

VOLUME XLIV
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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

NOVEMBER, 1983

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

If the rain that has been falling for four days now (this is written on October 25th) had been snow we would have about 20 inches and we'd be talking about the first blizzard of the 1983-84 season! Instead we are talking about changes at our local ski areas.

Wisp has added 20 feet to the mountain, new trails and a new lift. Canaan has added a new lift and more trails. Timberline was unable to put in their new chair.

Another topic of conversation is the two organizations providing services to recreational skiers. An hour was set aside at the fall Blue Ridge Ski Council meeting to debate the merits of the U.S. Ski Association versus the U.S. Recreational Ski Association. Geoff' Wadey would be the one to fill in the details of that discussion.

Most PVSers have made their ski plans for the upcoming season but if you have not, consider the list of ERSC sanctioned trips collected by Geoff' Wadey and printed in this TOOT.

ExCom encourages anyone who wants to run PVS local trips to let a member of ExCom know so plans can be made. There are guidelines available to prospective leaders to facilitate trip leading.

Now that we have state of the art ski equipment and a trip to go on, all we need is snow! Happy thanksgiving -

Gail Pease, President

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

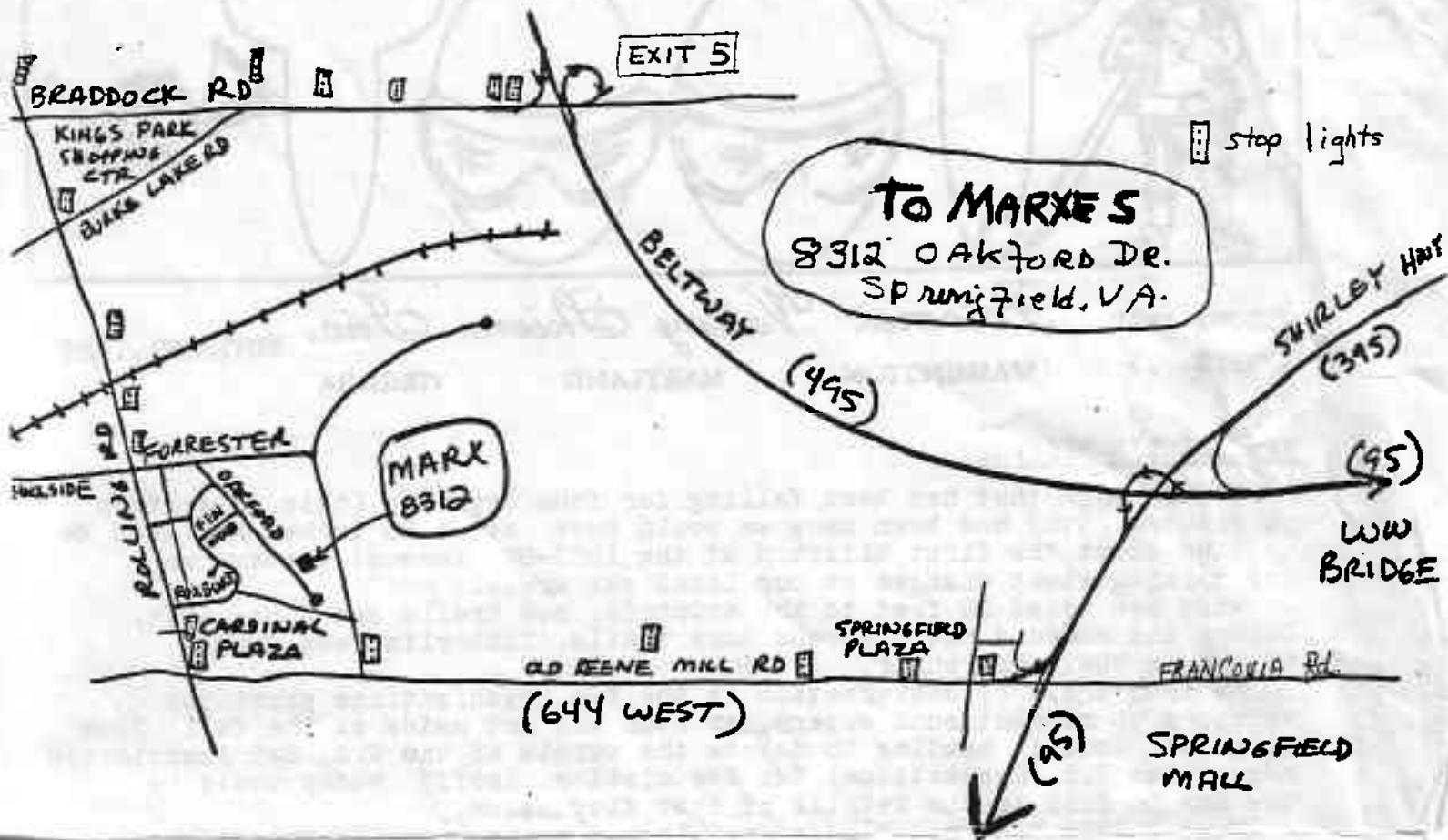
When: Tuesday, November 15th. 8 P.M.

What: Regular third Tuesday get-together of ski-loving friends for talk and refreshments. The meeting will feature a movie on heliskiing in the Bugaboos plus a talk and slides presented by a representative of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Ski Touring Section on cross country skiing in the Canadian Rockies. A brief account of his planned x-c trip for '84 appears on next page.

Where: At the Marx home, 8312 Oakford Drive, Springfield, Va. Telephone: 451-9158.

Directions: See next page.





The Marx meeting will feature a description of the following March 15-26, 1984 crosscountry tour sponsored by the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Ski Touring Section and available to PVsers:

Like the very successful trip to the spectacular Canadian Rockies in 1982, this trip will give 10 days of X-C skiing in varied terrain. Two station wagons will allow flexibility in day trips to satisfy the different abilities and interests of the participants. We will stay at the Alpine Club of Canada's clubhouse near Banff. A cook will prepare breakfast and supper while we will put together our own lunches and help cleanup.

Tentative cost without airfare is \$415; with airfare \$871. Options include overnight trips to other lodges or mountain huts, helicopter X-C skiing, and hot springs bathing. Call John Christian (H-O) 986-1243 as soon as possible so this trip can be firmed up at these costs.

AND SPEAKING OF SKIING; FOR THE 1983-84 SEASON, PRESIDENT GAIL AND HURRY LARRY PEASE HAVE RENTED A SMALL COTTAGE ON MARSH MOUNTAIN ROAD ABOUT 2 MILES FROM THE SKI SLOPES AT WISP. THE PEASES ARE WILLING TO RENT THIS COTTAGE DURING THE WEEK TO MIDWEEK SKIERS AND ON WEEKENDS TO SKIERS WILLING TO SHARE ACCOMODATIONS WITH THEM. INTERESTED PARTIES MAY CALL THE PEASES AT HOME (620-4573) or GAIL (924-5000) OR LARRY (435-6167) AT WORK.

Special Events

STATE DEPARTMENT TOUR AND LUNCHEON by Bob Grasley

Our tour filled up immediately and we were then able to get a few more spaces. We have a terrific luncheon speaker lined up. The extra spaces will be filled in the order in which checks are received.

When: Thursday, November 10th. 10 A.M.

Directions: Meet at the South (Main) entrance of the State Department on C Street N.W. between 21st and 23rd streets N.W. The Foggy Bottom Station of Metro gets you within five short blocks of the State Department.

Lunch is at the Foreign Service Club which is just northeast of the State Department at 2101 E. St. N.W. (Corner of E & 21st).

Cost: \$15.00 per person (includes lunch).

Make check payable to PVS Inc. and mail to Bob Grasley

P.O. Box 6365, Silver Spring, Md. 20906.

Call Bob or Mary Lee at 460-3167 for more information.

P.S. Car pooling is recommended.

GREAT FALLS HIKE

When: Saturday, November 26th. 11 A.M. (Rain date: Nov. 27th)

What: Second annual hike in Virginia's Great Falls Park orchestrated by Celinda and Ray McKinley. We will hike into the park from their house. Bring your own picnic lunch. After the hike we will return to the McKinleys' for hot mulled wine and snacks. Cost: \$3 - \$4 approximately.

Reservations: Participants limited to 25. Call McKinleys (759-4432)

DIRECTIONS TO THE MCKINLEY HOUSE: Take Beltway Exit #13 for Great Falls via Rte 193 (Georgetown Pike). Go about 6½ miles (0.4 mile beyond the light at Great Falls Park) and turn right on River Bend Road. Go 1.8 miles to right on Maria Ave. The McKinleys are at 9201 Maria Ave. - 4th house from corner on right.

SKI-O-REE 1984 WILL BE HELD AT CANAAN VALLEY AND MT. TIMBERLINE FEBRUARY 3 - 5. SATURDAY SKIING, A NASTAR-TYPE RACE, AND SPECIAL EVENTS ARE PLANNED FOR MT. TIMBERLINE. LODGING, MEALS, SUNDAY SKIING, AND A CITIZENS' RACE ARE PLANNED FOR CANAAN VALLEY. IF INTERESTED, CONTACT SKI-O-REE COORDINATOR CHRISTINA THURBER 7510 ESSEX AVE. SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22150. PHONE: (703) 451-1336.

PAST EVENTS

Octoberfest by Frau Farrell

Perhaps it was the early morning showers that restricted the use of the garden that set the mood for the Octoberfest - SEHR GEMUTLICH (very friendly). Thirty five Pvs'ers as well as Ol Sol showed up for food, merriment and das bier. Rumor has it that the bier barrel travelled from the Wingroves in Potomac to the Flakes at Annapolis back to the Wyckoffs in Silver Spring - now really!!

Several guests attended in peasant Bavarian dress and some in "Western" Bavarian. The music was authentic and so was the repast - sauerkraut by that well known European chef, Aina Thomas, der salat potato by our own gourmet cook, Vivian Berry, bratwurst by those two distinguished sausage connoisseurs, Bob and Margaret Wyckoff, das brot by Marlene Lang and, that all time favorite dessert, pflaumenkuchen by those talented frauiliens, Marilyn Clark, Nancy Laymon, Dorothy Mills, Charlotte Reith and Bette Walker. The lovely young fraulein, Patty Wyckoff graciously assisted in the festivities.

All too soon it was time to say auf Wiedersehen to our guten hosts for such an Ausgezeichnet event. Our hearty "danke schöens" to the Wyckoffs.

OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING by Sara Huggins

The regular third Tuesday monthly meeting was held at the lovely home of Charlotte Eddy in Fairfax, Va., with approximately 50 in attendance. After socializing and partaking of wines, apple cider, soft drinks, a tableful of cheeses/crackers, chili con queso, chips/dips, etc., Pres. Gail called the meeting to order. Gail thanked Bob and Mary Lee Grasley for setting up the Blue Ridge Ski Council meeting at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza in Rockville. Reports and up-dates were also given on coming activities, meetings and trips.

Brian Eardley of the Ski Center in Washington showed and discussed the newest in ski equipment. Three skis from France were shown: Dynamic VR 20 (fibro metal - wet process), good for ice, Dynastar (Dynasty Elastol elite) (\$330.00), and LaCroix (fibre carbon, handmade in former olympian Léo LaCroix's small factory), very flexible (\$330.00, entry-level, \$435.00 & \$550.00). A demo pair will be available at the ski center (Bob Grasley has a pair). Brian also brought a Pre-(Precision) -1200 made in Sun Valley. Also mentioned were Super Guy Slalom (Super G), originally designed for World Cup Super G event, turns easily. For general purpose, East-West skiing, giant slalom skis were recommended (Atomic, Rossingnol). Nothing new to report on bindings now, but an electronic binding is in the works. Boots previewed were: Lange - thermofit (electronic heat-fitting) (\$275.00), Nordica, also Soloman - rear-entry boots with a dial cable system, front and back, to control the fit (\$235.00), Koflach - a junior racing boot with cant adjustments (\$165.00), Dachstein - conventional boot with canting, also with foaming - a chemical compound squirted into the boot to make it form around the foot (\$240.00, without foam, approx. \$300.00 additional for foam). A new canting device was also shown. Also discussed were orthotics for boots (\$78.00) (Bob Grasley has some). Orthotics are also available for running and tennis shoes. Also, Gore-Tex fabrics for blocking snow, sleet, rain and wind and keeping you warm and dry, while the fabric also breathes so perspiration can escape.

Brian also told us of a future new ski area (1,000' vertical), perhaps two years off, in Maryland, near Liberty. There will be a Ski Show at the Washington Sheraton, November 11-13.

PAST EVENTS

BLUE RIDGE SKI COUNCIL by Geoff' Wadey

PVS was the host for the Fall Meeting of the Blue Ridge Ski Council. Bob and Marylee Grasley made the arrangements for the meeting at the new Holiday Inn in Rockville. Our other official representatives were our president, Gail Pease, Bob Wycoff, and Geoff' Wadey. Marylyn Clark handled the reception desk. Trip sanctions were granted to four more club trips: PVS's to Switzerland; Air Force Headquarters to Mt Tremblant, 23 November; and Columbia's to Killington (5 days) 5 February, and to Vail (6 days), 17 March.

The Ski Patrol now has eight patrols in our area with 230 people involved. However, they always need more patrollers and would appreciate our help in recruiting them. They now present slide programs on request on hypothermia, clothing, using lifts, and the skier's safety code and have an excellent safety movie, "Skier's Choice". This year's BRSC Ski Safety Award was presented to Den Drumwright of SCWDC for his years of work on safety education and binding release checking.

Ski-O-Ree (BRSC's big event) will be at Canaan Valley, 3-5 February. Perhaps we should participate in this as a fun social weekend for partying, meeting skiers from other clubs, and skiing. Canaan Valley has expanded its area with a new trail and snow making. WISP has added 20 feet to its vertical with bulldozers and new trails on the back side.

The big item at the meeting was a pair of presentations by the now-competing organizations, the United States Ski Association, with whom we are associated through the Blue Ridge Ski Council, and the United States Recreational Ski Association (of Southern California). Both claim to foster both racing and recreational skiing and each would like your twenty dollars.

FALL HIKE/DINNER WITH THE MASONS by Lu Beale

Recipe for a Perfect Day:

Take a radiant October Saturday hike through the sun-drenched autumn foliage in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia
Add 40 hardy, intrepid, never-say-die, always cheerful PVSers
Add offerings of end-of-trail thirst quenching potables
Tease with canapes, veggies, cheeses and other appetizers
Finish off with a bountiful dinner of beef stew and peach cobbler a-la-mode served to weary hikers gathered around the hearth of a blazing fire in a cottage hidden in the Shenandoah woods

All of the above planned, orchestrated, and produced by those matchless connoisseurs of the Good Life, Dorothy and Jenckes Mason.
How could you beat that for a perfect day?

Site of the hike was a 10 mile section of the Appalachian Trail on a ridge within sight of the Mason cabin. Some hikers went 3 miles, some 7, some 10. There was something to suit the taste of all.

Of course, there were a few minor snafus. Trail leader Frank Shelburne overshot the lunch stop rendezvous and goodness knows where his followers ate while trail leader Lu Beale's followers threatened her with a class action suit for not knowing the difference between level and uphill.

Not to worry - all survived and all say thank the Lord for the Masons. What would we do without this grand event to look forward to each year?



The Knee

by
Ray McKinley

Last year at about this time I wrote some special poetknee to help spur our membership drive. Now, by popular (?) demand, and to again keep membership down, I'll repeat the poem and, to celebrate the occasion, offer a brand new, longer second verse. I think you'll agree, it adds considerably to the work's digkneety.

The Knee
isn't free.
You must pay for me
by rejoining PV
S

Second verse:

Now you can join a big ski club
or you can join a slight one.
Or you can join a black ski club
Or you can join a white one.
But it's surely best for you to be
in PVS, "the Club with a Knee."

Now isn't that a marvelous new slogan? "PVS, the Club with a Knee." What phonics! What verve! What a ring! What a Knee!

The possibilities are positively whelming (not quite up to over-whelmng). Entire merchandise lines based on "PVS, the Club with a Knee." Picture sweatshirts enscribed thusly: "I", the Knee logo, followed by "d" and then "PVS." Or, since we are a club of eaters, we could replace "PVS" with "Bread." Get it?

According to Dot Mills, the PVSers on the Wyckoff-led trip to Greece had a ball and especially enjoyed quaffing resina, the native Greek wine. Is that the same stuff Charlotte Reith sampled a while back and ended up skinknee dipping in the Aegean?

Karen and Knox Felker have rented a cabin in Norway for a good part of the winter. They plan to do a lot of skiing (cross country, I presume) using the cabin as a base. Except for the short days, it sounds like a wonderful idea. And it's in my favorite part of Europe: Scandekneevia.

Art Topping was not at the October meeting.

But lots of others were. After a decrease in attendance at recent meetings, it was a pleasure to have so many turnout to eat all of Charlotte Eddy's wonderful fixin's. I met new members Jake and Arlene Jacobs who pointed out that we had previously met at the long-ago-get-lost meeting at Shekey's Pizza.

It was also a pleasure, as usual, to chat with venerable Dean Worcester (how do you like that adjective, Dean?) who explained that he was visiting an Irish friend and thus was able to drop in. I didn't know Fairfax City was closer to Ireland than it was to Annapolis.

Our guest speaker, Brian Eardley, wowed us again with all sorts of neat information. I'll mention only a bit since a full report is on Page 4.

Lift tickets at Snowshoe will be \$26.50 this year. Can you believe it?

Brian's great hint for improving your skiing: ski every day for 10 years.

Brian also noted that leather inner boots are "the newest thing" because they can be made to fit better. Jack Lilly chimed in, "That's not new. You get into a tub of water and let them dry on you. I used to do it all the time."

AFTER THE FALL - Some details on Reg Heitchue's accident while working on his new Reston lakefront home: Seems he was on some scaffolding from which, unbeknownst to him, the supporting structure had been removed. The last thing he remembers thinking was "Oh, shucks (or something) - I'm falling." When he came to the rescue squad was there. He suffered two broken ribs, a broken finger, a chipped tooth, and 25 stitches in his lower lip.

One good thing about after the fall: after the fall comes ski season.

I close with a final verse of my epic poem "Ode to PVS Membership." Note how this verse picks up the dominant theme of verse two and links it with the rhyming structure of verse one to crescendo to a soaring finish.

The club with a Knee,
The club with a Knee.
PVS --
the club to be
in.

Following is a listing of ski trips sponsored by the Blue Ridge Ski Council. Thanks to Geoff' Wadey for collecting the information and running it through his computer.

TWO-WEEK TRIPS

AUSTRIA

01-13 MONTAFON VY PVS 301-589-5532
03-01 ST ANTON CTN 301-269-1606

EUROPE

01-28 - SCW 684-7154

SWITZERLAND

01-20 ZERMATT/VERB PVS 202-244-2319

USA

02-11 SALT LAKE CY PVS 301-299-2635

ONE-WEEK TRIPS

CANADA

12-26 MT TREMBLANT SCW -
01-07 GRAY ROCKS SCW -
01-14 GRAY ROCKS AHL 703-960-6655
01-22 MT SUTTON GSC 301-344-6108
02-18 BANFF SCW 237-1074
03-03 MT TREMBLANT RSC 804-748-6268

SWITZERLAND

01-20 ST MORITZ BAL 301-667-4239

USA

12-10 STOWE LTS SCW -
12-10 VAIL RSC 804-359-5555
12-24 S LAKE TAHOE SCW 379-2087
12-26 SALT LAKE CY RSC 804-747-7986
12-26 SUGARLOAF ME CTN 301-263-8118
12-26 VAIL SCW 681-7014
01-02 PICO VT RSC 804-741-2066
01-14 STEAMBOAT SCW 398-5891
01-14 STRATTON LTS SCW -
01-21 ASPEN BAL 301-647-4981
01-21 ASPEN SCW 820-8720
01-21 STOWE SCW -
01-21 TAOS NM RSC 804-266-1986
01-22 SUGARLOAF ME AHL 301-352-1748
01-28 KILLINGTON SCW -
01-28 STOWE RSC 804-734-6009
02-04 HEAVENLY VY BAL 301-494-7089
02-05 KILLINGTON CTN 301-263-8495
02-11 LAKE TAHOE RSC 804-744-2811
02-11 VAIL SCW 671-6129
02-12 SMUGGLERS N GSC 301-344-8502
02-18 SUN VALLEY BAL 301-592-2819
02-24 WATERVILL VY GSC 301-853-3686
02-25 N LAKE TAHOE SCW 765-4841
03-03 LAKE TAHOE AHL 703-560-5507
03-03 STOWE SCW -
03-03 TELLURIDE SCW 363-4476
03-10 STEAMBOAT SCW 681-7014
03-10 SUN VALLEY AHL 703-560-5507
03-11 KILLINGTON GSC 301-344-7576
03-17 SNOWBIRD UT SCW 892-1225
03-24 ASPEN SCW 556-9650
03-31 LAKE TAHOE CTN 301-768-2412

SHORT TRIPS

CANADA

02-16 MT SUTTON RSC 804-648-3352
02-16 MT SUTTON SCW -

USA

11-23 STOWE SCW 684-7154
12-10 SNOW LOCAT'N AHL -
12-15 KILLINGTON SCW -
12-22 LAKE PLACID SCW -
12-27 BLUE KNOB CTN 301-269-5724
12-30 HUNTER MT SCW -
12-30 SNOWSHOE RSC 804-748-0702
01-05 SUGARBUSH SCW -
01-06 OREGON RIDGE CTN 301-268-2494
01-06 SNOWSHOE SCW -
01-12 KILLINGTON SCW -
01-12 LOON MT CTN 301-776-7063
01-12 STOWE SCW -
01-13 WISP RSC 804-526-0219
01-13 WISP SCW -
01-14 ELK MT AHL 703-425-7743
01-18 CAMELBACK SCW -
01-19 MT SNOW SCW -
01-20 ELK MT SCW -
01-20 GREEK PEAK CTN 301-969-8224
01-20 SNOWSHOE RSC 804-285-8089
01-26 JAY PEAK SCW -
01-26 STOWE LTS SCW -
01-27 GREEK PEAK SCW -
01-27 HOMESTEAD RSC 804-744-1601
01-27 WISP CTN 301-255-8203
01-29 SEVEN SPRGS RSC 804-748-2422
02-02 CANNON/LOON SCW -
02-03 CANAAN RSC 804-748-4126
02-03 CANAAN SCW -
02-03 GREEK PEAK GSC 301-441-3644
02-04 CANAAN AHL 703-451-1336
02-09 BERKSHIRE E SCW -
02-10 BLUE KNOB RSC 804-272-2299
02-10 CANAAN SCW -
02-10 HOMESTEAD RSC 804-748-2854
02-16 STRATTON MT SCW -
02-17 GREEK PEAK SCW -
02-18 GREEK PEAK AHL 703-549-3743
02-23 GREEK PEAK RSC 804-230-8924
02-23 STOWE SCW -
02-24 HUNTER MT SCW -
03-01 MT PLACID SCW -
03-01 SUGARBUSH CTN 301-798-6341
03-04 SNOWSHOE RSC 804-272-4388
03-06 SUGARBUSH SCW -
03-09 SNOWSHOE SCW -
03-15 KILLINGTON SCW -
03-15 STOWE CTN 301-747-3945
03-15 STRATTON MT SCW -
03-16 SNOWSHOE RSC 804-526-4176
03-29 STOWE SCW -

SHORT TRIPS ARE LESS THAN 5 DAYS.

CLUB CODES

AFH AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS SKI CLUB
AHL ARLINGTON HALL SKI CLUB
BAL BALTIMORE SKI CLUB
CTN CRABTOWNE SKI CLUB
GSC GODDARD SKI CLUB
PVS POTOMAC VALLEY SKIERS
RSC RICHMOND SKI CLUB

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov. 5 ... Harvest Dinner. See page 3.
- Nov. 10 ... State Department Tour. See page 3.
- Nov. 15 ... Montly Meeting at the Marxes. 8 p.m.
- Nov. 22 ... ExCom at the Wyckoffs. 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 26 ... Great Falls Hike with the McKinleys. See page 3.
- Dec. 20 ... Monthly Meeting at the Heitchues. 8:00 p.m.
- Dec. 27 ... ExCom at the Clarks. 7:30 p.m.

Trips *****

- Jan. 13 - Jan. 29 : Austria. There are still a few spots open.
Call the Wyckoffs. (589-5532)
- Jan. 20 - Feb. 4: Switzerland. Filled. Waitlisters accepted.
Call Gorman Young. (244-2319)
- Feb. 11 - Feb. 25: Utah. Space available.
Call Norm Engleman. (299-2635).

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