



# Jersey Ski & Sports, Inc.

*A Member of the  
National Brotherhood of Skiers*

## NEWSLETTER

Winter 2015

### The President's Corner



*By Deborah Evans, President*

## We're Going to Gore!

Join us for a new tradition: Presidents' Weekend with Jersey Ski: Feb. 12-16, on the slopes of New York's Gore Mountain.

Gore has a 2537 ft. vertical drop, 103 downhill trails, plus cross country skiing and more--including a Snow Train ride from North Creek, NY to the fabled town of Saratoga. The train schedule is limited, so, if you want that excursion, contact trip leaders Hamlet Bey and Deborah Evans in advance, and they will advise you about planning your train ride.

Lodging is for three nights at \$498.82 for two people or for four nights at \$652.60 for two people. You can get details about lodging, lift tickets, and daily dining deals on the [JSSI website](#).

We're staying at the Copperfield Inn, North Creek NY, with free shuttle service to the mountain. There's a free continental breakfast, a voucher for something more substantial if you want, plus a voucher to use for meals or libations.

Come and go with us!

**At right:** Thanks to [REI](#), a national sponsor of The National Brotherhood of Skiers clubs, JSSI will be handing out sturdy REI bags filled with goodies on most of our ski trips.

Thank you, REI.



**Above:** The view from one of Gore's many spectacular trails, and the picturesque Copperfield Inn, North Creek NY.



For the past three years, JSSI has been hosting a Meet-n-Greet at the Wine Chateau in Piscataway. The event was held in September the first two years, but we moved to October this year, to set the mood closer to the start of the ski season. With the crispness of fall in the air, can winter be far behind? We typically go from 6 p.m. to early evening, 9 p.m.

The Wine Chateau evening is one of JSSI's membership perks, the club's way of giving back. It's free of charge to attend and we get to sample several wines and light refreshments of cheese, crackers and fruit. The intention is to rouse current members to renew, and attract potential members to join for the upcoming season.

It never ceases to amaze me how each year stirs up members who have been dormant, but have their place in the annals of JSSI's history. I just want to mention a few who stood out. I apologize in advance if I do not mention your name.

In 2012, it was retired educator, Cynthia Jimerson, who goes back at least 25 years with the club. She and Bernard King literally brought style to Winterfest, boarding the bus in fur coats, and stowing a trunk of other fashionable apparel under the bus to wear the other four days.

This year, it was "lapsed youth" member Gerald Alston. After wondering if JSSI was still around, he found our website and decided to attend the Meet-n-Greet.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

# The NBS Eastern Region

## Congratulations!

The NBS Eastern Region expects to exceed its goal of \$4000 for the Youth Scholarship Fund. ER clubs, including Jersey Ski, pledged enough in donations for the ER to secure a \$1,500 matching grant from Winter Park CO, site of the Early Out in December.

The next Eastern Region trip is

## WINTERFEST!

### Sunday River Maine

March 20-23



Check the [Jersey Ski website](#) for our lodging and transportation deals.



Photo by Victor Watkins.

**Wish you were there!** These are among the more than 150 people who went to the Eastern Region Early Out in Winter Park CO. You can tell that they had a lot of fun.

Next time, put yourself in the picture: Make sure to check the Jersey Ski Website for future NBS, Eastern Region and Jersey Ski trips.

### **The NBS Summit Black Ski Summit February 21-28**

**Aspen/Snowmass, CO.** We've **sold out the Jersey Ski Condo** for the NBS Summit, but check with Brian Innis if you need accommodations. And join Jersey Ski on these other trips:

- [Jersey Ski Presidents' Weekend Econo Trip](#): Gore Mountain NY Feb. 12-16, Copperfield Inn, North Creek NY
- [Sponsor-A-Youth Learn-to-Ski](#), March 7, Shawnee Mountain PA
- [Winterfest](#), Sunday River, Maine, March 20-23

## Jersey Ski Wins Eastern Region Grant



The NBS Eastern Region awarded 2014-2015 Winter Sports Grants of \$600 each to five member clubs, including Jersey Ski. Jersey Ski will use its grant for youth learn-to-ski programs. The awards were made at the region's Annual Fall Presidents' Meeting, Nov. 8, in Charlotte NC. Jersey Ski president Deborah Evans (above, at left) accepted the grant for JSSI. The other recipients were Boston Ski Party; The Snow-Burners; Onyx Ski & Sports Club of Tampa Bay, Inc., and Sunshine Slopers Ski Club.

## President's Corner (continued from Page 1)

He came with a group ski photo, dated 1994, taken on a Pennsylvania mountain, asking people if they knew who he was. He even stumped our historian, Fred Brown, for a while. Then Gerald dropped his mother's name as a clue, Fred made the call and the reminiscing began.

Gerald paid his dues to re-join the ranks and has a step-daughter who wants to experience what he did, by being put on the JSSI bus to learn how and where he learned to ski.

Also this year, famed WBLS radio talk show host and lifetime JSSI member Debi B., a.k.a., Deborah Jackson, attended the Meet-n-Greet. She went to last year's Summit in Sun Valley ID and is going to Snowmass CO this year.

The Wine Chateau Meet-n-Greet has been a great event because of the date and the location, in Piscataway, which is Central Jersey and easily accessible in terms of both time and location, directly off Rte. 287. We intend to continue with this tradition.

-- Deborah Evans

## JERSEY SKI PEOPLE



# Evan Jenkins: Then and Now

**From the age** of four years old, Evan Jenkins has been a member of JSSI. We have all watched him grow into the young man that he is today. As we all wish him well in his academic pursuits, we cannot help but look back to the beginning.

"Kid Bullet's" best memories start in Killington VT, where he constantly urged Grace Thompson and Tony Gomez [Mr. and Mrs. Bullet--a nickname for those who liked to straight-line down the mountain,] "Race me! Race Me! I know I can win!" It was at the Swiss Farm Inn in Killington that Evan learned how to dance, build a fire, and enjoy time without cell reception. I think spending time away with family and friends taught him how to focus. Maybe this is what led him away from us at JSSI, and toward his academics and varsity school sports.

At St. Benedict's Prep (Newark NJ) Evan engulfed himself in the community. No time off, no breaks, not a moment spent idly. Early on at Benedict's, Evan picked up swimming, and earned a varsity

letter in that sport his sophomore year.

Then he moved on to the sport that captured his heart completely, as skiing had when he was little: Rowing.

Crew at St. Benedict's was in its infancy when Evan joined. He is one of the founding members of the team. I find myself shuttling him back and forth to practice on or off the water, religiously, as well as attend the regattas. Time well spent!

Evan is in his senior year at Benedict's, and will be off to college in the fall of 2015. All the best to you Evan!

--By Stephanie Williams, Evan's mother



## Marathon Man: Brian Innis

Jersey Ski vice president/membership chair and snowboard instructor Brian Innis completed his fifth career marathon this year when he finished the New York Marathon. "It was on my bucket list," said Innis. "I really wanted it to be the first, but I ran in Philadelphia first, in 2011." And he ran the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington DC twice, and the Long Branch NJ race.



New York, he said, was not his best time, but it was his best race. "My friends told me it was the greatest experience, and they were right. The crowd was incredible. I didn't hit the wall until late and that was good," he said.

The wall is the point where runners feel they want to stop and go home, where they have to push themselves to keep going. It hits different runners at different points in the race, but in NYC he didn't feel it until 24 miles in, a testament to his training--lots of running, lifting and core conditioning, Brian said. "I ran in DC last year and thought, 'I'll never do this again.' I felt regretful. After New York, I felt accomplished. It always takes a while for it to soak in, that you've just run more than one-quarter of 100 miles."

He hopes to tackle New York again, this year, and take on the Chicago Marathon as well. Why do people run marathons? Well, why do people slide down snowy mountains?

## A Rising Star: Ayana Major Bey

**Ayana Major Bey**, whose uncles are JSSI treasurer Hamlet Bey, and lifetime JSSI member Omar Bey, starred in The Mountain Theatre, Roanoke VA production of "Children of Eden." The play is based on the Bible's book of Genesis, and Ms. Bey played the role of "Eve." *The Roanoke Times* said: "Standing out was Bey, whose small frame packed a sonorous punch, especially when it came to the emotional ballads and faster-paced musical numbers."

Congratulations and good luck with your career!



# Sunshine and Rain

**Condolences** to Pat Faison on the passing of her friend, Leon Brown, in November

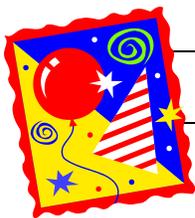
**Recovering:** Janie Hankerson is doing quite well after cataract surgery.

Former Jersey Ski presidents, Richard Whitten, Sr. and Bernard King are sending out a message of thanks for the cards, calls and prayers they received. Each spent time in the hospital in recent weeks, Richard at Newark Beth Israel and Bernard at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia. They are back home and on the mend--in fact Bernard is back at Shawnee Mountain working as a ski instructor supervisor. Take it easy BK.

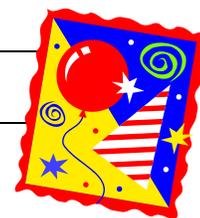
**And did you know** that Jersey Ski has a song? Bernard King wrote years ago. So, get your best beat on, or find a tune that fits and let 'er rip:

## **The Jersey Ski Beat**

To the beat. To the beat. To the Jersey Ski beat. Are you ready? Are you ready?  
Well here we go and we won't be slow!  
Every Sunday at the mountain you see us arrive  
Oh! Jersey Ski will make that mountain come alive  
Some are broad at the shoulder and narrow at the hips  
But everybody knows we love to ski that stuff.  
We'll take you to the top but we won't stop until we ski on down from the mountain top.  
We ski the highs and we ski the lows because we all ski with a lot of soul.  
Some are young and old and all in between but we all try to ski real mean.  
So throw your hands in the air because Jersey Ski is everywhere.  
So if you're ready to ski real steady everybody say "Oh, yeah!"  
Now take off your shoes and pat your feet because Jersey Ski can't be beat  
Everybody say, "Oh, yeah!"  
Our colors are red, green, black and white. Not too loud and not too bright.  
Everybody say, "Oh, yeah!"  
Well I don't know but I've been told that Jersey Ski has a lot of soul.  
They make you move and they will make you groove cause they Shing-a-Ling and do the Boog-a-loo  
Everybody say, "Oh, yeah!"  
Now throw your hand in the sky because now it's time to wave bye-bye.  
Alright! Alright! Alright!!!!



## Let's Celebrate Our Birthdays



**January:** Derek Garrett, Akeisha Hall, Janie Hankerson, Rashade Haynes, Bernard E. King, Eugene Nelson, Wanda Williams-Nunnally, Arthur Porter, Ernest Spann, Barbara Wade, Ralph Warrick

**February:** Donald Bennett, Madeline Holmes, Leonard Davis Posey, Renee D. Warrick

**March:** Kevin Armstrong Jr., Marilyn Donley, Donald Mitchell, Connie Nelson, Phyllis Rogers, Sheris Williams, Willie Pickett

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**Joan Whitlow, Editor**