



SKI for HEAT

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EPILOGUE . . .

Ski for Heat 2017

Dear Friends of Ski for Heat,

Being one who revels in rituals, after our wonderful Ski for Heat companions—both old and new—had gone home, leaving their mitten-prints on our community, I stepped into my skis to go explore the beauty of Wild Wings. The late afternoon—with its soft silver and pink clouds providing a glorious backdrop to the woods—seamlessly blended into nighttime, with a hint that stars might soon be dancing above the tree tops. All was hushed and peaceful; the wind circling the mountains and the streams weaving through the trails provided a subtle, soothing rhythm.

And, in staying true to my tradition, I skied these loops as my Laps of Thanksgiving—my special time on the trails to reflect on and offer appreciation for the incredible outpouring of thoughtfulness and good will that has been generated to benefit others.

As I glided through the “cathedral of trees” on Upper Blue Jay, I was thankful for the many folks and businesses who participated in and donated to Ski for Heat. When I laughed aloud while rolling over some dipsy-doodles on Chickadee, I was so grateful for my twin sister, Laura, who cheerfully and loyally helps me every year (oh, if only we could harness BTUs from her warmth!). And when I stopped on a bridge to look for ice sculptures forming in the pools below, I was in awe of the generosity of spirit, deed, and heart that Tracy, Chuck, and Ian at Wild Wings have graciously extended to us for close to two decades. They are the backbone of Ski for Heat.



Even after seventeen years of implementing Ski for Heat, I continue to be stirred by the powerful impact that this day has. I am moved to tears by what you have all done, individually and collectively. This is the very core of goodness—neighbors helping neighbors and taking care of our own. It’s a day when gestures aren’t measured and every effort is not only important and respected, but also really *does* make a difference to someone else. (“No act of kindness . . . is ever wasted.” ~ *Aesop*)

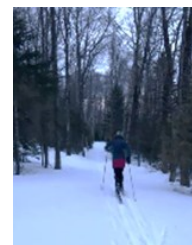
It is humbling and such an honor to shepherd the compassion and generosity that each of you brings to this day. On behalf of all who will be touched by your care and concern, I offer my heartfelt gratitude.

With wishes for powder this winter, peace throughout the year, and warmth for those who are in need. I am

Sincerely yours,

Martha

Ski for Heat founder/president



Happy trails . . .

Ski for Heat: Awards/Recognitions for Community Service
Money Magazine, 50 Heroes, 50 States ■ 2016 *BROC Community Action Award* ■ 2014 *Community Service Award* ■ *etown National E-Chievement Award* ■ *Governor’s Award for Outstanding Community Service* ■ *Vermont State Legislature 2010 Resolution*

Ski for Heat is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Warming hearts and homes since 2001.