

On Friday February 22nd 42 enthusiastic skiers from the South Jersey Ski Club made their way to the Vermont mountain resort of Sugarbush. As usual we started our journey from the Ramblewood country club and with just a few miles under our belt the official bus party begun. DJ Bobby got many out of their seats and into the aisle dancing. No party is complete without a conga line, Laura, Amanda, Nancy, Bree, Linda and Jessica brought the dance party from the back to the front. We did not have a shot ski handy but that did not stop this crowd from doing salutes to a good weekend of skiing. Bob B., Jeff, Rich, TJ, Bill and Paul kept the party rolling and as usual after a few hours of libations the group was hitting every song chorus with great enthusiasm. It did not take newcomers Jim and Linda long to become part of the "back of the bus" experience. Saturday morning, we woke to a blue bird day. Even though the east coast snow fall has been somewhat sporadic the mountain offered up pretty good conditions. It was a holiday weekend for New Englanders and the mountain was busy, but not any worse than a typical Saturday in Vermont. We hit the slopes in force with several groups skiing together. Of course, the "Mayor" had his constituents of Rich, Jeff, Amanda, Nancy, Laura, Bobby, Bree, Jess, Linda, Jim and Eric seeking out Sweet groomers, bumps and glades. Terri and Fred as well as John and Tony were seen carving turns in the mountain's abundant groomers. Gary and Mike were seen making their way down a bump run under one of the chairs. A nice surprise was meeting up with Jason, Liam and Andrew who were spending this weekend seeking out all the secret stashes the mountains resorts of Vermont had to offer. It was also nice to meet up with Joe and Suzanne and do some runs together. After a hard day of skiing the day should always end with après and the Castle Rock Pub at the base fit the bill perfectly. There is nothing better than ending a good ski day with cold drinks, hot food, live music and good friends. We were lucky enough to be at the mountain base for the mountain's 10th Annual Doggie Parade. Who can resist a dog dressed in a superhero costume? Sugarbush has a good shuttle service and the town of Whitfield is nearby. While some folks like George, Violet, Gary, Marianne, Barb and Ginny decided to try the Inn's celebrated Thai restaurant several other decided to make the trek to town to try a local eatery. Heading to town on what the locals call the "drunk bus" were Laurie and her "sister" Sammy heading for the Mad Taco while the group of Rich, Linda, Jim, Chip, Eric, Amanda, Tina, Ralph, Bobby and Laura headed to the Smokehouse. A great feature of the Sugarbush Inn are the large community rooms and after dinner many congregated to the Piano Room. "Piano man John P". entertained us with his piano favorites. Barb, Ginny, Tony, Bobby, TJ, Amanda, Rich, Nancy, Linda and Jim hung out listening to music and trying their luck at the pool table. Sunday again brought us another beautiful sunny morning for skiing. The morning started out with a little excitement; an All-Points Bulletin was put out for a pair of missing skis. After an intense search, the missing skis were "found" and reunited with the owner. The mountain crew did a great job overnight with the tails and conditions were even better on Sunday. Terri, Fred and TJ hit the NASTAR course and came away with medals. After another great day of skiing it was time to head home. After getting our local deli sandwiches and taking the group photo our bus driver John who took good care of our travel needs all weekend had us heading home to New Jersey. Special thanks to Gary for helping load the bus going to and from the resort.