

SJSC Jackson Hole Feb 8th-Feb 15th 2020

Early morning on February 8th, our first group of 44 met at PHL for a 6 am flight to Jackson Hole. We heard that Jackson was having a snowstorm coming in. Excitement and lots of coffee at a 3 am wake up time helped as we boarded our first flight to Denver. Once in Denver our 2nd leg was supposed to be a short connection. Mother nature stepped in and our connection was a 3-hour adventure to Idaho Falls! Luckily we were met by cheerful crew and airport staff to relax, settle our stomachs, refuel and get back to Jackson. We overwhelmed the tiny snack bar and a young server was seen running from the storeroom with extra tomato juice, celery and olives (hmmm?). Finally the storm in Jackson cleared and we rallied our group back to the plane. Eric was seen reboarding our flight to Jackson sporting his Idaho Falls golf hat.

We were greeted in Jackson with Mimosa's, "Stay Wild" bags and snack bars at the small but beautiful airport. Our group arrived safe & sound at the Rustic Inn, joined by our second group of 18 who made it to Jackson with only one connection on time. With their rustic yet luxurious cabins, we settled in thinking of all the powder and our early morning to come.

Sunday greeted us with a gorgeous Blue bird day. Most of our group met at 7am breakfast to grab the 8am bus to the mountain. Our breakfast had a variety of eggs, bacon, sausage, bagels, muffins, fruit, granola, breads, yogurt and waffles/French toast. The Starbucks coffee got us running off to the mountain. The abundant powder and sunny skies made for a picture perfect day.

Several groups split off with the Jackson Hole guides for a 2.5 hour Mountain Tour. Mary D, Cindy and several others were in one group as we crossed paths on our tour. We started at Teewinot lift and made our way across the mountain with Georgean and Steve W, ending at 12:30 at Rendezvous Lodge. Our guide Betsy gave us information about the history of Jackson, the beaver trapping of yesteryear and the French Canadian influence. It was French Canadian trappers who named the area "Les Trois Tetons".

After our long day we happily met up for Après ski at the Mangy Moose, a Jackson Hole staple for local brews and wings. We took over a large corner of the Moose and toasted to our first day with Terri, Geri, Jeannine, Ed, Joe H, Cheryl, Don , John P, Tony and many others! The crackling fire and cold drinks including the local beer “Moose Drool” made for a great ending to the perfect day.

Monday the weather turned and we had our Powder day. Groups split up and went out to face the snow. At noon the fog rolled in and a group at Rendezvous Lodge seen discussing the conditions. “Its not foggy in the trees!, ” according to Chip S , Rich K and John M. We had some dicey runs navigating the socked in slopes on our way to the base.

We met up at The Handle Bar for Après ski for Bourbon mules, cold beer, snacks and took over a large section of real estate next to the bar. The swanky bar with outdoor fire pits slope side has awesome views . We met up with Pam, Amanda, Mary D, Chip , Lauren, Michael B, Eric B, Brittany and many others to toast our day. We all agreed those were the best \$18 wings we’ve ever had....Ouch, well it IS the Four seasons after all!

Tuesday the sun was shining again and it was our excursion to Grand Targhee otherwise dubbed #TargheeTuesday. A total of 62 skiers boarded two shuttles for our 1.25 hour trip through the pass to Grand Targhee. Michelle quickly gave out the lift tickets to everyone as we joined the Grand Targhee Mountain guides at the base of Dreamcatcher. Three large groups went out with guides. Our group included Renee, Debbie L, Sandy T and many others. It was a day of long winding groomers, perfect conditions... a blues cruise paradise! The groups met up at the Teton view trail, taking photos and trying to get the best views of the Tetons. The Teton Vista trail is a long twisting run with gorgeous views. The Sacajawea lift boasted some of the best powder in the woods between the trails.

At the end of our day a large group headed into the Trap bar...Après with Altitude! Luckily for us it was taco Tuesday with \$1 Tacos and \$6 Margs. Back on the bus we sang our way back to Jackson with Bobby’s hit list and toasted with some Wyoming whiskey. There was talk of the King & Queens of Corbet’s competition going on at Jackson Hole that day and some hints that a few of our very own SJSC were going to attempt the famous Corbet’s Couloir during our trip!

Wednesday an early morning group of 17 went on a Scenic Safari adventure to Yellowstone National Park. We stopped to have a chili lunch with salads and delicious cookies for dessert. We met up with Mary D, Jon D, and Michael D who were with the other guide and then waited for the Old Faithful eruption . Shortly afterwards we ventured through a wildly incredible group of thermal pools and

mud pots. Along the way we saw bison, eagles, and coyote while traveling over 100 miles round trip with Fran, Cindy W, Lewan, George, Renee, Michael J and others!

Also on the same day Terri, Rishi, Laura, Sandy, Barb, Joe H, and Cheryl went to the Grand Teton National Park for a half-day wildlife adventure. They saw moose, wolves, eagle, mule deer, long horn sheep, coyote and many other animals. The same afternoon they visited the National Elk Refuge, which was located right across the street from the Rustic Inn. Many groups visited during the week and were met with very interesting guides and pulled in a horse drawn sleigh ride across the refuge to learn about the Elk.

On Thursday there were sunny skies again, and a few groups headed up the Tram to Corbet's Couloir to witness our very own members taking the challenge! Bill Wu boarded down the couloir with friends John S and Pete looking on. Joey T also met the challenge and boarded down the famous run. A little later that afternoon Eric B made his move as Brittany W, Michael B and Lauren B watched and photographed from above! Several from our group including Jon D, Michael D, Alex T, Kelly, Mike J, Mike S, Ryan and Zach climbed the Headwall in search of the best powder in Jackson. Terri & Laura took the tram and skied down the beautiful Rendezvous Bowl.

In the evening the bar at the Rustic Inn became a meet up before and after dinner. We were greeted by Ryan, our fantastic bar tender who also created their delicious dinner menu. On Thursday night the Rustic Inn hosted our group chili dinner, with bison chili, appetizers of wings and shrimp, salad, drinks and dessert. Our group was excited to hear the line up of trips on next year's agenda.

Afterwards, several hit The Cowboy Bar for drinks and a country rock band. We attempted the two step with instructors before the band came on. We learned many country dance steps as Michelle, Eric, Geri, Renee, Georgean, Larry, Debbie, Don, Lauren B & Michael B strutted their stuff. In the end John P decided that we never felt more "Yankee" in all our lives! Our nights out in the town included dinner at many favorites including The Local, Hatch, The Kitchen, The Cowboy Bar, Orsetto Italian Eatery, and more.

On Friday we had a combination of some sun and snow. The morning 8 am bus from the Rustic Inn was packed and our driver delighted us with a story about a dead cow on the way to the mountain! We skied most of the day until Eric T thought he blew out his knee and ended up in the Rendezvous Lodge with ice. Luckily he was able to ski down to make the Mangy Moose Happy hour. Exhausted but happy we toasted our last day with beer and mules, at a large table

while others hit the upstairs bar. Terri, Jeannine & Barb headed to Snow king for some fun Galentine's snow tubing. Many groups headed out to dinner for a Valentine's or Galantine's day dinner and shopped for some Jackson souvenirs.

A large group of hockey loving fans set out that night for the Jackson Hole Moose vs. Cleveland ice hockey game down in the Snow king Sports & Event Center. With \$10 tickets in hand, Ryan, Michael D, Jon D, Kelly, Alex T, Zach, Mike S, and Mike J cheered on the Jackson team who won the game 6-5 in a close game.

No injuries were reported during our stay in Jackson, however Jeannine was seen sporting a split fashioned from a towel and some bandages. She was in good spirits and the source of her injuries are undisclosed. Jeannine does offer this advice "Beware of the Elks in Jackson Hole"!

Thank you for joining us on our adventure to Jackson Hole this year. It was a pleasure leading the trip and we hope to see you on another SJSC trip soon!

Michelle & Eric Tieniber