

MAMMOTH 2016

The 28th Annual Trip to Mammoth did not disappoint. Thirty-four 49ers and guests arrived at the Quality Inn in Mammoth Lakes to enjoy several days of skiing. A few folks left Sacramento a day early, Saturday, to avoid potential incremental weather over Echo Summit. They stayed at Mammoth or near Mammoth. The rest took a chance and left on Sunday. As luck would have it, it was a beautiful drive, and there were no chain controls over Echo Summit.

Ski conditions varied day-to-day. Monday it was virtually a whiteout with gusty winds, and Tuesday there was fresh powder and beautiful, blue skies. Depending on where people skied on the mountain, conditions varied from good (e.g. chairs 25 & 15) to challenging. On Monday the upper lifts and the backside were closed due to wind and avalanche danger.

Tuesday's ski conditions improved dramatically with fresh powder. The groomed runs were a delight. The not so groomed runs with little hidden ridges and bumps under fresh powder provided opportunities to work on flexibility. The troughs between the moguls did not seem as deep, and the narrow galleys were not all bumped-out. Good to excellent skiing conditions.



Skiers seemed to team-up into several groups during the week. Blue-run Bob M. led tours of the groomers on Monday and Tuesday. He showed the group his favorite 3,2 Mambo combo runs. Jim M., a classmate from grade school of Bob and Tanna M., and a former ski instructor at June Mountain, led a group around the more difficult runs on Monday. Several 49ers took the mountain tour with a volunteer. The volunteer not only showed them the mountain, but also provided fascinating information about the geology of the area.



Wednesday evening Giovanni's did an excellent job of reserving a section of their restaurant and serving up the best pizza in Mammoth again this year. While attendance for pizza night was down this year at 19, the group feasted on specialty pizzas and salad.



The Quality Inn provided their breakfast area this year again for our get together to share snacks and tall tales (Tiddlies) at the end of the day.

Unfortunately, there was one serious injury this year. Margge W. slipped and fell on treacherous ice and snow in the parking lot on her way to catch the shuttle bus. She was hospitalized and transported to Sacramento on Wednesday for recovery and rehabilitation.

There are several people that helped make this year a success. Thanks so much Jim M. for driving up from Bishop to join us and lead a tour of the mountain, as you have done for the last several years. Thank you to everybody who provided delicious and nutritious snacks on their assigned nights, and cleaned-up the area afterwards. Thanks to Bob M. and Wendy S. who led groups on the groomed and not so groomed runs. Thanks Ginny B. for filling in for us on pizza night. It was good to see Jerry and Terry P., guests of Paul and Ann F., for joining us from Minnesota, as they have done for the last several years. We welcomed Elaine C., our prospective member. She fit right in like a seasoned 49er. It was nice to see the Tiff's and their clan joining in the festivities again. And last, but not least, a special thank you to the Mammoth 49ers for the gift cards to Il Forno Classico in Gold River.

Once again we had a wonderful time this year at Mammoth, and look forward to next year.

Michael and RoxAnn M.