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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

JANUARY 1984

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

As the end of 1983 comes and with it the promise of new beginnings in 1984, we can look back with pride and pleasure at the number of activities we have done together in PVS - the many hikes, ski trips, festive dinners, picnics, special events and good meetings.

Most of all, I have taken pride in how PVS as a group gathered around in support of Bob Grasley during this time of sorrow and loss for him. Rarely do you find the caring and compassion seen in this instance in a group whose main connection is skiing. This shows that PVSers share a friendship that is deeper than just seeing each other at monthly meetings. I am impressed and very grateful to be part of such a group.

The ExCom wishes to thank each of you for making the club what it is. A special thanks to those who contribute their time and homes to make our events special.

To all of you, a HAPPY, HEALTHY, PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

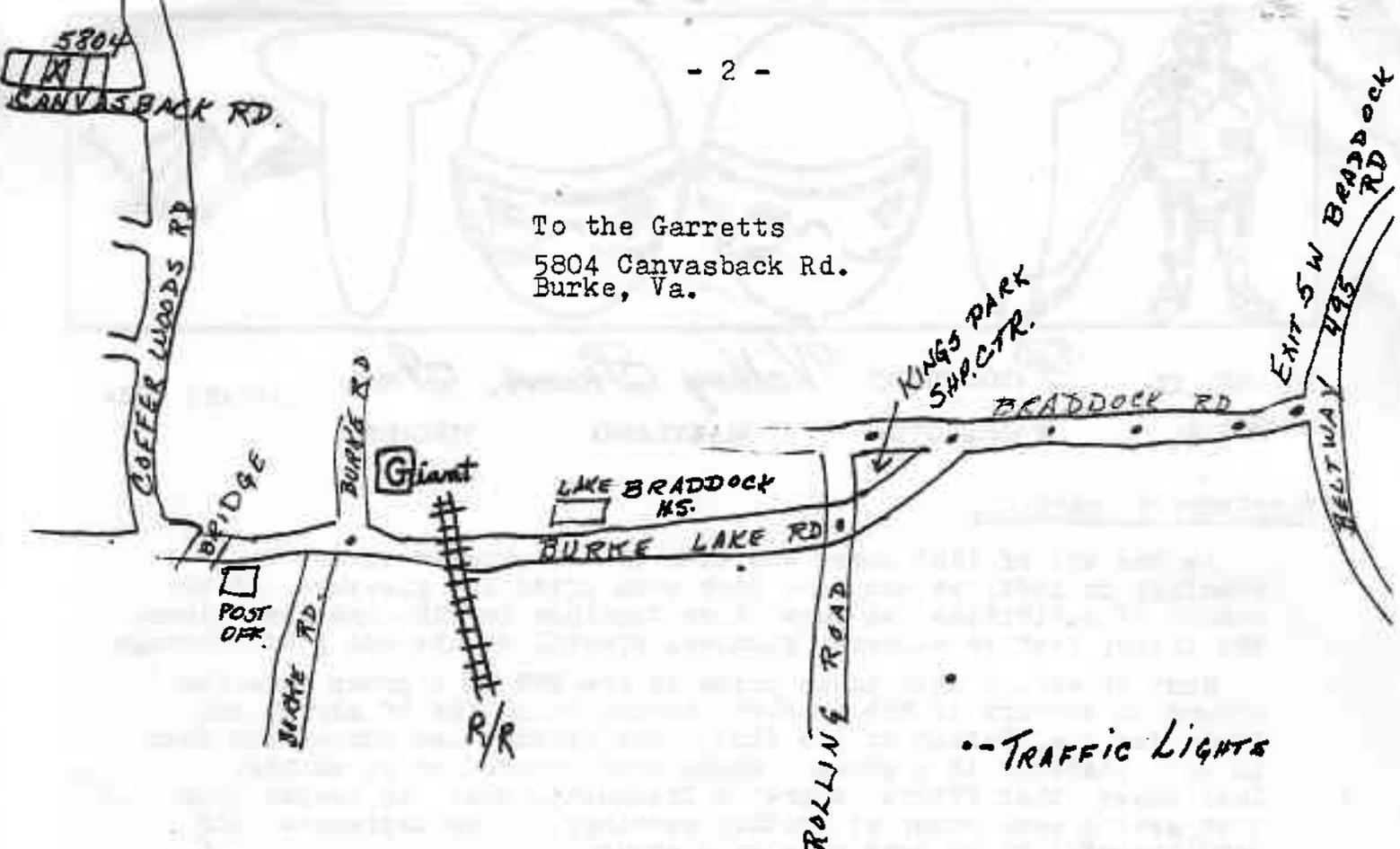
Gail Pease, President

JANUARY MEETING: Movie...Refreshments...Ski Talk

Date: January 17. 8:00 P.M.
Place: Home of Nancy and Ray Garrett
5804 Canvasback Road
Burke, Va. Tel: 250-4791



DIRECTIONS TO THE GARRETTTS: Take Beltay Exit # 5 West on Braddock Road. Turn left onto Burke Lake Rd. (Counting the light at the Beltway Exit, Burke Lake Rd. is the 5th traffic light.) Go past Lake Braddock High School on the right, proceed through the little town of Burke and turn right on Coffey Woods Rd. (First right after the town of Burke.) Turn left on Canvasback Rd. (3rd left). 5804 is the middle unit in the first series of townhouses. For your convenience, a map appears on page 2.



THE LOSS GETS NO EASIER by Larry Pease

As this grand association of skiers matures into a new year, with the promise of snow, cold and numerous travel plans, we are startled into facing mortality by the death of Mary Lee Grasley who, after a brief illness, succumbed to brain tumor on December 9th.

Many of PVS have skied with Mary Lee locally, in the west and northeast, and in Europe. Vitality, enthusiasm and empathy are terms by which we remember her. Concern for her ski students as they performed awkward maneuvers gave them the courage to persist until her joyous shout validated their exhaustion. A quiet word of appreciation, a quick glance of understanding and the bright laugh were her expressions.

You were good for us, Mary Lee. We miss you.

A WORD FROM BOB GRASLEY

I wish to thank all of those PVSers who were so very helpful at a time when I needed all the help I could get. The outpouring of sympathy, offers of assistance, reassuring words, not to mention food, were most generous.

I have been unable to identify the givers of two items: the pair of little red slippers delivered to Mary Lee's hospital room (and never used) and the fruit basket delivered to the house. Thank you, whoever you are.

I am faced with a new problem concerning my two Siamese cats -Omar and Claudine. Mary Lee would not want to have them boarded at an animal hospital and I am looking for a home for them for 3 weeks (Swiss trip plus a week at St. Anton). I will pay \$200 for 3 weeks and supply food and kitty litter. If interested call me at 460-3167 or drop me a line.

PAST EVENTS

GREAT FALLS HIKE CUM THE MCKINLEYS' MEXICAN DELIGHTS by Helen Price

The event limit of 25 people had been increased by almost 50% as 36 people found their way to the beautiful McKinley home on missing Maria Street in Great Falls, Virginia on Saturday, Nov. 26th for the annual hike and Mexican food bash. Although it was the day after the first snow of the season the weather was sheer perfection - bright sun with mild temperature.

As we left the McKinley home to go down toward the Potomac we were lead by Lu Beale and "half-pint" Josephine, Lu's minature dachshund puppy, for a 7 mile hike while the McKinleys led a smaller group upstream on a shorter hike.

Uphill and down, across free running streams, climbing rocks of various sizes, we made our way along River Trail bordering Mather Gorge. After a stop for lunch at picnic tables in the woods we descended to Difficult Run just below Madeira School and then back through the woods to the McKinley home. A most pleasant and enjoyable hike.

Awaiting us at the McKinley hacienda were fantastic Mexican treats cooked by Celinda, whose New Mexican background makes her an authority on such regional specialities as nachos grande, persole, chili roja, salsa and chips, bizcochitos and arroyo hondo quiche. If the recipes for these dishes are not in the PVS Cookbook they certainly should be - if necessary by addendum.

After much socializing and as the sun began to set, PVSers reluctantly took their leave. Our sincere thanks to Celinda and Ray for their generous hospitality.

CHRISTMAS GLUHWEIN GALA by Shirley Rettig

'Twas a night before Christmas or, more specifically, Tuesday, December 20, when PVSers gathered at the Reston home of Reg and Jean Heitchue for the December meeting and gluhwein party. As usual, there were all sorts of yummy morsels to accompany the drinks and everyone present munched and chattered away until President Gail Pease called the group to order for a brief meeting.

Gorman Young, Bob Wyckoff and Norm Engleman reported that their respective trips to Switzerland, Austria and Utah are progressing well. Gail also pointed out that Bing Poon was featured in an article on skiing in West Virginia.

With official business out of the way, everyone returned to the munchies until it was time to call it an evening. We all thank the Heitchues for their gracious hospitality. They report their new home is almost ready for occupancy so perhaps this event could be termed a "house cooling" party.



The Knee

by
Ray McKinley

In preparing this column I started at the top by writing Jan 1984. 1984, a leap year, dreaded for so long as a result of George Orwell's great work on a "utopian" society. I believe it was called The Knee.

Ankneeway, Happy Knee Year. As we start the year, it seems that half the club has already been skiing this winter. And having not yet skied, I want you all to know I hate each and every one of you.

As far as I know, our earliest skier was Norm Engleperson (I've gone nonsexist). Norm skied Gray Rocks in Canada first of December and he reports every one of the rocks had turned white.

I heard from a reasonably reliable source, (Norm), that when he arrived at Gray Rocks he unloaded his ski boots and poles and ski pants but Lo and Behold (as people are wont to say at this time of year) he had forgotten his ski parka. He was able to borrow one from the area manager.

In trying to call Glade Flake one evening I picked the wrong number off the membership list and ended up talking with Ron Fett. He, along with Jack Lilly and Nancy Monacelli (who designed our TOOT Christmas cover) spent the Christmas holidays skiing in Vail.

Alice Swalm spent the holidays in Denver with her family and managed a couple of days skiing at Winter Park.

From our "Do what I say, not what I do department" - Charlotte Eddy went off to ski Tahoe during the holidays despite the warnings of Veep Sheldon Drews who suggested she not take a chance of injuring herself out west before her European trip. Sheldon of course, went blithely off to Vail before his European trip.

Norb Kulpa, another early bird, skied near Denver. He also did another weird thing. He got married.

Dot Mason was pleased to tell me she was nipped on her Knee- er - knee by a duck. That's just ducknee.

Most teenagers shoot the breeze. Not Patty Wyckoff who shoots a rifle, and very well. So well she will soon be off to the Olympic Trials and if she does well there she will be an Olympkneean.

Charlie Farwell is also just ducknee. He was out duck hunting in November with several companions one of whom was Redskin John Riggins.

Suppose you were looking for a house on a street that had only one street sign and suppose that sign was missing. How would you find the house? That was the dilemma presented to PVSers trying to find the McKinknees (sic) for their post-Thanksgiving hike. (Knee rebuttal: how did we know the sign was down? We know where Maria Avenue is.)

The Clarks reported driving up River Bend Road looking for the sign and seeing both the Masons and the Millers driving in the opposite direction. They thought the event was cancelled until they noticed both parties were staring at street signs.

Ginny Larson arrived so late she missed the hike. She drove up and down River Bend Road desperately looking for the sign. Finally she asked two joggers if they knew where Maria Avenue was. They said no, but there sure were a lot of people looking for it.

As of this writing, the sign is still missing but there is a large home-made, hand-painted sign at the corner saying Maria Avenue.

I don't write eulogies. If I did I'm sure I could write eloquent words about Mary Lee Grasley. I could tell you about her lifetime of giving, of her work with the Special Olympics for skiers or of her involvement with QUASI program. But what I remember most are the little things like the day at the beach when she bought "deely-boppers" for our girls who were feeling left out. It made their day. She will be missed.

COMING EVENTS

- Jan. 17 .. Monthly Meeting at the Garretts. 8 P.M.
- Jan. 24 .. ExCom at the Peases. 7:30 P.M.
- Feb. 21 .. Monthly Meeting at Aase Berling's. 8 P.M.
- Feb. 28 .. ExCom at the McKinleys. 7:30 P.M.

TRIP SCHEDULE

- January 13 - 29: Austria with the Wyckoffs.
- January 20 -Feb. 4: Switzerland with Gorman Young.
- Feb. 11 - Feb 25: Utah with Norm Engleman
- Feb. 10 - 12: Wisp ll. Dina Taylor coordinating.

The group will stay at another new lodge for us - Kirby's Austrian House, Deep Creek, Md., located at beautiful "Ridge at Paradise Point" with a spectacular panoramic view about 6 miles from the ski area. It has 5 bedrooms and a sleep sofa and is limited to 12 people. We will bring our own linen and food as at Timberlake.

The lodging cost per person for 2 nights will be \$30.00 plus food, lift tickets and transportation. We will share food costs/preparation and car pool where feasible.

For more information and to reserve a bed, call Gail Pease at work (924-5000) or Dina Taylor 301-363-0300. Ext. x550. A \$30 per person deposit is required.

March 17 - 24: Vail, Colorado.

This trip, sponsored by the Columbia Ski Club and sanctioned by the BRSC, is being led by PVSer Kathleen Imdahl who says the \$725 tab includes direct round trip air fare from BWI, chartered round trip bus, 6-day lifts and 7-nights lodging in a fantastic hotel. Call Kitty 301/596-0819 or write: P.O. Box 2203, Columbia, MD. 21045

The President's House: President Gail and hubby Larry have checked out their cottage on Marsh Hill Road at Wisp and find it is 0.3 mile from the turn to the ski area. That's walking distance! Should anyone care to rent it for midweek skiing or to join the Pease family for a weekend, please call them at home: 620-4573 or at work, Gail:924-5000; Larry: 435-6167.

NOMINATIONS ARE IN ORDER: As required by PVS bylaws, President Pease has appointed a Nominating Committee to select candidates for the office of President and the 3 departing Ex Com positions for the 1984-85 season. Charlie Gordon will chair the committee composed of John Pulos, Charlotte Reith, Charles and Sara Huggins. Their slate will appear in February TOOT.

PVS OFFICIERS

President Gail Pease
 Vice President .. Sheldon Drews
 Secretary Irene Farrell
 Treasurer Margaret Wyckoff
 Membership Marilyn Clark
 Meetings Chairman Ray McKinley
 TOOT Editor Lu Beale
 TOOT Production . Jan & Bob Marx
 USSA Eastern Rep. Art Topping
 BRSC Reps Bob Grasley
 Geoff' Wadey
 Bob Wyckoff
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Sheldon Drews
 Bob Grasley
 Dorothy Mills

First Term

Steve Grenleski
 Reg Heitchue
 Jim Wingrove

Ex Officio - Bob Marx

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7-1st-3rd
Loys
Jim

Janet & Bob Marx
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