**Sugarbush 2016,** By Sue Jones

On Friday, Feb 19th, 41 SJSC members left for Sugarbush, VT. Many enjoyed a pulled pork sandwich in the parking lot, after their gear was loaded on the bus, before departure. We made the “Exit 9” stop for two more and then continued on. After hitting some NYC area traffic, & a snow squall on Rt 100 in VT, we finally arrived. Check-in was quick at the Inn & everyone was ready to rest.

Saturday brought overcast skies & varied conditions. Members skied all over the mountain, looking for the ideal runs. By mid-afternoon a light rain was coming down. Some skied through it, some enjoyed après ski time in Valley Lodge or Castlerock Pub.

Saturday evening hungry skiers went in search of dinner. Some went back to the mountain, some into town. Some stayed right at the Inn to enjoy the new onsite restaurant Fit to be Thai’d. A contingency of eight ventured over to Green Mountain Lounge at Mt. Ellen for the Cornhole Tournament (yes, the bean bag toss). SJSC represented well with two teams going against each other to enter the semi-finals. Lisa & Tom beat Chuck & Justin to move on. They were knocked out in the next-to-the-last round, but……Lisa……what a perfect toss! Dave, Ginny, & Paula were skeptical at first, but they had a good time.

Sunday morning when we headed back to the mountain we were greeted by a sheet of ice! Patience & persistence paid off. Soon, as temps rose a little, the ice softened. By mid-day you could find that “sweet spot” for some decent skiing. The sun even peeked out for a short time! A few went over to Mt. Ellen where they found good conditions & no lift lines! Thankfully, it was an injury-free weekend!

There were several new members on Sugarbush who had never gone on a SJSC trip before. They enjoyed themselves & are looking forward to going again!

And thank you to the great Sugarbush trip group for a fun weekend!

Sue Jones