

# Killington Trip Report

January 9-12, 2014



Location: Killington Ski Resort, Vermont

Arrived: Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>      Departed: Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>

Ski Days: 3 total: Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>



Lodging: The Cascades Lodge (<http://cascadeslodge.com/>)



Trip Leader: Elaine Petro ([Elaine.Petro@nasa.gov](mailto:Elaine.Petro@nasa.gov); 301-286-5104)

Number of Attendees: 17 adults

Additional Activities: Après Ski party Friday & Saturday evenings  
Group Dinner @ the Cascades Lodge Pub

Trip Narrative:

*Thursday*

Everyone departed for Killington at their own leisure on Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup> for Vermont. Most group members arrived and checked into the Cascades Lodge by around 10:00 p.m. Thursday night.

*Friday*

Friday ended up being the best ski day of the weekend. As it was early in the season, not all trails were open, but those that were had pretty good coverage and packed powder (with some icy spots showing through near the end of the day). Temperatures were in the 20's.

After leaving the slopes, many people took a dip in the hot tub and/or pool. Then there was an Après Ski Party with snacks and wine in the party room next to the pool.





The party lasted from until about 8:00 p.m. when about half of the group headed to the Cascades Lodge Restaurant for dinner.

## *Saturday*

The forecast for Saturday conditions was not good, though most of us decided to go out and give it a shot. The temperature was in the 40's and heavy rain was forecasted. Those who preferred snow skiing over water skiing, were able to turn in their lift ticket for vouchers in the morning. The vouchers are valid for a full calendar date from the original lift ticket issue date.

Unfortunately the weather forecasters were right on and it rained pretty much the whole day. The slushy snow was skiable until you realized your waterproof gear is really only "water-resistant," and not nearly resistant enough. On the bright side, crowds on the mountain and in the slopeside lodges were non-existent. You could ski up to the lift and get right on, a rarity for a Saturday in the winter season. And on the way down, you pretty much had the slope to yourself!



In other news, many of us got the opportunity to check out the brand new lodge Killington opened up at the top of the K1 gondola. Everyone seemed really impressed with the lodge's sort of fancy, atypical menu and breathtaking views.



Some of the (wiser?) members of the group who decided to get vouchers for Saturday had the opportunity to explore some of the charming attractions the surrounding area has to offer. Tom & Debra Hartmann toured a local glass blowing factory, cheese market, and brewery.

We met again Saturday night for a 2<sup>nd</sup> wine and cheese party to compare stories from the day and figure out who won (lost?) the prize for staying out on the mountain the longest. I think the real prize goes to those who got voucher and went shopping or hung out in the hot tub.

There were also two NFL playoff football games going on Saturday night. Some of the group headed back to the restaurant/lounge to watch the games and have some more chili dogs and burgers.

### *Sunday*

The lodge again allowed our group to keep one late checkout room (until 4:30 p.m.) that everyone could store their things in while out on the slopes. This was much appreciated for those of us who decided to meet back and change before heading home.

Weather conditions Sunday were much improved over the day before, however, the mountain conditions were still less than ideal. The rain from the day before had washed away a lot of the snow and left behind a lot of ice.

Thanks to everyone who came for making it a great trip despite the less than ideal conditions!!! Hope to see you all again on future trips! The next Killington trip will likely be later in the season to avoid the early season uncertainty we faced this year!

Elaine Petro  
*Killington Trip Leader*  
*Goddard Ski Club Secretary*