



VOLUME X

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POTOMAC VALLEY SKIERS

MAY 1976

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My attendance at the recent Blue Ridge Ski Council and Eastern Ski Association meetings reminded me of our need for "organized skiing" and the benefits that all of us gain from it. Our membership in such organizations makes each of us eligible for all of the trips sponsored by the USSA, the ESA, and all member clubs of the Blue Ridge Ski Council and the Pennsylvania Ski Federation. This is particularly important for PVS because, by ourselves, we could not run many large charter trips.

In the past I have heard complaints that ESA (formerly USEASA) placed too much emphasis on racing. However, not only are races fun for racers and watchers, but also all the modern ski equipment and techniques that we use were developed by racing. Without it, we might still be struggling with Ansburg turns and bear trap bindings. Consistent support over the years for the Ski Patrol and safety in general has been provided by the skiing organizations, not the general public.

Some actions important to all skiers can only be made effective through the skiing organizations. A good example is their calling to our attention the need for letters to your congressman/senator to support the Senate Bill for a National Ski Patrol charter (See IMPORTANT NOTICE # 1). Remember, these organizations are not imposed on us from above — they are our organizations and will do what we tell them we want.

Geoff Wadley

Geoff Wadley, President

MAY EVENT

The Seventh Annual International Dinner

Where: Don & Pat Copes home
117 West Monroe Avenue
Alexandria, Va. Tel. 836-5436

When: May 22 (Saturday), 6:00 P.M.
Reservations required!

How to get there: South on old U.S. Route 1 from the Pentagon, follow the tracks to the T traffic light, do not turn right over the tracks — turn left on Monroe Avenue, Proceed to #117 which is on the right between Hancock and Russell, and YOU ARE THERE! Bon Appetit!

COMING EVENTS

- May 22 - International Dinner - see separate notice.
- May 25 - EXCOM meeting - at Gerry Deighton's home: 402 W. Montgomery Avenue Rockville, Md. Tel. 424-5707.
- June 15 - June Event - Slides & Social; at Bob and Gail Gell's home.
- June 22 - EXCOM meeting, site to be selected
- July 17 - July Event - Elrod's Steak and Swim; See separate notice.
- July 20 or 27 - EXCOM meeting. More later.
- August - August Event - a picnic. Details to follow.

EXCOM MEETING - April 27, 1976

President Geoff' Wadey hosted the April EXCOM meeting with the following attending: Vice President and EXCOMer Ray McKinley plus EXCOM member Penny Richards; Membership Chair-lady Gail Gell, Secretary Joyce Sundry, and TOOT editors Dick and Julie King. EXCOMers Berling, Cope and Deighton had conflicting schedules; and Brooke Armat is just home from the hospital and recovering (successfully, we understand) from his operation. P V S wishes Brooke a full and speedy recovery from his most recent operation. We look forward to having him back among us very soon. The following matters were discussed:

1. Blue Ridge Ski Council meeting report. Six P V S members were in attendance. Full report elsewhere in this issue of TOOT.
2. A full discussion of trips and P V S sponsorship of same. The general tenor of the remarks favored sponsoring and expanding trip activity.
3. Club sanctioning and sponsorship of the next Bob Wychoff European trip was discussed. Since approval had previously been obtained from P V S members in an open meeting, the consensus here was that P V S sponsorship has been approved by the Club membership. Thus, EXCOM cannot alter that which the membership has approved.
4. The Program's Chairman vacancy was mentioned and a possible candidate will be contacted to fill it.
5. The May EXCOM meeting was set for May 25th at Gervy Deighton's house.
6. A June event (gathering) will be scheduled for the 15th and will be at the new Gell residence. The purpose of the event is to socialize and show slides of last winter's ski trips. Come and bring YOUR slides.
7. An August event was discussed. The possibility of a picnic is being considered.

IMPORTANT NOTICE # 1

Blue Ridge Ski Council report - by Bob Wychoff (P V S BRSC representative)

P V S was well represented at the April 24th BRSC Spring meeting in Gettysburg with Geoff' Wadey, Art Topping, Jim Pinkham, Ham Morton, John and Eloise Newdorp and Bob Wychoff present. Here are a few highlights of the all day meeting.

BRSC treasury stands at a healthy \$1,413.20; up \$200.00 from the last report.

Planning is beginning for next year's Ski-O-Ree with SCWDC hosting it. Canaan Valley, Jack Frost and Hunter Mountain were considered; Canaan Valley was selected. First choice on date is Feb 12/13; second choice is Jan 22/23 - the consideration is to avoid conflicts and have a good chance of snow. Who in P V S will volunteer to represent our Club in planning this event?

The Susquehanna Ski Club was accepted into BRSC membership. This active 1500 member club has been in the Central Pennsylvania Council, but wanted to get in where the action is.

The National Ski Patrol System requests area skiers to phone or write their Senator requesting the latter to sign Senate Bill # 7130 which will grant a national charter to the NSPS. This would save them from having to file papers in every state where they operate, an impossible task with the small staff they have. The bill is non-controversial, but may get buried without a boost. Your contribution of an assist here would be GREATLY appreciated.

The annual BRSC Safety Award was given to the P V S nominee, Jewell Blankenship (a former PVS member). Two other nominees will receive BRSC letters of commendation. (One recipient is Adam Kahan, operator of The Ski Center across from the Apex Theatre on Massachusetts Avenue).

Any members interested in the Junior Racing Program please contact Eloise Newdorp.

Trip reports were submitted on last year's flights including the Wychoff led Val Thorens & Courmayeur trip.

Two trips for next year were sanctioned:

- A. A P V S sponsored and Bob Wychoff led flight to Europe (Zurs and Val Gardina).
- B. A Baltimore Ski Club sponsored trip to Quebec City, Canada - Feb 26 to March 5th (a repeat of this year's successful trip).

Additional trips may be sanctioned at the Fall BRSC meeting: a Susquehanna SC trip to Zermatt (7 to 10 days in early March); and the Maryland SC is planning a trip to Denver during the first week of March and would be interested in cooperating with another club.



FOR THE THINKING MAN-WOMAN-PERSON !???)

A new BRSC President: Whitey Willauer of the Bryce Mt. Racing Club was elected President of BRSC for the next two years. An excellent choice!

Mr. Steve Vastagh of SCWDC reported on the Qualified Amateur Ski Instructors (QASI) program. He would welcome some P V S participation in this program.

E S A On-The Snow weekend. A committee is being set up to explore a joint bus trip from BRSC clubs to attend this annual event.

The Richmond SC was selected to host the Fall BRSC meeting. Fredericksburg, Virginia is a possibility for this meeting.

In conclusion, I'm glad to report that this BRSC Spring meeting was well attended and that BRSC is very much alive!

IMPORTANT NOTICE # 2

E S A Southern Area Election Area meeting notes by Bob Wyckoff

Concurrent with the BRSC meeting, a short meeting was held to elect two Eastern Ski Association Directors to represent our area at ESA. We are pleased to report that the P V S nominee, Art Topping, was elected. Also elected (or rather, reelected) was Doug Hawkland of the Baltimore Ski Club. Congratulations go to Art for this election.

Ham Morton, who has just completed his term as ESA Director, thanked all persons and clubs for all the fine support he has received during the five years he has served on the ESA Board of Directors. Our thanks go to Ham for his fine efforts in representing us.

Gene King of SCWDC was elected to succeed Larry Pease as Election Area Chairman; Den Drumwright is the Alternate. Eloise Newdorp is the elected Secretary, and Marilyn St. John Hardisty is the Alternate.

Let's keep Art Topping posted on our E S A interests!

IMPORTANT NOTICE # 3

Roy and Malda Elrod have again invited P V S to participate in a Steak and Swim party event at their home in Triangle, Virginia. This will be at their new home, just one block from their old home. Full directions in the June TOOT. The date will be July 17th; and the Washington D.C. coordinator is Joyce Sundry (Tel. 265-2310) Joyce reminds TOOT that she has secretarial service - so let the phone ring and leave a message in the event Joyce does not answer right away. Malda advises that, as usual, she needs two or three individuals to prepare salad, and

one volunteer to arrange to bring the potatoes. Let Joyce know your reservations soon and if you can volunteer to help with the salad and potatoes. This is always a fun-filled popular event - so get your calendar marked now for this event. Bring your swim suits, your appetite, and your best date!

IMPORTANT NOTICE # 4

A change in address. Jane Gilmore is now living at: 4605 Fordham Road College Park, Maryland 20740

A Trip Report - by Dean Worcester

Would you drive a thousand miles to ski one day? Tony Soler, Doris and Dean Worcester returned April 22nd from a trip to Jackson Hole, Wyoming taken in Tony's van/trailer combo. Five thousand miles for five days of skiing equates evenly to "a thousand miles to ski one day". They report Jackson Hole as being not the best skiing; at least at this time of year (except for those who can't get along without short-hop moguls and soft snow). The terrain was either "first day beginner", or "expert". The trails were laid out by a drunken mountain goat with a penchant for traversing! But, the scenery is something else, and made the trip worthwhile. Maybe.

Another Trip Report - by Bob Wyckoff (as told by Bill Anderson)

SKI THE HIGHEST ALPS

Val Thorens, majestic words to the thirty happy Wyckoff followers who found themselves high in the French Alps on Friday, March 12th, 1976. This six year old ski resort with its assortment of modern hotels, condominiums, and - fantastic restaurants was the beginning of eight wonderful days of French skiing - and much, much more! Wedged in between skiing and more skiing were cocktail parties, swimming, saunas, dancing, shortness of breath, backaches, a few low grade temperatures and - yes, that sort of thing you get from drinking water in Tijuana! (Thank goodness for that old French tradition of having separate and private W.C.s!) Some of the more stoic of the group such as Mike Santoro, Ginny Larson, Gail Gell and Tony Soler made the big Le Trois Valli trip, which took all day, including such beautiful ski villages as Meribel and Courchivel. Gorman Young had one of the BEST hamburgers he had ever eaten! - would you now like a handful of oats, Gorman? Flashing back to the start of the trip, while

we were all enjoying free drinks in the Air France First Class lounge at Dulles airport, Margaret Wyckoff broke the news to us that Bob had just had his appendix out and was still in the hospital. She and Patricia hoped to join us a week later in Val Thorens! David and Rachael Abraham had agreed to pinch hit for Bob and Margaret the first week while visiting with Bob in the hospital the night previous. David and Rachael did a great job getting the group through the maze called Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris, on to the onward flight to Geneva; then on to the bus for Val Thorens with the subsequent check-in at the Novatel Hotel and attendant introductory party. Our thanks to David and Rachael.

Later on in the week, we greeted the arrival of Margaret and Patty with one of the famous cocktail parties. Immediately, we inquired as to Bob's recovery -- and SURPRISE, Bob was present, too! Minus his hospital gown but still with the pallor of the I.C. unit! This was quickly remedied by a few toasts to his improving health and soon, Bob regained his rosey spirit and cheeks! A sad note arose on one of the last days at Val Thorens. Eleanor Peterson fractured her ankle. Her skiing was ended -- but that was all! With the expertise of her good French doctor, she was able - with Hank's help - to participate in all other activities for the rest of the tour. Fantastic!

All too soon, the days at Val Thorens fled by and we looked forward to our next adventure in Courmayeur, Italy. We had an interesting bus ride including the eight mile tunnel ride through Mt. Blanc while transiting from France into Italy. When the bus emerged on the Italian side of the tunnel, we knew we were in Italy, as the sunshine brightened the skies (and the air was filled with garlic!). Note to Thelma: Just Kidding! Courmayeur is a distinct contrast to modern Val Thorens. It is an ancient village. The plush and stately Royal Hotel was our headquarters for the next eight days. Most everyone enjoyed the heated outdoor pool with its inside entrance for one or more dips. This is a shoppers town. Lots of bargains with a favorable exchange rate (850 lira to the dollar). The village basked in a spring-like climate, but a series of cable rides later, you are in the midst of spectacular snow fields. Each day was a new skiing adventure. Again, the strong ones took off for the famous Valle Blanche, skiing the great glaciers between Courmayeur and Chamonix, France. Others took the easy way going by cable car passing through the Helbronner and on to the Aquille du Midi, and down the long steep teleferique to Chamonix, seeing all the while such sights as great glaciers, wide crevasses and one live avalanche! Some took a day to ski Les Grandes Montets near Chamonix while still others spent a day shopping in the city of Aosta, an ancient city complete with its old Roman wall and gourmet luncheons. Meanwhile, back at the Royal Hotel, the hotel hosted an Italian Carnival party, complete with straw hats, native dancers and anchovy pizza at midnight! Too much! This exhausted our last supply of Di-Gel! Again, the time went by ever so quickly. At 5 A.M., on Sunday March 25th, our bus was waiting to take us to the Geneva airport for the first leg of the return flight to Paris. And who was missing?? Tony and Rosie Soler, that's who. And where were they?? Stuck in the elevator!! After rescuing the Solers, we took off and arrived at the new Sofitel Hotel in Paris at about mid-day. The entire gang invaded Paris, filling our fifteen hours there in our own way: shopping, eating, drinking, drinking, walking, walking, walking (plus a little of Metro). . . . Good bye, Paris; Good bye, Good bye, good bye.

The Abrahams hosted a post-flight party recently; and it was Hello, Hello, Hello. And Slides, slides, slides! At midnight, Rachael served a delicious buffet, and we all talked about.....
WHERE DO WE GO NEXT YEAR, BOB?

April Meeting Report

Our Annual Meeting was held April 20th with our election of officers being the highlight activity. We met at The Brook Farm Restaurant in Chevy Chase, a popular meeting site for P V S. The nominating committee's slate of officers was accepted and voted in for the ensuing year. President Geoff Wadey has accepted another term in office (to the benefit of the Club) and our new EXCOM members are: Pat Cope, Gerry Deighton (a retread - but a good one!) and Penny Richards, an enthusiastic new member. We welcome this new slate of officers and look forward to a full and busy year under their guidance. A fine meeting and movie (skiing the Salt Lake City area) was enjoyed by all. SEE YOU ALL AT THE NEXT MEETING/EVENT!

CLUB OFFICERS

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Geoff Waley
Ray McKinley
Joyce Sundry
Margaret Wyckoff

EXCOM Members

Second term:

Brooke Anmat
Aase Berling
Ray McKinley

First term :

Pat Cope
Gerry Deighton
Penny Richards

Program Chairman
Membership Chairlady
Answering Service
TOOT Editors
ESA Rep
PSF Rep
BRSC Rep

Vacant
Gail Gell
Brooke and Mary Anmat
Dick and Julie King
Dick King
Art Topping
Bob Wyckoff

DON'T FORGET
YOUR P V S

ACTIVITIES ANSWERING SERVICE

Call 362-4724
for the latest events

TOOT ADDENDUM. Former P V S members David and Rosemarie Kumpé have returned to their Columbia, Maryland residence after a year's sojourn in Switzerland. They are at their former address of: 5396 Storm Drift, Columbia, Maryland, 21045; Tel. Home: 730-9094, Office: 528-5700. The Kumpes have renewed their membership in P V S and we look forward to meeting them at the next meeting/event.