

2006 OSN
Sunday River
Getaway

OSN Sunday River Winter Weekend Getaway

by Linda Hooper-Mavrogeorge

Another Sunday River weekend has come and gone. Although we were a small group, we had loads of fun. The weekenders were Christine Stavrinis, Trish Lutz, Eleanor McCarthy, Gary Smith, Jim Hersey, Lynne Moriarty and her guests, Sally Barnes and Patty Toohig and myself. Unfortunately, Warren and Melanie Davis were both taken ill and not able to join us and we hope they are feeling better.

With everyone arriving at various times on Friday, we kept the evening simple with a "meet and greet" at 6:30 in our condo where Jim and Chris prepared a salad and we ordered pizza for the group.



After dinner, most of us went to the pool and hot tub to relax. After winding down, we converged in room 201 again to watch TV (this is where we learned not to let the men have the remote). Latecomers Lynne, Sally and Patty finally checked in and joined us in relaxing after their long drive.

Jim retired early and though his roomie's (Gary) last words were "don't lock me out - I didn't bring my key...." when Gary called it a night, he was soon back because the door was locked. Yikes - faced with the thought that he may have to sleep on a couch in one of the girls' rooms, Gary tried in vain to wake Jim by calling the room and banging on the door, but nothing was getting him out of bed. At last we tried the windows and one of them actually was unlocked. Poor Gary had to climb through the window to get in. Of course, none of us would let this slip by Jim the next day as we teased him about how heavy he slept.

Saturday morning brought downhill skiers Eleanor, Lynne, Sally and Patty up and out the door early to the slopes. The rest of us enjoyed pancakes and oven-baked omelettes in our condo for breakfast. When asked how the raspberry pancakes were, Gary described them as interesting..... hmmm..... didn't stop him from eating a second one though!



Armed with a nutritious breakfast, the rest of the group geared up for a little winter hiking led by our fearless leader, Gary. Gary led us up the Peabody River and Rattle River Trails on that beautiful Saturday afternoon. Though a couple of us were novice hikers we trekked our way up icy paths sliding about at times and holding onto trees for stabilization. The banter and chit-chat throughout the afternoon made for a very fun adventure.



But that's not to say we didn't have any excitement! At one point, Chris started yelling that something was crawling up her leg which just opened the floor up for all kinds of remarks! When she insisted that she was not imagining it, the girls covered her so she could remove this horrible thing that was crawling up the inside of her pant leg.... and horrible it was... it was a twig approximately 8 inches long with little branches stemming from it - we all roared!!! How it made it all the way up her pant leg is still a mystery.

Between hiking the two mountain trails, we took a picnic break at the info center where Chris was able to blow dry her shoes and socks in the ladies room because they were so soaked. (Yup - we gave her grief about that too! hee hee).

After the Rattle River hike, we drove over to the next trail we were going to tackle but when we arrived, the parking lot was pure mud and the trail didn't look inviting. So we left (fortunately before Gary could get my car stuck in the muddy parking lot - it's a Kia Rio

Gary not an SUV!!) and headed to the Bethel pathway. The pathway leads up through downtown Bethel and was a nice change because it was flat. We stopped at a coffee shop for beverages and snacks and browsed in a gem/jewelry store for a bit then headed back to the hotel.

A few of us unwound at the pool and hot tub for a bit, stretching and relaxing after all our exercise. Saturday night found us dining at the Sunday River Smokehouse and then we headed to the Matterhorn for dancing to Last Kid Picked. It was a late night for most of us but we had a wonderful time.

Sunday morning we met for breakfast again in room 201 and caught up what everyone was going to do that day and said our goodbyes. Eleanor, Patty, Sally, Lynne and Gary headed to the slopes and I'm told they had a fine day of skiing.

All-in-all everyone had a great time and we look forward to next year's trip.

