

## Big Sky Montana - January 2019

Early on Saturday morning 26 Jacksonville Ski Club (JSC) members checked in at the Jacksonville Airport on our way to Bozeman Montana, via Houston for skiing at "The Big Sky" ski resort. We had a few delays, but the group was up to the task and we arrived with all of our gear intact. We had accommodations at the Huntley Lodge and the Village Center and our luggage was delivered to our rooms in a timely manner. The next day we started skiing the mountains of "Big Sky" and this place is huge! With over 5,800 skiable acres, 4,300 vertical feet, 23 lifts (including the new "Ramcharger" with eight heated seats and a protective bubble) and a 15 passenger Tram to the top of Lone Mountain. Everyday we could join a group that would introduce the Mountain to us at different levels. It's important to note that this Mountain's Blue runs might be considered Black at many resorts. Most of the Blue and all of the Green runs are groomed daily. The lift lines were usually short and the staff very helpful. All through the week the Florida Ski Council offered numerous events. Our team competed in the NASTAR race. We were complimented on our group's unique red JSC Boxer Shorts and wild hat day. The group lunch was great and we had a lot of fun doing our video skit and taking our group picture. We enjoyed two great FSC buffet dinner and dancing parties conveniently located in the Yellowstone Conference Center. With over a dozen Mountain Village dining choices, we had no trouble finding places for lunch or dinner. The week before we arrived had over 2 feet of new snow, which was groomed perfectly every morning. There were a couple of wonderful sunny days, when the snow was soft and perfect and a few cloudy days. Many of our travelers took a day off skiing to enjoy the beauty of Yellowstone National Park via snow mobile or snow coach. All in all, the entire group had a great experience. We had a great time and can't wait to return.