

VOLUME XXVI

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

JANUARY, 1991

NUMBER I

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE :

GOOD SKIING


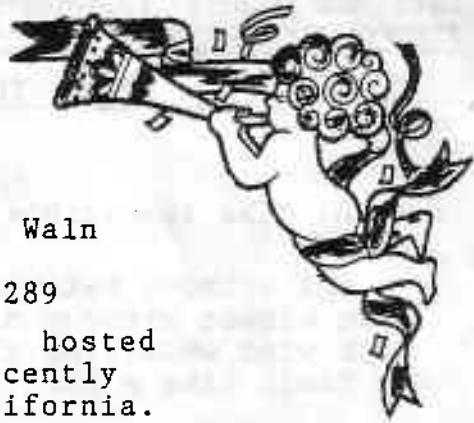
AND

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

TO ALL!!!

Dick
Dick Semarford, President

MONTHLY MEETING

- 
- 
- WHEN: Tuesday, January 22, 1991
WHERE: At the home of Janet and Chris Wain
7853 Painted Daisy Drive,
Springfield, Va. Tel: 703-912-7289
WHAT: First meeting of the new year hosted
by that sun-tanned couple recently
returned from a sojourn in California.
Mont Sutton returnees should also be there
in force. Good time guaranteed.

DIRECTIONS to 7853 PAINTED DAISY DR. SPRINGFIELD, VA.

Take Beltway to #95 South. Stay in the far right lane and take Springfield Exit. On exit ramp, merge left onto Old Keene Mill Rd. Proceed down Old Keene Mill about 1.3 miles to light at Hunter Village Rd. Turn left onto Hunter Village Rd into "DAVENTRY." Proceed down Hunter Village (25 Mile speed limit is enforced!) just under one mile to Painted Daisy Drive. Turn right onto Painted Daisy Drive (watch for speed bumps on this street!) and proceed to 7853 near end on right. There is NO PARKING along Painted Daisy curbs. Use central parking area or proceed to far left overflow area beyond central parking down in Gerardia Court where curbside parking is allowed. If you need help, don't panic! Call the Wains (763-912-7289.)

-2-

— COMING EVENTS —

BEER TASTING AT THE SWABYS' - March 9, 1991

Limited to 20. Call Susannah (703-978-7764).

PHANTOM AT THE KENNEDY CENTER OPERA HOUSE - JULY 27, 1991

SOLD OUT!! SOLD OUT!! SOLD OUT!!

Immediate response by PVSers after the December TOOT hit the mailboxes created a swift sell-out of our tickets to the July 27th matinee performance of Andrew Lloyd Webber's latest hit - "The Phantom of the Opera." Coordinator: Steve Grenleski (301-384-9013)

— **!! SKI TRIPS !!** —

MONT SUTTON - Sunday Jan. 13 - Sunday Jan. 20 1991

Due to a cancellation there is space for two available. Call Jack Peoples-(301-840-2213)

CRESTED BUTTE AND TELURIDE - February 17 - Mar. 3, 1991

Call Jack Peoples(301-840-2213)

SKI NEW ZEALAND? Call Charles Farwell (301-949-2375)

COPPER MOUNTAIN WITH CLUB MED - Feb 3 - Feb 10, 1991. Call Kirk Burns (703-256-4443).

STOWE, VERMONT - March 17-22, 1991.

Call Jack Peoples (301-840-2213)

ANOTHER SONG FROM THE PVS 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Tune: "The Impossible Dream." Words by Bill Anderson

To ski without twisting a knee,
Down slopes without hitting a tree;
With wind whistling all 'round your body,
To feel, like a bird, you are free.

To wait in a lift-line with grace,
Step off and not fall on your face;
To cheat just a bit on experience
In hopes that you might win a race!

This is my quest, to follow that trail,
No matter how icy, no matter how stale;
To keep up the speed, and not suffer a loss,
To be willing to ski to Zermatt for some cheap dental floss!
And I know, if I'll only be true to this glorious quest,
That my heart will lie peaceful and calm when I'm laid to my rest.

And the world will be better for this;
That one man, tired and covered with snow,
Will strive with his last ounce of courage,
To go where so few ever go.



THE KNEE

by
Ray McKinley

For the eleventh straight year, let me be the first (only?) one to wish you a Happy Knee Year. We are now beyond the winter solstice, days are getting longer (and colder) and skiing is great.

Charles Huggins got a great Christmas present - a ski vacation for two in Austria. Wife Sarah, the non-skier in the family, won it at the Ski Show at Ballston.

At the same show, Bing Poon won a videotape of a recent Warren Miller film. Watch for it at an upcoming PVS meeting.

The PVS Christmas Party (no one could possibly call it merely the December meeting) at the Heitchues' was splendid. There were greens and poinsettias everywhere. Vivian Barry had a huge poinsettia embroidered on her sweater. (Hubby Bob had traded his tux for a skiing sweat shirt.)

Pat Cope wore a neat little poinsettia pin, but it had green petals and red anthers and stigmas. Perhaps a negative pin?

Ruth Schrider, just returned from her first-ever week of skiing in the west, had reverted to ice skating. She wore a pin of Frosty the Snowman on ice skates. (She also had on some other things.)

With apologies to Glade and Joan Flake, Mary Jane McCarthy proposes a new sub group of PVS to be called the Snowflakes. It's for those members whose memories are failing. She suggested a membership but I forgot the names she included.

I have to emote a bit more on our wonderful 25th Anniversary gig. Charter members Meg Anderson and Bruce Harstad both won prizes. Magma kneemously, Meg volunteered to trade her \$20 gift certificate for Bruce's Nordica ski boots.

Among those who waited until the very last minute to send in their responses to the invitations to the 25th Anniversary dinner were Dick Comerford ("I didn't know we were having one," he apologized) and Wayne Yessler who won the Worst Penmanship Award when he was initially included as Boris Yeltsin.

Biddy Esher and Dean Worcester were the last to arrive at the party - dinner was being served. "Trouble parking the boat," explained Dean.

Overall, we made a profit of \$270 on the event. Great, we should do it again (but unfortunately, our profit isn't enough to prevent a dues increase planned for next year),

Bob and Jan Marx took over 100 photos of dinner guests. Conclusion: PVSers are not their most photogenic while eating. Jan, by the way, had two more of her Sutton ski pictures published in a recent issue of The Senior Advocate.

As we have said, Mary Jane McCarthy and her committee of 7 worked for 8 months preparing for the Anniversary Dinner attended by 135 celebrants. Later, the committee held a post-party party. All attended and indulged in self-congratulations except Dot Mills who unfortunately had to attend a strip show that evening (all right, it was the Washington Opera's Salome).

I skied in the fall down the fall line and didn't fall. Skiing at Steamboat was a ball. I know that, grammatically, wasn't a great line but I thought maybe you'd fall for it.

Skiing at Steamboat Springs really was a ball. The Leonhardts almost didn't make it. As part of her new job, Barbara had to draft a complete year's research project for her group of 18 in two weeks time. She barely made it.

And, finally, a bit more on ubiquitous PVSers. While at Steamboat, the Leonhardts and Dean Worcester went to ski a day at WinterPark. There, who should they meet on the slope but Norm Engelman and Charlie Huggins!

THE STEAMBOAT SPECIAL

by Ruth Schrider

On Saturday, December 8th, the Denver Airport was the meeting place for most of the PVS ers who were arriving from various parts of the country. Dick Comerford, our leader, had previously flown in from Montana, Charlie Gordon came in from Texas, and Ray McKinley from Seattle. The rest came in on many different airlines. Betty and Dick, our hostess and host, were there to greet us. One of them must have had a few words with the airlines, because all the flights arrived on time.

This was the beginning of an extremely well organized week. Among the skiers were two of the Comerford children. Debbie, a 22-year-old, beautiful, young woman (we know where she got her good looks) turned many heads when she walked by. Christy, a bright and polite 9-year-old held a much-enjoyed ski class for a group of her seniors.

On Sunday, our first day of skiing, the trails were described as "packed powder," while on Monday they were described as "HARD packed powder." But in spite of what could be called "not quite optimal" conditions, the PVS_ers were all out there enjoying the 50- to 60-degree temperature.

On Sunday night we had our first communal dinner at Mazzolo's, where the food was plentiful, the conversation delightful, and the desserts humongous. ~~The highlight of the evening came when the~~ waitress asked everyone over 65 to raise his or her hand for the 10% discount. No more secrets!

Dinner on Tuesday night was at Scotty's Barbecue. The cook came to our table to explain the barbecue process. When he said the brisket and ribs were smoked for four to five days, in less than a heartbeat, Ray McKinley quipped, "We don't have that much time." After dinner the cook told us about Strawberry Park, a mineral spring spa with three pools of varying temperatures, located in the wilderness. After-dark bathing in the buff is an accepted but not required practice. All this spa talk intrigued Barbara and Fred Leonhardt, Sal Mahallati, and Ray McKinley. The next night they went into town to a health club spa and rode the water slide into the pool.

The "in-town" spa did not satisfy Fred's adventurous spirit. Next morning he corralled a few of us (Sal, Fred, and yours truly) to try the real thing. Strawberry Park was exactly what we had been led to expect. The water in the warmest spa was 105 degrees, while the night air temperature was in the forties. We felt comfortable and safe in a very primitive and dark environment. As I floated on my back looking at the sky, there was not a star to be seen --- or was that the moon I saw --- most likely it was just Fred climbing out of one pool and going to the adjacent one. If it was Fred -- I'll never tell.

(Continued on next page.)

STEAMBOAT SPECIAL (continued from previous page.)

Not to be outdone by her husband, the very next morning Barbara broke the binding on one of her skis. Her location at that time was at the top of the mountain. Since Barbara was unable to descend on one ski, the Ski Patrol was called and Barb was taken by toboggan to mid-mountain and then transferred to a ski-mobile for the rest of the ride down. No question but that she had the most novel experience of us all.

Dapper and/or dashing Charlie Gordon, who has been known to cut a wide swath improved on his techniques several times during the week by dropping off the trails. But never fear --- Huey Roberts, the expert excavator, was near and ever willing to demonstrate his hard-earned survival skills.

A birthday party was held for Sal Mahalatti. Several PVS'ers arranged for a birthday cake with a ski motif: skiers, slope and all. After a hearty chorus of "Happy Birthday" (which put the Moron Tabernacle Choir to shame), Sal entertained us with a story of an embarrassing event from his med school days. I wonder if that cadaver really did chase him.

On awards night, Mary Jane McCarthy received the "Sleeping Around" award. I understand that at one point the bellhop was following her around with a cot. Lee Coleman got an award for great skiing after a 12-year layoff. Betty Comerford was congratulated for doing such a great job of helping Dick (75%) and letting him take the credit.

Actually, there was plenty of credit to go around and we thank both the Comerfords for a super week at Steamboat.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AT THE HEITCHUES'

On December 18th, Jean and Reg Heitchue hosted (for the umpteenth time!) the club's annual Christmas party. We have grown so accustomed to this introduction to the Christmas season we could hardly think of decorating our own homes until we have gotten into the spirit of things at the bottom of Owls Cove Lane.

Even before the starting gun sounded, a record 70-plus members and guests began streaming down the kindergarten slope - no skis necessary this year! Guided by the strategically placed candles in plastic containers (an early rain dissolved the usual paper bags), celebrants quickly filled the kitchen, hall and living room of the Heitchues' wonderful custom-built home. Just as quickly, they did away with 2 gallons of gluhwein, eighteen 1½ liter bottles of wine, 10 bottles of beer, five half gallon bottles of sodas, a gallon of cider, and all the coffee on the premises while, at the same time, demolishing platters of goodies contributed by members. A Japanese rice dish, a Mexican salsa dip, and an array of cheeses were special delights nestled among the plates of Christmas cookies and cakes.

President Comerford managed to hold a brief business meeting but clearly the evening was meant for merrymaking and the festive group made the most of it..

When the last guest departed around 11 P.M. with sincere thanks to the Heitchues, Jean declared it had all been great fun for them, too, and "really no work at all." We know better and we are very, very obliged. Happy New Year, Reg and Jean. (P.S. Left behind :One pair eye glasses. One eye glass case.)

CALENDAR

- Jan. 22 ... Monthly Meeting at the Walns'. See Page 1.
- Jan. 29 ... ExCom at Howard Hensleys'.
- Feb. 19 ... Monthly Meeting at Kathy Quinden's. 8 P.M.
- Mar. 9 ... Beer Tasting at the Swabys'. See page 2.
- Mar. 19 ... March Meeting at the Leonhardts'. 8 P.M.
- Apr. 16 ... Annual Meeting at Adele Waggaman's. 8 P.M.
- July 27 ... "Phantom of the Opera." See page 2.

PVS OFFICIERS

President Dick Comerford
 Vice President .. Bill Anderson
 Secretary... Irene Farrell
 Treasurer .. Margaret Wyckoff
 Membership . Marilyn Clark
 Program Chairman.. Ray McKinley
 TOOT Editor ... Lu Beale
 TOOT Production. Jan & Bob Marx
 Movie Mogul .. Rosemary Soler
 Answering Service .. The Marxes
 (703-451-9158)

EXCOM

Second Term

Bill Anderson
 Myra Evans
 Dina Taylor

First Term

Bill Brown
 Howard Hensley
 June Kelsay



ROBERT & JANET MARX
 8312 OAKFORD DR.
 SPRINGFIELD, VA 22152

