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THE ASHEVILLE AVALANCHE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASHEVILLE SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

April 2024

President's Message

Hello Skiers, Snowboarders, and Snowlovers!

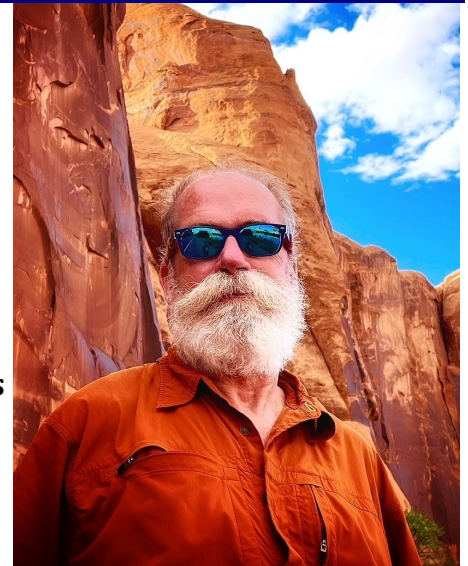
Well, for most of us the 23-24 skiing and riding season is over, and it was an awesome one! About 70 ASSC members participated in club trips from Italy to Oregon and points in between.

Club trips for the 24-25 season will all be utilizing the Ikon pass (get yours now before the prices go up!). If you are going to get on the lifts for more than 5 days, it is economical to grab a pass. Window prices have been driven up so to drive us to purchase passes. So, be wise and get the pass if you are going to get in 6 days or more next season.

For example, I just bought my son 5 lift tickets at Winter Park in Colorado, the cost was \$800 with my Ikon pass discount! The Ikon pass would have been \$869, so for \$69 more bucks he could have shredded all season! The 2025-2026 season is planned to be Epic pass destinations – we will keep you posted about this time next year.

Our next club meeting will be on Thursday May 9, 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Highland Brewing's outside meadow. Come join us for some pizza and hear some stories about this season's epic trips!

**Scott Hinkle
ASSC President**



NEXT MEETING

NO MEETING IN APRIL

Highland Brewing Company

Date: Thursday, May 9, 2024

Time: 6:30—8:30 pm



www.ashevilleskiclub.com



Our NEXT meeting will be on Thursday, May 9th at Highlands Brewery Meadow starting at 6:30 pm. The club will provide pizza.

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April 25-28, 2024 CSC Spring Conference - page 10
Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach SC

Details in CSC president's report

Club contact is Scott Hinkle jscotthinkle@gmail.com

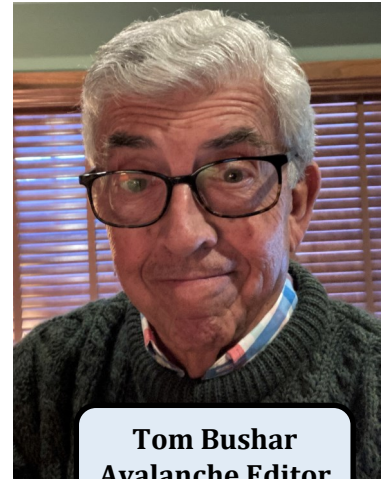
May 19-28, 2024 CSC Iceland Adventure Trip - pages 11-14

Oct 25-27, 2024 CSC Fall Conference - Glenstone Lodge
More info later

ASC member's Business Cards & Services - pages 15-17

Newsletter Editor's Notes

It appears our members have enjoyed the ski trips this season. Here is a picture sent in by Bill Melton showing in detail the snow conditions at Mount Bachelor in Bend, Oregon. See more in his detailed report



Tom Bushar
Avalanche Editor

Well, actually Bill's picture shows the apre ski scene in more detail than slope conditions. But, just for reference, they received 41 inches of snow in 7 days, so that sounds pretty impressive.

Regarding my tenure as Avalanche newsletter editor, I am planning to serve through June 2024, i.e. my last newsletter will be the July 2024 edition. By that time we should have more detailed information on 2025 trips. I sincerely hope that someone will step up to fill this position, which is really not all that hard to do. Of course, I will be available to train and help out as needed.

Right now remember to get on board one of the great trips ahead. Read Susan's trip update.

Tom Bushar

tbushar@gmail.com

ASHEVILLE SKI CLUB LEADERSHIP CONTACTS

2024-2025 updated 04/08/24

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President	Scott Hinkle	jscotthinkle@gmail.com
Vice Pres (seeking replacement)	David Lee	avlskiclub@gmail.com
Treasurer (seeking replacement)	Bill Melton	skibill@charter.net
Secretary	Susan Slettedal/Greg Caspers	357susan@att.net ggcaspers@gmail.com
Past President	Tyler Melton	avlskiclub@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman	Liisa Andreassen	liisas66@gmail.com
	Max Pennington	maxepenn@gmail.com
	Sunny Ruble	connieruble@hotmail.com
	John Godts	jgodts63@gmail.com
	Andy Crum	afcrum82@gmail.com

ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

Newsletter	(SEEKING REPLACEMENT)	tbushar@gmail.com
Membership	OPEN	
Webmaster	Tyler Melton	avlskiclub@gmail.com

CLUB TRIPS

Club Trips Chair	Susan Macdonald Robinson	susanmac2@gmail.com
Club Trips Leaders	Scott Hinkle	jscotthinkle@gmail.com
	David Lee	tndave9@gmail.com

RACING

Race Director	Erik Sandstedt	sweski@gmail.com
Junior Race Captain	Doug MacMillan	dpmacmillan@earthlink.net
Special Olympics	Sam Lloyd	zlloyd@windstream.net

CRESCENT REPRESENTATIVE

Crescent Rep	Paul Dobson	paultdobson@gmail.com
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CRESCENT TRIPS CHAIR

	Susan Macdonald Robinson	susanmac2@gmail.com
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Asheville Ski & Snowboard Club

Membership Application

www.ashevilleskiclub.com; ashskiclub@gmail.com

Mail to:

Membership
Asheville Ski Club
P.O. Box 211
Asheville, NC 28802

Membership Type & fees:

\$ _____ Single \$35
\$ _____ Family \$60
\$ _____ Junior \$15 (under 18 not part
of a family membership)

Payment method:

___ Cash
___ Check

\$ _____ Racer fee \$35 per racer

 \$ _____ **Total**

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Last Name - spouse _____ First Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Primary contact: Home phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Primary email address _____

Spouse contact: Home phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Spouse email address _____

Children names (if members) _____

Do you understand and agree that the information given here will be shared in the Asheville Ski Club Directory? ___yes ___no

I am interested in the following activities:

___day ski trips, ___long distance trips, ___racing, ___learn to ski programs, ___hiking, ___bicycling, ___camping

Other _____

Long distance resort/ski town trip request(s): _____

Waiver

By signing this Application for membership in the WNC Skiing and Outing Club, I agree and understand that the Club is a voluntary organization, composed of and run by volunteers. I also understand that the Officers and the members have no professional or special training in conducting Club activities and do not hold themselves out as having such. I acknowledge that the skiing and outdoor sports have certain innate dangers and I understand these risks. I hereby release the Asheville Ski Club and the WNC Skiing and Outing Club, Inc. from any and all liability for any injury that I, or any member of my family, may incur as a result of participating in any Club activities, including economic loss. I understand and agree that the information given here is truthful and honest to the best of my knowledge and will be shared in the Club Directory.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature (spouse if also joining): _____ Date: _____

Guardian (if child is under 18 years old): _____ Date: _____

Mar 2-9,2024 ASC Mt. Bachelor Ski Trip Report

Another great Asheville Ski and Snowboarding Club trip is etched in 12 members' memory. The locals stated to us over and over, " ...you must have planned the best week to come to Mt. Bachelor...." After three feet of accumulating powder, we understood what they were talking about. A perfect week of conditions that all enjoyed. The week began with groomed trails followed by knee deep powder to the summit opening, We had our choice of where to play in 4,323 skiable acres.

Some had to relearn how to turn without seeing our skis or board. President Scott certainly enjoyed the fresh powder on his board. He strongly suggested to John Schwarz (who along with Doug Stadley were enjoying the sun and sand a few days before in their Myrtle Beach retirement home), to take run in the fresh knee deep "pow-pow". John did and saw the snow up close! John was not the only one to find the snow snakes. Eric Henry is a new member on an ASSC trip. He along with Scott, Doug, John, Peter Lourekas and Bob Blichman had no difficulties with the powder and continued to seek it out.

David Lee was delayed a day and played catch up, rather quickly. I thought he needed time to get his legs in ski motion, but the week he spent in Telluride seemed to have put him in gear. Fast and furious Dave! We caught up with Deb Olson, Dorothy Klopp, Andree Herman and LouAnn Smith for a few great turns.

Peter continued to find his groove in the powder by taking a few pointers from Bob and Eric. A few of us followed the green lollipop trail to the base that the mountain guides pointed out to us on day one. Somehow we missed a few strategic lollipops and followed a nice lady and her young daughter. The trail led to an open bowl of fresh powder. No way out except to turn and burn.

Wednesday afternoon the clouds lifted and the summit opened to remarkable off-piste terrain and a couple of what were labeled blue runs. Lots of discussion about what is truly blue and what is black. The view from the top was spectacular. We could see Deschutes River Valley, Three Sisters peaks and Mt. Hood in the distance. Betsy Bond peeled off from Bob and was spotted at the top of the inactive volcano along with a few other ASSC members. I nick named them the ASSC escape artists, no time for a group photo. They were eager to experience the 3,365' vertical drop.

Two of the best benefits of participating in an ASSC trip is you are with great people and make new friends. Deb (ASSC member for many years) and her twin sister, Dorothy left the warm sun in Phoenix to join the fun. Deb's son lives in Bend and was a great companion for them and our club. They loved the powder! Two new members and best friends Andree and LouAnn, owned businesses in Dillsboro, NC a few years ago, also joined the fun. They shared many great memories of their friendship and ski travels.

Our accommodations were enjoyable in Bend, especially the daily made to order breakfast specials. We were spoiled by having a shuttle pick us at the Element front door and drop us off within a few steps from the Pine Marten Express lift. The return ride was full of conversation from the day and the driver shared a sampling from Bend's 40 breweries. A true hospitality experience and many great reasons to return to Mt. Bachelor/Bend in the near future.

Bill Melton



John, David and Bill



Andrew



Bob



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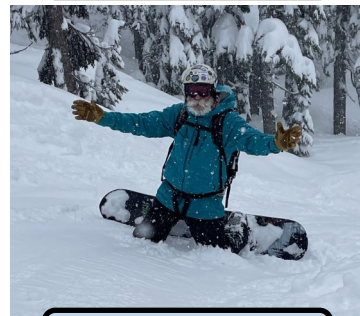
David & Bill



Eric Henry



Lou Ann



Scott



Scott & Doug

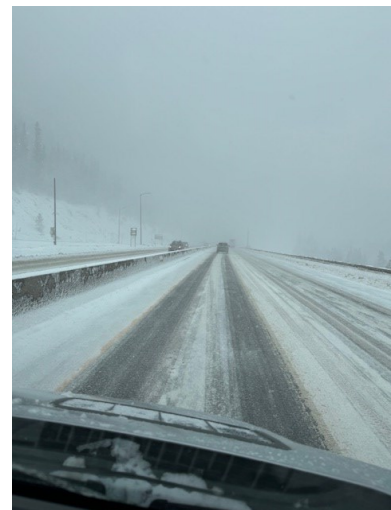


Susan's Event Report and Update

13 Skiers had ideal spring conditions in Breckenridge as we traveled back to the Denver airport in a blizzard! If you've not been to Breckenridge lately, there is something for everyone, the shuttle service, hotel and hot tub were perfect and the company was unparalleled.

Susan Macdonald Robinson

susanmac2@gmail.com



Susan's Trips Update (continued)

2025 January Ski week will be at Big Sky. Prices will roll out in the spring

2025 adventure trip will be to Alaska ballpark price, 5500 to 6500.

Spring convention will be in Myrtle Beach as before.





CRESCENT SKI COUNCIL
 SPRING CONVENTION
 April 25– April 28, 2024
 Kingston Plantation
 9800 Queensway Blvd.
 Myrtle Beach, SC 29572
 843-449-0006

LODGING INFORMATION

We have contracted out for Brighton Tower units which are available on a first come/first serve availability. Should we sell out of those, we will ask for more. However, late comers could end up in alternative condos or villas if all Brighton Towers units are sold out. It is recommended that you submit a club reservation and your deposit check quickly and then add names and drop condos early-March. As in previous years, there will be a limited number of Ocean Front Condos that are reserved for your ExComm. Should any of these not be used by them, they will be offered to clubs in order of original registration. Pricing will be made available at that time. Please pay attention to the deadlines listed below. See you at the beach!

PRICE PER PERSON:

BRIGHTON TOWER – OCEAN VIEW 1 ROOM STUDIO/1 BATH CONDO (1 queen)

# of People Per Unit	1	2
2 Nights Stay	\$445	\$263
3 Nights Stay	\$628	\$354

BRIGHTON TOWER – OCEAN VIEW 2 BEDROOM/2 BATH CONDO (1 King; 2 Queens; Queen-sized sofa)

# of People Per Unit	2	3	4	5	6
2 Nights Stay	\$333	\$249	\$207	\$181	\$164
3 Nights Stay	\$460	\$333	\$270	\$232	\$207
4 Nights Stay	\$586	\$417	\$333	\$282	\$249

Off-Site Pre-Registration: \$85

OFF-SITE REGISTRATION FEE @ EVENT: \$85

PRICE INCLUDES:

Early Bird Party*
 Beach Olympics on Saturday

Saturday Night DJ Party*
**Includes complimentary beverages*

DEADLINES:

THERE WILL BE A \$50 LATE FEE ASSESSED FOR EACH MISSED DEADLINE (3 total) BASED ON POSTMARKS

Feb. 16, 2024: Confirmation Form & Initial Club Deposit

March 8, 2024: Balance & Condo Drops

Rooming List: (Should include full properly spelled names, location choice, # Nights, # People/Unit, & Total Amount /Person...as well as who is representing your club in the capacities of: President, 2 CSC Reps, & Trips)

March 22, 2024: Rooming List Changes

**Any info not included will constitute a missed deadline so please note what is required for each deadline...Esp. March 5th!*

NOTE: All lodging shall be assigned to clubs. Use the Club Registration Form to reserve all units.

***Mail the completed registration form with a check payable to "Crescent Ski Council" to:
 Michelle Shuford**

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10 Days • 14 Meals: 8 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 5 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Reykjavik, Golden Circle, Thingvellir National Park, Gullfoss, Geysir, Snæfellsnes Peninsula, Breiðafjörður Bay Cruise, Lava Exhibition Center, Vík, Skógar Museum, Skógafoss, Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon, Vatnajökull National Park, Seljalandsfoss, Blue Lagoon

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2, 3	Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik
Days 4, 5	Fosshotel Stykkisholmur , Stykkisholmur
Days 6 – 8	Hotel Katla by Kea, Vík
Day 9	Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Sunday, May 19, 2024 Overnight Flight Set out on a journey full of dramatic contrasts. Come to know Iceland; a place where steaming lava fields reflect a volcanic nature and massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving behind thundering waterfalls and plunging fjords.

Day 2: Monday, May 20, 2024 Reykjavik, Iceland - Tour Begins Begin in the capital city of Reykjavik. Join a local expert for a walking tour of the city’s old section featuring the city hall, the harbor, the Parliament building and the nearby cathedral, dating from 1796. Then, get to know your fellow travelers during an Icelandic lunch at a popular local restaurant before checking into your hotel in the later afternoon. *(L)*

Day 3: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 Reykjavik - Golden Circle - Reykjavik Travel the Golden Circle and experience renowned natural wonders, including the double-cascade Gullfoss waterfall, the explosive Geysir thermal area, and the famous Thingvellir National Park, where you’ll stand upon the crest of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Along the way, stop at a family-run dairy farm to enjoy various cheeses and their famous ice cream. Your day ends with a visit to Friðheimar’s stud farm and greenhouse cultivation center. Discover how pesticide-free produce is grown with the aid of geothermal energy and then learn about the tradition of breeding Icelandic show horses before returning to Reykjavik. *(B)*

Day 4: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 Reykjavik - Snæfellsnes Peninsula - Stykkishólmur Explore the Snæfellsnes Peninsula and take in black sand beaches, volcanic craters and the Snæfellsjökull glacier. Put your camera to work snapping photos of this dramatic landscape during a walk along the coastline. Connect with the local culture during a visit to a maritime museum illustrating fishing techniques, such as the century-old tradition of catching and preserving the Greenland shark; you’ll also taste *hákarl* – cured shark meat. *(B, D)*

Day 5: Thursday, May 23, 2024 Stykkishólmur - Breiðafjörður Cruise - Stykkishólmur Begin your day with a walk on Súgandisey Island, searching for marine birds and taking in the views of Stykkishólmur before joining a nature cruise of Breiðafjörður Bay. As you drift across the water, sample fresh scallops and sea urchin roe straight from the ocean. You might spot puffins,* cormorants, and the white-tailed eagle soaring as you look out to the shoreline. This afternoon, **it’s your choice!** Follow local tradition and take a hike up Helgafell Mountain, known as the Sacred Hill, with your Tour Manager -**OR-** spend some time on your own at Stykkisholmur Swimming Pool, a facility with both outdoor and indoor swimming pools and thermal pools to soak in. *(B)*

Day 6: Friday, May 24, 2024 Stykkishólmur - Lava Exhibition Center - Vík Learn about geothermal renewable energy on a visit to Hellisheiðavirkjun, the largest power station in Iceland, and the second largest geothermal power station in the world. Visit the Lava Exhibition Center and delve into Iceland’s past and present volcanic eruptions. Arrive in Vík, Iceland’s southernmost village, and one of the most remarkable spots in Iceland. *(B, D)*

Day 7: Saturday, May 25, 2024 Vík - Skógar Museum - Sólheimajökull Glacier - Vík Drive along the scenic south shore to the Skógar Museum. Discover its turf-built houses and



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For bookings made after Nov 20, 2023 call for rates.

Included in Price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$449 per person, Round Trip Air from McGhee Tyson Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

*****Please call for air pricing from your local gateway!**

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* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from TYS

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its collection of farm and domestic artifacts. Nearby is the impressive Skógafoss waterfall, one of the tallest in Iceland. View Reynisfjara, a black volcanic sand beach scattered with caves and surrounded by basalt columns and cliffs. The beach is rich with bird life, such as the fulmar, black guillemot, razorbill, and gannet. You might also spot some nesting puffins* along the unique natural rock formations at Dyrhólaey, a volcanic peninsula towering over the ocean. Cap off your day with a visit to Sólheimajökull Glacier, part of Iceland's fourth largest ice cap. Take in its dramatic, blue-white ice, rugged crevasses, and stunning views. (B, D)

Day 8: Sunday, May 26, 2024 Vik - Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon - Vatnajökull National Park - Vik Journey to Vatnajökull, Iceland's largest National Park and home to the country's highest mountains. Marvel at the vistas and snowy

mountain peaks while you set sail** along the huge icebergs of the Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon. Keep your eyes peeled for possible seal sightings and get to taste the 1,000-year-old ice that surrounds you. (B, D)

Day 9: Monday, May 27, 2024 Vik - Seljalandsfoss - Blue Lagoon - Reykjavik Make a picture stop at Seljalandsfoss, where you'll walk behind a waterfall for views from the inside-out. In the afternoon, visit the Blue Lagoon and soak in the warm, mineral-rich waters, located in the heart of a dramatic lava field, before returning to Reykjavik. This evening, gather with your fellow travelers for a local dining experience and share stories of your days in Iceland. (B, D)

Day 10: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 Reykjavik - Tour Ends Depart for home with memories of your Icelandic adventure. (B)

Experience It! Geothermal Greenhouses

Growing food in Iceland has historically been a challenge for residents due to the cold climate, unproductive land, and at times, a lack of natural light. Discover how modern technology defies these natural challenges with geothermal greenhouses. At a family-run greenhouse, learn how they are able to harness the natural warmth from the ground's geothermic waters and use it to create a year-round Mediterranean climate. Join a horticultural expert for an insider's look at innovative growing methods used to produce a large variety of tomatoes that are able thrive in this otherwise challenging environment.

For more information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1178779>

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Nov 20, 2023, valid on air inclusive packages only.

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel in 2024, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

Museum visits and shopping may be affected by the observance of religious or local holidays.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

On occasion, some activities may not be available due to inclement weather.

Hotel check-in on your day of arrival is 3:00 p.m. Rooms may not be available prior to that time.

Appropriate clothing is critical to fully enjoying your trip. Iceland's weather conditions are ever-changing and require sturdy waterproof shoes and layers of waterproof and windproof clothing.

*Puffins can usually be viewed mid-May through mid-August.

**During the months of April and October, the Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon cruise may not operate due to seasonality. This is reflected in the land price for these time periods.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.



Due to flight schedules, a post night may be required in some Icelandair gateway cities (at an additional cost). Please inquire at time of reservation.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Due to tour scheduling, arrival flights should arrive prior to 10:00 a.m.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

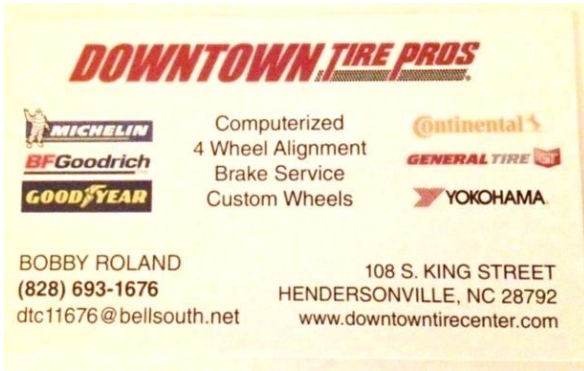
A deposit of \$1,147 per person (which includes cancellation waiver and insurance) is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of November 13, 2023 are based upon availability. Final payment due by March 20, 2024. Deposits are refundable up until November 20, 2023.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279




For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1178779>.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.

Member Business Cards and Other Service Providers

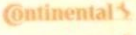

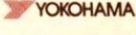
We welcome you to share your business card by having it published in the Asheville Avalanche monthly newsletter. Just send a copy of your card to Tom Bushar at tbushar@gmail.com.



DOWNTOWN TIRE PROS

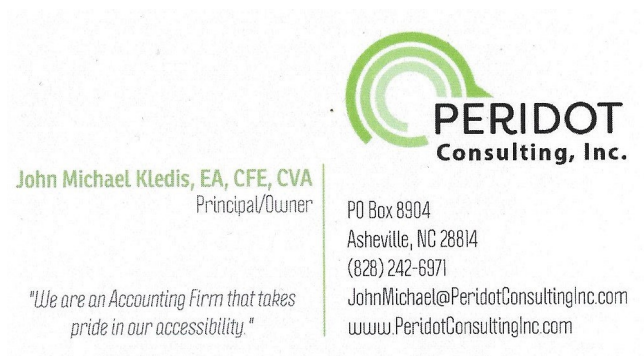





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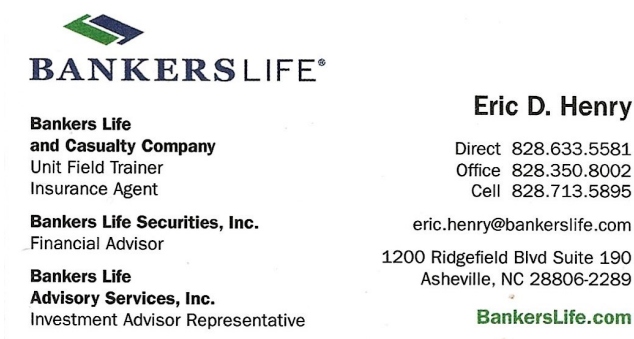





Diane Bauknight
 Agent

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 Arden, NC 28704-7783
 Bus 828 687 1130 Fax 828 687 1163
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ASC/Kit Lenders Offer

Kit Lenders has offered us discounts for Asheville Ski Club members to rent "soft" wear like jackets, pants, gloves, and helmets. Also for summer gear as well. They will give us a 10% rebate back that goes directly to the club as a fundraiser.

We have added the promotion to the Perks tab.

<https://www.kitlender.com/ashevilleskiclub/> to sign up.



GoBE Campers is a new company specializing in building affordable, lightweight fiberglass campers that are easy to maintain, ultra-functional, and have maximum storage options. Our design and craftsmanship center around simplicity, functionality, and comfort.

If you are interested in learning more about this unique camper trailer or renting one and experiencing it firsthand, please contact me.

Craig DeJong

cell 919-636-0331

email craigwdejong@gmail.com

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