



VOLUME XXXIV

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

MAY 1999

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

NUMBER 5

Fellow PVSers

Earlier this year, when I realized I might be elected to be the next President of PVS, I was very worried at the prospect of following all-time-great Lu Beale into the job. Lu even had Eleanor Roosevelt as her mentor! I needed help. So I looked up my role model – the ever scintillating and effervescent Al Gore. (Al and I share a lot in common, you know: our bubbly personalities, both VPs, love of the macarena...) I asked Al, "If you're elected, how are you going to do it? How will you follow such a dynamic president into office?"

Al said, "Nancy, you've got it made. There aren't any steamy stories circulating about Lu Beale, no corruption, no interns, and your President probably doesn't even own a cigar!"

"That's just the point, Al," I said. "Lu Beale's great! What a tough act to follow!"

"Well, Nancy," Al said to me, "just tell people you invented something really great like the internet. They'll never know and you'll be set. That's what I do."

So, I'm here to announce to you all that it was I who invented the ski pole! Or was it the ski poll? Where you ask people where they'd like to ski next year. And the results are in: some people said Steamboat, some said Big Sky..... (By the way, see Serge Triaou, our Ski Trip Coordinator, to let him know yet what ski area(s) interest you.)

Congratulations to all of our new PVS members; may they enjoy PVS for many years to come. And hearty best wishes and congratulations to our new Ex Com: Don Dillon, Sheldon Drews, and Charlotte Kline who join Bob Marx, Marty McNeill, and Jack Ragen.

Today's quote in my calendar: "Good friends are good for our health." I can't imagine better friends than PVS so here's to our health as we slide into the next millennium! Thanks for electing me. I'll do my best to carry forth the business of PVS. See you at the next PVS event!

Nancy McKinley, President

MONTHLY MEETING - MAY 18, 1999 - 7:30 P.M.

Home of Barbara and Fred Leonhardt
 606 Firehouse Lane
 Gaithersburg, MD 20878
 Tel: 301-9063-8111

Directions to the Leonhardt home: Take the Beltway to Route 270 to Exit 6B, Rte 28, Darnestown Rd. Go west. Follow Darnestown Rd. for 4.6 miles to signal at Kentlands entrance, Tschiffley Square Rd. Turn right. At 3rd stop sign, turn right at Leeks Lot Way. Almost immediately turn right at Firehouse Lane to #606. Carpooling is encouraged, since parking at the house is limited.

MAY HIKE AT LAKE NEEDWOOD

On Wednesday May 19 th, at 10:30 AM, there will be a hike (about 4 miles) around Lake Needwood in Montgomery County. Following the two hour walk, lunch will be served at George Hicho's house in Derwood near the park. The hike is open to all, but lunch is limited to the first 12 callers. The cost of the lunch will be \$6.00 per person. Please call either George Hicho at 301-963-1836 or Sue Walsh at 301-589-7159 for reservations.

The meeting place for the hike will be the main pavilion at Lake Needwood. The lake is located off Avery road in Rockville. In Rockville take route 28 east and just past Gude Drive turn left onto Avery road. Go about 2 to 3 miles on Avery road till you come to the park entrance on the left. Proceed into the park taking the next left and the first right until you reach the main pavilion and the parking area. Need more definitive directions, please call George Hicho.



MIDWEEK BIKE 'N LUNCH
Middleburg Horse & Wine Country
Thursday, May 27, 1999 11:00 AM

Starting Point: Middleburg (VA) at the Upper Crust Bakery which is just west of Safeway. Leaders will be having morning coffee and pastry on the rear patio of the Bakery between 10:30 and 11:00. Ride will really leave at 11:00 AM as scheduled (Latecomers advised to meet us in The Plains). [Directions: From Beltway Exit 9 take I-66 West 33 miles to Exit 31. Make a right (north) turn onto VA 245, then go one mile to T intersection (VA 55) in The Plains. Go right ½ block on VA 55 to left at gas station at VA 626 (Loudon Ave.), continue 8 miles on VA 626 to Middleburg Turn right on Route 50 for 1-1/2 blocks and look for Safeway on left. Turn left on Pendleton at Safeway and park on one of the side streets. Look for Upper Crust Bakery in white wood frame building on West side of Pendleton St. and check for leaders on rear patio.]

Total distance: 18-22 miles. Ride will proceed via Rte. 50 and Zulla Rd (VA 709) to The Plains (rest stop). Then north on VA 626 for five miles to Piedmont Vineyards for winetasting and a special event. No formal food stop, but you can pick up goodies at the Upper Crust Bakery or at the rest stop in The Plains (at gas station or across street in gourmet food store). Note: This ride takes place mostly on two lane roads with a short stretch on busy Rte. 50. Road riding skills required. Scenic rolling countryside with hills (don't say we didn't warn you!).

Leaders: Marvin Hass (703) 751-4737 and Betty Byrne (202) 483-4048

New Event - Tour The Woodlawn Plantation Wed. June 9th 10:30a.m.

George Washington's granddaughter lived at Woodlawn plantation nearly two centuries ago. Many of her things are still in the large plantation house. On the grounds, is the Pope-Leighey house designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. We will have a guided tour of both houses for \$7. After the tour, PVSers will have lunch at the Cedar Knolls Inn at the intersection of Lucia Ln. with the the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Interested PVSers should contact Charles & Sara Huggins (301) 424-5725. Details on the two locations (Woodlawn Plantation and Cedar Knolls Inn) in Mt. Vernon will follow in the June Toot.



OLNEY THEATER & DINNER, SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2 P. M.

You all come! See Moss Hart's "Light up the Sky." A satirical salute to the show business world, chronicling the first night in Boston of a pre-Broadway try-out. Very witty. If we get as many as 15 signups, the bargain price will be \$20.

To reserve, call Jeannette Albersheim (301-598-7525). By July 3 deadline she must receive your check made out to her for \$20 each. Her address is 3574 Fiske Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20906-1729. Indicate whether you plan to join other PVSers for dinner at the Gazebo Restaurant in Rock Creek Shopping Center.



WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED in attending an opera this summer-- "Tosca"-- performed by Opera International on Sunday, August 8? It will take place at 3 p.m. in Lisner Auditorium. Price range is approximately \$30-45.

Please give Dot Mills a call (703-527-5036) to let her know of your interest.

THE ANNUAL MEETING; CLOSE TO A RECORD

An astonishing 82 PVSers and guests poured into the home of Charlotte and Jim Kline for this year's annual meeting. (As far as is known, the all-time record was 90 set in 1993.) The Klins must have a sixth sense about such things, because they had great quantities of delicious food (ham and rolls, cheeses of many kinds, a pasta dish, chicken on skewers, veggie platters--and assorted desserts. This may very well have been a record too!

When people could be drawn from the feasting, the annual business meeting proceeded apace. Voting on new members had to be by voice vote rather than the usual secret ballot because of the crowd. Election of new president Nancy McKinley was followed by election of new ExCom members. (All this reported elsewhere.) The new president presented outgoing president Lu Beale with a sweatshirt labelled "Millenium Consultant." Consternation ensued with the realization that the first word was misspelled. Perhaps people were confused by the two spellings that appeared in last month's TOOT?

Whatever, it was a happy occasion indeed, with so many great new people coming into the club. And PVS is most beholden to Charlotte and Jim.

PVS BOARD

President	Nancy McKinley	EXCOM;
Vice President	Ned Flaherty	
Secretary	Irene Farrell	First Term:
Treasurer	Nancy Garrett	Don Dillon
Membership	Marifyn Clark	Sheldon Drews
Program Chair	Ray McKinley	Charlotte Kline
TOOT Editor	Jessma Blockwick	
TOOT Production ...	Bette Walker	Second Term:
Ski Trip Chair	Serge Triau	Bob Marx
Midweek Activities ...	Charles Huggins	Marty McNeill
Ombudsman	Bill Anderson	Jack Ragen

WELCOME to the following new members of PVS:

Annemarie Black
 Jean Chybinski
 Nick Chybinski
 David De Vilbiss
 Pat Egan
 Sylvia Lukens
 Walter Lukens

Robert Knopes
 Bill Matzkin
 Emma Plowman
 Pat Summers
 Al Richman
 Marion Webb
 Karin Webb

Vail

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH! *By Alice Swalm*

Ever since I signed up for the McKinley's Ski Vail '99 trip, I had been enjoying "A Rocky Mountain High." What could be more exciting than skiing at one of my all-time favorite resorts, in the sunny days of early April, with people that are a joy to be with, and with such skilled trip leaders as the McKinleys? My interest had been whetted at the superb pre-trip party at which Ray and Nancy provided us with exciting details of the forthcoming trip and great food.

Nothing could dispel this feeling of euphoria. Not even having to be at the airport at 5:30 A.M. on the day of departure or the snafus at the airport such as the lack of seat assignments for several of us. Not even a very bouncy approach to the Eagle Vail airport when a spring squall blowing through the mountains caused a few tense moments as we came in for landing. Not even the apparent lack of snow as we drove to Vail. For didn't Ray promise us, as we drove, that because his bunions were hurting, we were sure to have at least 4" of new powder by morning? Only a skiff of snow fell by morning! Some wag suggested Ray have his bunions re-programmed!

My Rocky Mountain High" had not abated. There were many beautiful runs, especially at the top of the mountain, the days were mostly sunny and warm, with Colorado blue skies, and snow did fall. And there are the memories:

- The Lionshead Lighthouse Condo, comfortable and hospitable, a few steps from the new high-speed gondola. Even though two flights of stairs were included in those few steps, one could leave skis and poles at a shop near the Gondola.
- The happy hours hosted by Ray and Nancy, with the delicious snacks, and all the exciting conversation about each day's skiing; the gossip and the laughter. And the intimacy! Some 40 healthy bodies in a room the size of a kitchen!
- The dinner parties! Food to die for! Bavarian cuisine (remember the cream of garlic soup?) at the Kaltenberg Castle. The filet mignon and other goodies at the Lord Gore Restaurant, the wine, and the lively conversations. The Restaurant L'Auberge with its pan-seared Colorado trout and the elegant bread pudding!
- Adventure Ridge snow fun and dinner at Eagles Nest Lodge at the top of the mountain. Who will forget the inner-tube rides on snow? Who will forget Lee Mahallati braving the snow shoe circuit with her fractured shoulder in a sling?
- The shopping! Jaleh Movassaghi visited all the shops in Vail, Lionshead and Beaver Creek and found beautiful sweaters and a smart hat. Sally Finan and Nancy Lewis bought new ski suits. Bob Marx is hoping to have a CD player installed in his new helmet. Marty Rine demo'd 4 pairs of skis before buying a 5th pair on the recommendation of a friend. Nat Seeman couldn't persuade Sheldon Drews to buy a very interesting objet d'art. Naki Sotoudeh was seen at the shops, and Dina Taylor astounded us all by purchasing a gorgeous jacket just 10 minutes before boarding our homebound bus. According to Dina, it was all Charlotte Eddy's fault! And what



about Marianne Cook? Her skiing improved so much on this trip that she is going to buy new boots for her next birthday, her 86th!

- The awards. No McKinley trip would be complete without the "achievement" awards dispensed with wit and laughter. A sample is the Eco-Consciousness award to Shirley Rettig for recycling her old lift passes for use as bookmarks.

Home again, I find the "Rocky Mountain High" still lingers and the refrain of another old, old song echoes through my mind: "When it's springtime in the Rockies, I'll be coming back to you!"



We Went To Ski In the Bugaboos, the Canadian Rockies, West of Calgary.

David G. Abraham

March 20, 1999, the long wait is finally over, Reggie and David, along with 4 other Slopedusters (an informal Reston-based group of skiers) and a total of 44 participants, are on their way to CMH's Bugaboo Lodge, about 375 km west of Calgary, in B.C. After uneventful flights from home, and a 3 ½-hour bus trip to the staging area near Radun we boarded a crowded Bell 212 helicopter and arrived at the lodge 20 minutes later. It's quite a comfortable place, with all the essential amenities but totally isolated from civilization: no TV, radio, newspaper, nothing but beautiful scenery, awesome mountains and a 20-person staff of rather special people. One guide has been here for 25 years, another for 20. These workers are here by design, they like this environment and they love to ski.

Weather is, of course, a big factor; it wasn't always accommodating. One day we were grounded, on another high winds and fog suspended flying and skiing before mid-day. Though there were over 5 meters of snow in these mountains, the morning crust and the afternoon slush were just enough to make the already tough going a bit more so. The runs the "machine" transports one to are quite varied, all are steep and mostly have entries with a 70 degree drop for never less than 20 to 30' vertical. Remember, there are no lifts, no groomers, only wide open mountain faces with lots of umangous rocks and trees below elevation 6,000'.

It's awesome. The 'copter lifts, as many as 11 in a day, are noisy and gut-wrenching, the lookout for avalanches is constant, and the camaraderie is unsurpassed. Your buddy is now your most significant other. It's truly an experience to be cherished, it's not for the timid at heart and the weak of legs. The quiet nights in this wilderness are restful and scary too; the mind runs off thinking: but what if... Saturday noon, after a day and a half of sweet genuine powder skiing and savoring, for the Champaign white stuff we dreamed of has finally come, it's time for the homebound trek and the preservation of memories never to be forgotten. We didn't quite finish the 100,000' vertical, due to the weather's flight curtailment, but we got close enough to feel accomplished. At least till next time.

(a very limited number of copies of a complete diary is available @ 301 530-7612)

SPRING DINNER

To this elegant annual event came 35 elegantly attired PVSers. Adding a special touch to the evening were the beautiful table decorations done by Dot Mills.

The dining began with Exotic Walnut Pate' and Curried Parmesan Puffs, accompanied by wine (large crates of which had been hauled in by Jim Kline.) Next came Chicken Marbella, asparagus, boiled new potatoes--topped off by Sherry Cheese Cake. All left with happy and satisfied smiles on their faces.

There has to be one small glitch in any event to round off the fun. This night it was the discovery that there was no bottle opener for all the delicious wine set out. Fortunately, since the dinner was in the party room at Bette Walker's apartment building, she was able to run upstairs and solve this desperate dilemma.

Many thanks are due the planning committee--Marilyn Clark, Charlotte Kline, and Genee Boykin. And of course to Bette Walker for welcoming PVS once again.



RECIPES FROM THE SPRING DINNER

EXOTIC WALNUT PATE

1 cup crumbled Feta cheese
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 cup chopped walnuts
Dash of cayenne
1 teaspoon paprika
1/2 cup milk

Combine in a blender: 1 T olive oil, 3 Ts milk, 1/3 cup Feta (drained) and 1/3 cup walnuts. Blend on low, then medium speed. Gradually, while blender runs at medium speed, add remaining ingredients. Blend to a smooth paste. Chill. Spread on crackers or pita bread.

Curried Puffs with Parmesan and Chives.

The dough for these curried cheese puffs can be made up to two days in advance and kept refrigerated. You can bake the puffs an hour or so before serving time. Makes about 16.

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup all purpose flour
- 4 large eggs
- 1 1/2 cups freshly grated Parmesan cheese (about 3 ounces)
- 1 tablespoon snipped fresh chives or chopped green onion.

Melt butter in heavy medium sauce pan over medium-high heat. Add curry and stir until aromatic, about 30 seconds. Add salt, cayenne and then water and bring to boil. Add flour all at once, stirring constantly. Cook until dough thickens and begins to pull away from sides of pan, about 1 minute. Continue cooking for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Transfer dough to processor. Let stand 5 minutes. With machine running, add eggs 1 at a time, blending well after each addition. Blend in cheese and chives. Transfer dough to bowl.

Preheat oven to 375 . Butter 2 large baking sheets. Drop dough by heaping teaspoonfuls onto prepared sheets, spacing evenly apart. Bake until puffed and light brown, about 40 minutes. Pierce puffs with toothpick to allow steam to escape. Bake 5 minutes. Serve hot or at room temperature.



YOU WON'T HAVE ANOTHER SUCH CHANCE FOR A THOUSAND YEARS!!!

To come to a PVS Millennium Party, that is. It will be on January 1, 2000 at the home of Charlotte and Jim Kline. A party of fun and foolishness and food and HISTORY-MAKING. No need for a solid commitment now, but Sue Walsh needs an idea of how many might be coming. So give her a call at 301-589-7159.



THE KNEE

PAGE 9

by
Ray McKinley

May, abloom with the vibrant colors of spring, causes the Knee to wax

poetic. Rhyme comes to mind. I become poetknee.

'Tis May, 'tis May, the lusty month of May

And skiers, skiers everywhere,

Have put their skis away.

To go rollick in the hay.

And perhaps to ski another cold day.

In a month that begins with a "J."

Enough! Alright already! OK?

Luckily, the Knee doesn't wax poetic very often.

Our ski trip coordinator, Serge Triau, asked Marilyn Clark if she would like to run a PVS ski trip. She responded that the only thing she liked to run was her mouth. No comment.

Here's a kneet knew Knee feature. It's called "Ask the Knee" where you ask the Knee your most perplexing ski-related questions. Our first question: Why, late in the season, is there snow on the ski runs but not on the surroundings? Simple, early in the season, when snow is abundant, it is collected and stored in a snow bank.

The answer to another oft asked question comes from Nancy Lewis. What is the difference between a vacuum cleaner and a snowboarder? It's where you attach the dirt bag! Blame Nancy. With the end of ski season, PVSers are off to the ends of the earth. Bette Walker is doing her namesake. She and family are off to Provence, in France to do some serious eating and hiking. Watch in the tabloids, "Bette Walker Walks."

Some late news from Vail: Ignoring his ophthalmologist's advice not to ski so soon after cataract surgery, Nat Seeman did—and had a ball. Now Nat uses the new sunscreen, "See and Ski."

At the end of the Vail trip, Tony Drago and potential applicant Marty Rine had a later flight than the group. Following instructions, they paid their bill and then went shopping. Upon returning to their room it was empty—no luggage, no nothing. The alert staff had packed for them

and dispatched their luggage to catch up with the bus. A cell phone call brought back their bags. The moral of the tale—some tales have no morals.

Marty, a Canaan Valley ski patroller, was asked to explain the difference between skiing Vail and in the East. "It's simple, this is snow."

George Welti almost managed to lose his skis. It seems he successfully managed to strap his skis on a ski rack on a green SUV. But it was the wrong green SUV. The skis were retrieved just in the nick of time. The moral: Time can take a nicking, but it keeps on ticking!

The only significant wound on the Vail 99 trip was to Lee Mahallati. She fell and fractured her left shoulder. It wasn't serious enough for hubby Sal to cancel a scheduled trip to London and Iran. But Sal was so shaken by the accident that he didn't even try to ski whilst in London.

Joining the converts, Bob and Janet Marx bought matching ski helmets. Jan notes that if you think hat hair is bad, you ought to see helmet hair!

Myron Marquardt didn't participate in the PVS snowtubing event. "It's just too darned cold." Perhaps Myron was avoiding cold feet.

On the Tremblant trip, the group often ate out together. Bills were readily split and charged. One evening, Bette Walker and Lu Beale were given each other's cards and bills. Each signed the "wrong" name, but no one noticed. Indeed they used each other's cards the rest of the trip! Moral: Better to be a Master of Cards than have a Visa.

PVS was well represented at the annual Ski Group. Four of us were selected as door prize winners. Barbara Leonhardt, Glade Flake, Charles Huggins and Norm Engelman were chosen. Sadly, Barbara had left early and failed to claim the grand prize, a 1999 Rolls Royce Silver Wraith.

Some 37 PVSers are now on Knox and Karen Felker's e-mail list. To get on the list send your e-mail address to karknox@erols.com. Had you done that you would have already known of Norm Engelman's successful arthroscopic knee surgery. (Arthur has been busy with his scapel!) And that, Ski Liberty's vertical increased 3" after a nameless ski patroller dropped a Viagra tablet.

CALENDAR

- May 1 ... Antietam Hike
- May 1 ... Spring Fling at the University of Maryland
- May 18 ... Monthly Meeting at the Leonhardts', page 2
- May 19 ... Hike at Lake Needwood, page 2
- May 25 ... ExCom at the McNeills'
- May 27 ... Midweek Bike & Lunch, page 2
- June 9 ... Tour of Woodlawn Plantation, page 3
- June 15 ... Monthly meeting at Betty Lawrence's
- June 16 ... Midweek Bike Ride
- June 22 ... ExCom at Sheldon Drews'
- July 10 ... Pre-Ski-Trips Party at the Heitchue's
- July 18 ... Olney Theater and dinner, page 3
- July 22 ... Bike ride to Reston and back
- July 27 ... ExCom at Marina with Pat Tengel and John Smith
- Aug. 8 ... Opera at Lisner Auditorium, page 3
- Aug. 19 ... Bike ride, Great Falls to Seneca and back
- Nov. ... Arts Club dinner *012106/2*
- Jan. 1 ... 2000, Millennium Party
- Nov. ... 2000, PVS 35th Anniversary Party

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