Last year's trip to Vail was a resounding success, judging by the opinion expressed by 100 members who participated in our survey. Thanks to all who contributed to putting the various pieces together so well, and to those of you who provided camaraderie and told tall tales. As time draws nearer to our 2020 trip, the Board acknowledges the challenge of putting this together when so much remains unknown about the behavior of the Corona virus come December. What has been learned is that measures can be taken to reduce exposure, and with that in mind, our travel agent Tom Gray, working with Vail Resorts, Manor Vail, and transportation vendors, has developed a trip that has a number of key changes to promote safety for participants.

We will be returning to Vail, albeit with a smaller group, to enjoy 5300 beautiful acres of varied terrain, equipped with one of the industry's best snow-making operation. YMDA members will have the option for either 4 or 5 days of skiing.

This year's trip will be held Wednesday through Saturday, December 9-13, and will be limited to 65 members. Southwest Airlines will be providing flight arrangements and to provide extra distancing space, we will use two motor coaches for the transfer to Vail. On board box lunches are under consideration. Manor Vail is deep cleaning all rooms after each guest checkout, then leaving the unit vacant for three days. Guests can select their preferred degree of maid service upon check in. If desired, food and liquor can be ordered on-line in advance for delivery to rooms prior to guest arrival.

To avoid large gatherings, the welcoming reception and banquet will not be held and although breakfast will be provided daily, it will be in a different format to promote distancing. The trip price is adjusted accordingly. Manor Vail and Vail Resorts are offering additional options for cancellations/refunds, which will be detailed in our first trip brochure, expected in mid-July. The first deposit will be due August 15.

We strongly encourage all to purchase Epic Passes through Tom Gray at tom@skibytg.com or 952-412-5791 as this helps tremendously in holding down our costs. Equipment will be available for rental near the resort at a discount for those who will not be bringing their own gear.

Additional amenities and specifics will be included with the upcoming brochure and on our website at http://ymda.org.

Stay safe, and we look forward to seeing you in December!

Sincerely,
Dave Schrimp
2020 Trip Chairman