



A Member of
The National Brotherhood of Skiers
and
The New Jersey Ski and Snowboard Council

NEWSLETTER

Winter - Spring / 2022-23

PO Box 1004
Newark, NJ 07101

The President's Corner



Deborah Evans
President

At the top of my message, I have to acknowledge the 6 active JSSI members who attended the NBS 50th Anniversary Summit in Vail, CO, February 4 -11. You gained first-hand, historical information about how the organization started, which gives you with an understanding of why it's necessary to stay active.

Also, I want to thank Andrew O, Leslie B, Ahkeer L, Karen H-F, Pat F, and our new member Jelsimon J-L for being active, because each one of you went through our website, paid and claimed JSSI as your Club during the registration process. The reason we had a \$40 Club fee was to ensure that the annual dues from that member was being paid since they identified JSSI on their NBS Summit form.

[\(Please go to page 5\)](#)

What's Coming?

The new JSSI website is up.

Please be patient as it is and will continue to be a work in progress. We are at the starting phase of adding information and images.

jerseyski.org



Skiing to Banish the Daily Blahs

Open Season Getaway to Killington Slopes in VT

A January JSSI trip to the largest ski area on the Eastern U.S. coast helped reverse the Winter blahs. A popular New England Resort, Killington has gone cashless. They accept Samsung, Google, and Apple Pay, plus all major credit cards. Also, lift tickets can be purchased online in advance or on the day of arrival. Another new feature is the pass pick-up Kiosk in the Bay 2 parking lot near the ticket trailer.



Letter of Appreciation and Donation

Deborah, President of Jersey Ski & Sports

As you know, I am a Life Time Member and glad to make a donation of \$100 to help promote and carry on the mission of JSSI.

Forty years ago, when I joined Jersey Ski, I had no idea that it would take me all over the country (and out of the country) meeting people that were members of the National Brotherhood of Skiers.

Our ski club exposed me to an outdoor life I never knew existed. I saw mountains, snow, and scenery that took my breath away.

In addition to skiing downhill, green, blue, and black diamonds, I experienced cross country skiing, and snowmobile riding.

Yes, Jersey Ski and Sports took me to the Top and I will never stop, remembering all the people I met, places I've been, and the joy of skiing.

PS. Let's continue to get our community involved, especially our youth.

With great appreciation, Bobby Koontz

December 19, 2022



Annual Membership

We thank active members who are devoted to paying dues in full each year (July to June). Your financial commitment supports our effort to host events and introduce the sport of skiing and snowboarding to others.

So often members comment on the thrill of wearing JSSI colors while traveling to ski mountains here and abroad. When there is continuous dedication, you deserve the role of being an ambassador for our club.

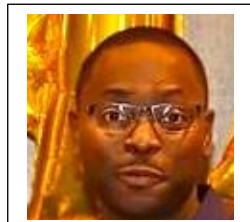
However, in fairness to active members and lifetime members, the JSSI Board decided that involvement also includes paying dues in full. Therefore, participation in operational matters concerning the club during meetings, trips, events, etc. will not be extended to non-paying members who need to restart their annual dues.

If you have any concerns or questions about your membership dues, feel free to contact Hamlet Bey, JSSI Treasurer/Membership

Welcome New Members



Jelsimon Jean Louis He is a 22-year-old junior with a major in Business Administration and a minor in Marketing at Strayer University. A "never/ever" skier/snowboarder his inspiration grew from seeing a black man on skies in a video. His interest also peaked after listening to negative comments on why Black people don't ski. He checked out the NBS and became a member of JSSI. Then a few weeks later he registered to attend the Summit in Snowmass, CO. Looking back, he is happy about his decision to "go all in" and experience the 50th Anniversary NBS Summit. Send Jelsimon greetings as a new JSSI member jjelsimon@gmail.com.



Tyrone Brooks He is a resident of West Orange, NJ. An educator, Tyrone has taught in Newark Public Schools for more than 20 years. His community-based commitment to teaching, coaching and mentoring youth in Newark also includes work as a volunteer for various organizations. In 2019, Tyrone was a Stevenson & Moses Boxing for Life Honoree recognized for his dedicated community service. Once he became a member, the Opening Season Getaway Trip to Killington, Vermont was his first with JSSI, but he is not a ski newbie.



Join Us - Family Park Day, Sat. June 24, 2023

Bring your own Meat or Dish to Share & Grill away!

Saturday, June 24th, 2023

10:00 am - 7:00 pm

Rockland State Park

*299 Rockland Lake Rd
Valley Cottage, NY 10989*

Park Lot #5

Park's Parking Fee: \$10

Pool Admission: \$5 all ages

Pool Hours: 11 am - 6:30 pm

*Sno-Burners Ski & Sports
Ice Breakers*

Jersey Ski & Sports

*Family & Friends
Are Welcome*

*For More Information, call
Maxine, Roderick or Deborah*

*Fun Board Games / Group Games
Bid Whist*

You are Invited to Join the NBS Eastern Region
Summerfest July 28 - August 1, 2023
Iberostar Grand Rose Hall – Montego Bay, Jamaica



A passport is required - All-Inclusive - Five (5*) Star Resort for Adults
Regular Registration - \$125 per person and Lodging Deposit - \$300 per person.

Details are on the Summerfest 2023 registration site

<https://nbssummit.regfox.com/nbs-summerfest-2023>

JSSI Learn-to-Ski

Sponsor - A - Youth Day Trip

"Volunteer to be a tutor. Become a mentor ...
We have to help our kids ..." ~Colin Powell



Trip to Mountain Creek Ski Resort, Saturday, February 25. Perfect weather added to the fun of both new and experienced skiers. Kevin Armstrong's (trip leader) plans for the day trip served as a way to increase the skill and confidence of youth learning to ski. Mountain Creek, New Jersey's largest ski resort is an hour from NYC. Its' 4 peaks offer 167 acres of terrain options suitable for all skill levels. An extensive snowmaking system consists of 1,000+ snowmaking guns, covering 100% of the ski resort.



REI Gift Bag of Goodies Presented to New Member Killington, VT

JSSI President, Deborah Evans formerly presented new club member, Tyrone Brooks with a handy picturesque REI tote bag containing goodies that are particularly useful for skiing during the January trip at Killington. Members who go on the JSSI Opening Season Trip to Vermont look forward to receiving the colorful REI gift tote.

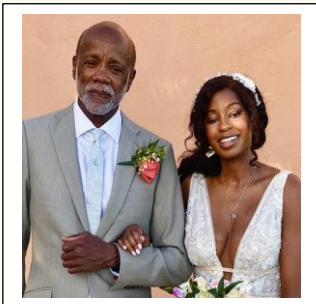
Sunshine and Rain



Bobby Koontz and wife Annie, an active couple, hosted their first of hopefully many house party events on Saturday, September 10. Food served outdoors on the lawn, sunny weather, and “I remember when” conversations made for a worthy occasion. The party celebrated their move from Quitman Street to Clarion Lane (both of which are in Newark). Their beautiful, modern 1st floor townhouse located in a gated community will add to their living happy and comfortably.



Honoree, Omar Bey, MD (*center*) received the Caribbean Medical Mission Humanitarian Award in November 2022. Held at “The Grand” in Totowa, NJ the Black-Tie Dinner/Dance Gala was well attended. The tribute to Dr. Bey was based on his outstanding community service and annual volunteer visits to treat needy patients. His family and friends, along with medical and healthcare professionals took part in bestowing recognition upon him. During the gala, a silent auction also raised funds for Mission projects. A non-profit organization, the Mission provides mobile medical clinics and health education to underserved communities in North America, the Caribbean and Africa.



Bride, Kelli Solomon is daughter of JSSI member Kenneth. She and Daniel Rosenberg were married on his home island, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands on November 12, 2022. A gathering of 64 family members and friends attended the Caribbean seaside ceremony at the Grapetree Bay Hotel. The couple enjoyed a brief honeymoon on the sister island, St. Thomas, before returning to their new home in Brooklyn, NY.



Kevin Armstrong ... Congratulations! The “You Rock” acknowledgement is for renewing and passing certificate assessments. On the weekend of December 2 to 4, Kevin participated in the renewal of his PSIA AASI Level 1 Certification as an Alpine Class Instructor. Classes held on Friday went well as it was a nice day. Unfortunately, Saturday was wet, it rained all day, but on Sunday the weather turned for the better. The knowledge and training provided in his classes, helps one become a better skier. Also, there’s the benefit of giving back to the Club as an official instructor. Again, CUDOS to Kevin, well done!

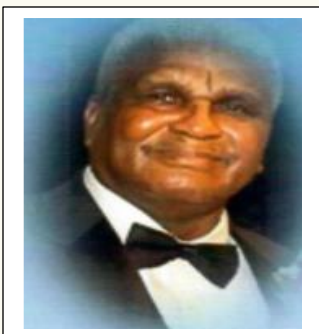


Original JSSI members who touched the lives of many, leave lasting memories.

~ **Phil Littlejohn**, started with JSSI and ended with the Nubians from New York. He was a very good skier, and will be missed for his saying, “Ski Ya!”. His funeral was Friday October 7, 2022 at Parker Brothers Funeral Home, located at 2013 Broadway, Watervliet, NY 12189. For those who missed his Homegoing Service, the YouTube video is now available.

~ Another member, **Clarence Dixon** passed in October, 2022 as did **Prescott Reeve**. Both of them were long-time, “old school” original club members. Fond memories of them shine, as they are remembered by older club members.

~ In November, 2022 **Shana**, the daughter-in-law of Karen and Matt Flippen accepted peace and comfort. Her “Celebration of Life” Service was held at First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens at 771 Somerset Street, Somerset, NJ.



Another original JSSI member, **Clarence Moore** is no longer with us. He passed away on October 7, 2022 at age 75. Clarence was an extremely hard worker, a dedicated employee who eventually went on to work at FedEx, which allowed him to start his own business, Gemini Enterprises, a Limo & Messenger Service. He retired from FedEx after 24 years of service. As a member of JSSI, he taught his two daughters how to ski. Clarence enjoyed being around people and helping others. He had an infectious laugh and knew how to have a good time wherever he was. Often, when you saw him, you also saw Bernard King or Ritchie Whitten. Always together at many affairs, whether it be a birthday party or holiday event, there would be at least one table dedicated to JSSI.

Special Olympics New Jersey Winter Games – Two Day Event

This was the 44th year Mountain Creek Ski Resort hosted the Winter Games. During the event, 230 Athletes competed in alpine skiing, cross-country skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, and speed skating.

In 2022, participation was up a little, pretty close to where it was pre-pandemic.



Deborah E., left



Kevin A., below

When Club members dedicate their time, energy, and enthusiasm as a volunteer for the Special Olympic games, it makes a genuine impact



The President's Corner

(continued from Page 1)

Also, I want to thank all the active members who have stayed loyal to the Club, not only through continued and generous donations, but by simply paying your annual membership dues even though you might not have attended a trip or event in quite some time.

In the future, it's likely the NBS Summit registration will go through the ski.com travel operator. So basically, everything related to NBS events will not be done through the Club.

Here lately, follow up conversations about the Summit have been about the amount of news coverage received. The NBS 50th Anniversary Summit reached several different forms of media, ranging from a news snippet on Saturday Night Live (SNL) to a New York Times article, "Magic on the Slopes."

Skiers were thrilled to have an exceptional amount of snow during the Anniversary, as well as popular artists on the entertainment line-up. As usual, JSSI took out an ad in the souvenir journal for this momentous occasion.

Lastly, I want to give a big heart felt response to Bobby's letter on page 1. **Thank you for your most generous donation as a lifetime member. We will strive to continue our efforts to expose others to the travel and skiing experiences that you have.**

#

The Brotherhood Journey

Arthur Clay and Benjamin “Ben” Finley (L to R, Photo Below), the founders of the National Brotherhood of Skiers, said that they didn’t intend to create the organization, but 50 years on, as they saw the thousands of people gathered in Vail, they felt immense pride.



Today, the Brotherhood has more than 50 clubs and about 5,000 members. With most African Americans living in metropolitan areas without easy access to snowy mountains, group trips make it easier to participate in the sport.

Andrew Miller for The New York Times

You are Invited to Join the JSSI 45th ANNIVERSARY Celebration
An Exclusive Escape to Havana and Varadero Beach, Cuba
Friday, June 14th thru Sunday, June 23rd 2024

Save the Date – Get Ready for an Incredible Journey – Rates will be Announced Soon



VISIT CUBA

Cuba’s culture is rich with contributions from its indigenous, African and European roots. It is a must visit country filled with fantastic food, beaches, landscapes, music, and culture. The island produces more than its fair share of brilliant ballet dancers and jazz musicians. This is a rare opportunity to experience the colorful history and lively culture of this captivating country from its beautifully adorned churches and vintage cars to its lush tropical climate. Immerse yourself in an inferno of Afro beats, freewheeling jazz and swirling salsa.

One of the country’s great surprises is how much of its pre-Castro history has been preserved — and how that past and present coexist today. In Havana, you wander in the 500-year-old city. Throughout, you’ll interact closely with coffee-growers, artists, dancers, historians, and everyday Cubans from all walks of life. Visiting Cuba is truly an unforgettable experience that will stick with you forever. It will leave you in awe as you travel this beautiful tropical island.



Birthday Happiness

Celebrate your Birth Month



Strawberry Ice Cream Cake

*When it's your special month,
 Imagine what you can do,
 Remember who you are,
 There's nobody like you,
 Think smart,
 All you need is love,
 Your Birthday is a start.*

Charles Robinson (July); Wife, Oliva Vega (June)
 Donald Cloud (July); Wife, Barbara (April)
 Kevin Armstrong (October); Wife Carla Harris (January)
 Ralph Warrick (January); Wife, Catherine “Missy”
 (December); Daughter, Renee Warrick (February)
 Mario Montayne, Pat Faison (September)
 Amos Hall (October)
 Fred Brown, Omar Bey (November)
 Avis Span, Delroy Morgan, Bobby Koontz (December)
 Gene Nelson, Barbara Wade, Ernest Spann, Pam Bennett,
 Derek Garrett, Eugene Nelson, Janie Hankerson (January)
 Connie Nelson (March)