calls. if you are interested or have questions about serving on our Board for next year please contact Tim Atkinson - President@austinskiers.org.

VP Trip Planning

If you've been anxious to go someplace we haven't been join the [trip planning team](#) and we will try to make that happen for you. Even if you are traveling with the group, we can still use your help in planning our trips. We will start working on the **2023** slate of trips beginning in **January**. All meetings will be via Zoom - so you don't even have to leave the comfort of your recliner to join the team. For more information, contact Tere Mayne at TripPlanning@austinskiers.org.



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

VP Programs

A very big THANK YOU to all the people who came to the Holiday Party!! A HUGE thank you to our volunteers, the Balcones Country Club, the DJ and photographer!!



Lara Pavanelli, VP Programs: Programs@austinskiers.org

Happy Hour/Special Activities

North Happy Hour

January 6, 2022

4:30PM - 6:30PM

The Brass Tap

10910 Domain Dr. # 120
Austin, TX 78758
512-339-2337

[MAP](#)



Bill Estes, VP Special Activities: Activities@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](#).



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, you will receive **50%** off the cost (labor) of tune-ups, waxes & edging.

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.



Also, please remember our long-time partner [Marine Max/Sail & Ski](#). Follow them on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and YouTube along with other social media listed on their website. **Please note they have a new discount policy - it applies for 1 month following our membership meeting. This was a corporate decision to tie discounts to "events."**

UPDATE: St. Bernards has closed their North Domain Store permanently, but are planning a new location as yet undetermined. They have been removed from the front page of our website for now.



Chris Vrba, Director: Director@austinskiers.org

Message from the Membership/Communications Chair

Gary's tidbits...

Membership:

Membership as of **December 31, 2021**, stands at **423** "active" members. We added **3** new members last month.

Membership Profile Update:

When you have a few minutes over the holidays, **please** double-check your **contact information** is correct - address, phone # & email. On occasion we may need to physically mail you something or call - so please take a quick glance. For those living in an **apartment** or **condo** please remember to include your **Unit #**.

It's also **VERY** important when it comes to airline ticketing - your government issued ID e.g., drivers' license or passport **NEED** to match!

Travel - International:

A. **PASSPORTS** - if you're planning any overseas trips in 2022 you would be wise to check to make sure it's valid for at least **6 months beyond** the date of your trip. Click on this [link](#) to see if you're eligible to renew it by mail or if it needs to be in-person. If you answer **NO** to any one of **five** questions you must apply in-person.

Most of us probably will be able to renew via mail, which I did recently. The U.S. State Department stipulates "**routine**" processing can take **8-11** weeks. If you want to "**expedite**" and pay the extra **\$60** it reduces the time to **5-7** weeks. You can either download the PDF file (**DS-82**), manually fill it out, print and make a copy **OR** use their on-line form filler - it lets you enter your information on-line, then once you're done download the completed form. This is **NOT** an on-line renewal process. You will also need to submit a **NEW** passport photo - there are a variety of locations that will help you from the USPS to FedEx.

Here was my experience last month. I completed the **DS-82** using their on-line [form filler](#), downloaded the application then printed it out. I wrote a check payable to the "U.S. Department of State" for **\$187.56**. I went to **FedEx** where they took two photos for **\$16.18**. **IMPORTANT:** Make sure your application is for the **Passport Book** (necessary for international travel) at a cost of **\$110**. I paid **\$60** for their "expedited" service plus an additional fee of **\$17.56** for USPS **Priority Mail Express** (flat rate) for **1-2 days** guaranteed **return** delivery. **FYI** the "expedited" facility is located in **Philadelphia, PA**, regardless of your state of residence **OR** if you live in Canada. I went to the USPS on Far West Blvd. in NW Austin to mail my application on **December 7**. I used their **Express One-Day Service**, which costs **\$27.10**. The National Passport Processing Center facility received my application at 11:10PM the following day. On **December 23** (**16 days** after date of mailing) to my surprise the **USPS** delivered an **Express Mail** package - it contained my **NEW PASSPORT**. So - the total cost was **\$214.66** to renew my passport. I'm good for 10 years!

B. **Documentation/Testing:** if you intend to do any international travel **expect** to have to be **FULLY** Vaccinated (**COVID-19 card**) **AND** show evidence of a **Negative COVID-19 test PRIOR** to leaving the U.S. **AND returning**. **UPDATED (12/6/21)**. The U.S Government is considering changing who they consider "fully vaccinated" to include the booster. According to the **CDC ALL** international travel now requires a **Negative** COVID-19 test nor more than **1 DAY BEFORE** you travel by **air** to the US. This **INCLUDES** U.S. citizens! Only certain forms of tests are acceptable e.g. "**viral**" test," which checks for the "active" presence of the virus (rapid or antigen tests).

Three things to keep in mind: **(1)** find out **which test** you will need to have; **(2)** how far in advance of travel does it need to be given (1 day); **AND (3)** the form of **payment** accepted, especially in a foreign country - you may need to bring extra cash. The rules can easily vary from country-to-country.

One [tip](#) - when you get your **COVID-19 card** [make a copy](#) front/back and take it to a business who can [lamine](#) the card. Put your **ORIGINAL** card in a safe place - so when/if it needs to be updated you will still have your original card. I'd also take a [picture](#) of it with your phone along with other valuables e.g., credit cards, passport, COVID-19 card, etc. It's also advisable to have a print out of the information as a back-up and put in your carry-on. I would also give a copy to a trusted friend. As the old adage goes - "Plan for the worst, but expect the best."

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](#)

[Follow us on: Instagram](#)

[Like us on Facebook](#)



Gary Armstrong, VP Communications: Communications@austinskiers.org

Executive Committee - Austin Skiers

G.D. "Tim" Atkinson - President
Cindy Berry - VP Trips
Tere Mayne- VP Trip Planning
Lara Pavanelli- VP Programs
Gary Armstrong - VP Communications
Bill Estes - VP Special Activities

Steve Knouse- Treasurer
Mary Jo Humphreys - Secretary
Christine Vrba - Director

