March 4-5 Spring Fling, Mont Tremblant

The group gathered Friday, March 4, staying in three well equipped and roomy chalets of the Coté Nord project on the north side of Mont Tremblant.

Despite dire forecasts with warnings of heavy rainfall, Vikings set out Saturday morning for the lac Monroe area of parc Tremblant. No rain yet: just heavy wet snow, which continued to fall throughout most of the day. Conditions were wonderful and main complaints centred around lack of visibility, particularly for those of us who hadn't had the foresight to being along glasses or goggles. Without them, we had to negotiate the downhills pretty much blind. After completing the beautiful Poisson trail, some of us did another, shorter loop, but by now temperatures had risen to freezing or above and we encountered stickier, and less pleasant, conditions than in the morning.

The drive back was somewhat challenging, with some 25 cm of new snow on the ground (and in places yet unplowed), mixing more and more with rain as we drove. And for those who felt they hadn't had enough exercise on the trails, there was plenty of shovelling (to get into our driveways) to improve upper body and core strength.

Before and after dinner on Saturday, we enjoyed the entertainment portion of the weekend: a video of Chris's adventures on the Snake River and a program about the Haute Route from Chamonix to Zermatt. (We didn't see any of our group in this program, but Howard had done the route some years ago, and Celia had stayed in some of the huts.)

By Sunday morning, we were greeted with yet more snow (the rain had changed overnight) – and more cleaning off cars and shovelling. This day, the group headed for Domain St. Bernard – though I have to confess that I invoked downhill skier's motto of "no friends on a powder day" and headed for the mountain where I enjoyed the steep and deep.

Thanks to Audrey for organizing yet another wonderful Spring Fling weekend, to Daphne who provided Saturday's delicious main course, and to everyone who contributed amazing appetizers, sensational salads and decadent desserts.

Judy Rogers



















