

VOLUME XXXV

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

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MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

Fellow PVSers:

Never have 2 years flown by so fast! I've enjoyed my tenure as PVS President; thank you for the opportunity to be in the midst of it all. PVS is truly a great club with some 200 gung-ho skiers. And we have a large cadre of very active members and folks who care about each other and about PVS—sometimes passionately!

Sometimes we lose track of how much thankless work goes into running PVS as we know it; I'd like to raise a glass to the PVSers who do so much for the Club. Speaking totally objectively, I have to note Ray McKinley who's been tirelessly scouting out meeting venues and coming up with just the right PVS activities for some 20 years, and amusing us with the Knee for even longer. Lu Beale has held key jobs including charismatic President, long-time TOOT Editor and now what I'd call PVS' premier Management Consultant! Jessma Blockwick laboriously puts the TOOT together every month, which literally keeps the club running – no mean task.

Serge Triaou runs the Ski Trip Committee superbly, with panache and good sense. I hope, for PVS' sake, Serge reconsiders and agrees to stay on as Ski Trip Coordinator forever. Charlie Huggins continues to find and coordinate numerous fun weekday activities for PVS. Karen Felker, our "new" PVS Secretary, painstakingly takes the notes at ExComs and keeps our minutes. That way we never have to discuss the same issue twice (!). Marilyn Clark not only handles PVS' membership responsibilities, but this year took charge of our nominating committee and ran many other activities. Bette Walker folds, staples, and never mutilates the TOOT getting it into the mail. Pat Tengel has taken over the Treasurer responsibilities and keeps us balanced. Marvin Hass took the proverbial ball and ran with it using his expertise and good judgment to set us up and keep us going electronically.

There are just too many to mention individually! Our Ski Trip Leaders. (I know how hard that is!) Our dedicated ExCom members and all the people who have volunteered to run events, to study PVS issues and to hold meetings at their homes. It's truly a joint effort – not the work of a few to keep PVS running.

May we run forever!

...see you on the slopes,

Nancy
Nancy

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
April 17, 2001 - 7:30 p.m.

Home of Charlotte and Jim Kline
1912 Gables Lane, Vienna, VA
703-821-9288

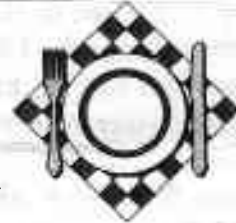
Directions to the Kline home: From Beltway take Rte. 123 toward Tyson's Corner. Turn left on Horseshoe Drive which is after the 4th traffic light on 123. (The turn is just after MacDonald's on your left.) Go 1/2 around Horseshoe and turn right on Gables Lane. The house is located on the pipestem, but please park on Gables.



BICYCLING GOURMET

Alexandria and South (and return)

Thursday, April 19, 2001 10:30 AM



Starting Point: Sailing Marina [Just south of National Airport via GW Parkway and just north of Alexandria. Exit sign: Daingerfield Island/Sailing Marina/Potomack Landing.] On entering the Marina, veer to the right toward the overflow parking area. Signs are posted limiting parking to 3 hours on weekdays. However, leader will distribute permits allowing parking from 10am-3pm]. **Route:** Ride will proceed south via bike path from Sailing Marina through Old Town Alexandria and continue south on the Mt. Vernon Bike Path. At a suitable time, reverse direction so that you can arrive back at the Sailing Marina for lunch at 1:15 PM at the Potomack Landing restaurant overlooking the river. The Sailing Marina complex also contains good rest rooms and a bike shop with rentals. This ride is structured to accommodate all levels. In event of bad weather, lunch will talk place anyway at the scheduled time.

Leader: Shirley Rettig (703) 836-0147 assisted by Marvin Hass (703) 751-4737. Note: starting time listed is for when we depart. Please arrive earlier to set up your bicycle, visit rest room, etc. If you arrive late, just head south on the marked bike path/route.

Review - March 22 Ride: Four PVS'ers (leader Marvin Hass, Ruth Powers, applicants Sue Lyon and Dimitri Chaconis (all of whom were on The Canyons ski trip) along with six others showed up on a cold windy day pedaling from Glen Echo to the tip of Haines Point and then back to Georgetown (against a stiff wind) for lunch at Tony and Joe's at Washington Harbour. Nothing like the vision of a good lunch to bring out this crew even on a day with less than optimum weather. Photos on PVS Web Site [www.homestead.com/pvskiers].

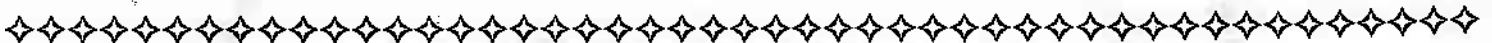
May 17 Ride: Chesapeake Beach, MD. Flat ride with scenic views of beaches and marinas. Lunch at Rod 'N Reel waterfront restaurant adjacent to Railway Museum. Details in May TOOT.

April 7, 2001. Wine Tasting, Dinner and Overnight with the Copes'
This event is full. If you have questions, call them at 540-972-9838.

19th ANNUAL SPRING FLING AUCTION & BANQUET
Sunday, April 29, 2001

Sponsored by Disabled Sports USA to benefit ski and sports programs
for children and adults with physical disabilities.

Let Charlie Huggins know by Monday, April 9 if you plan to attend.
Tickets are \$35 if PVS fills a table for 10; otherwise \$40.
Send a check made out to Disabled Sports USA to Charlie at
9916 Betteker Lane, Potomac Md., 20854.



Ann Margaret in
The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas

A multimillion dollar new pre Broadway production. "Explodes Onstage" Playfully sexy, but never explicit. The show is PG, not R rated. "Ann Margaret shines." Now, this ground-breaking work is back. And we get it prior to New York PVS has special, group rate tickets at the National Theater for the smash, Tony Award Winning hit. We're going to the matinee, 2:00 pm performance on Saturday May 19. Tickets are \$69.00 each, that's 10% off the \$75.00 price (including \$1.50 per ticket handling).

CALL MARGARET WYCKOFF AT 301-589-5532 BY MONDAY,
APRIL 2 IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND!!!

Mail your check for \$69 to Margaret at 8100 Park Crest Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Also let her know if you want to join the group for dinner afterwards.

Sports Group, Inc. will hold the annual trade show on ski trips on Monday, April 23rd at the Embassy Suites in Crystal City. Registration begins at 4:30; show runs from 5 to 8. People representing various ski areas will be there to give out information.

SPRING DINNER

JUNE 23, 2001 - 7 P.M.
THE COLONNADE
2801 New Mexico Avenue

It's not too early to sign up for this popular event which is limited to 40 people.

Call Marilyn Clark at 703-978-9435.

NOTE!!! Reg Heitchue has been named to replace Penny Hanshaw on the Executive Committee. Penny has departed the East to live in Ouray, CO.

NOTE!! An additional item to be included with the changes in the bylaws up for a vote at the Annual Meeting:

In Section V, paragraph A: Insert the words "Vice President" between "President" and "directors."

Skiing at Telluride.

By Myron Marquardt

At the appointed day and hour, February 28, 2001, everyone was at National Airport ready to go to Telluride. We got checked in rather rapidly and then went to the boarding gate.

To Telluride, we were waiting to go.
We could hardly wait, to play in the snow.
It was not long, till we took off for the west,
To Telluride, where the snow is the best.

We had an enjoyable van ride from the Montrose airport. All the interesting sights were pointed out. It was still daylight when we got to Telluride and it was obvious that there was plenty snow.

We got settled into our rooms and later gathered at the resort offices for wine and cheese and received a briefing on what there was to do. Some signed up for snow bike lessons. Later reports indicated that the bike lessons and subsequent use of them was quite interesting. It sounds as though there will be future use of the bikes.

As predicted, there was a lot of snow on the trails. The weather was good the whole week. A bit warm the last couple days. Melting occurred at the lower levels, but not excessive.

Most ski trips offer some interesting occurrences. We had some. It was demonstrated what happens when one gets on the chair incorrectly, resulting in falling off and rolling down the slope in front of the chair. Some of us now know what happens if one doesn't get off properly. Some of us now know the danger associated with runaway skis. They can knock you off your feet. If you are lucky, you can get up again and continue down the slope. One should be careful that your skis don't come off just as you are approaching the start of a trail. There were probably other lessons learned that were not made public.

We had a great group dinner in downtown Telluride. Nobody went to bed thirsty or hungry that night.

The week finally ended. Back on our van again for our ride to the Montrose airport and the flight back to Washington.

The weather was nice,
No sliding on ice.
The hotel was great
The food was first rate.
A trip really worth the price.

Our sincere thanks to Don and Kathy Dillon for arranging such a good trip. We all hope that they will put together another trip in the near future.

March Monthly Meeting Review — hosted by John and Ramona Matthews

The facilities and refreshments and the Matthews' residence in Silver Spring made for a convivial atmosphere. Most of those members present participated in one or more ski trips during the season. Announcements both of forthcoming local activities (given elsewhere in this issue of TOOT) and the recommendations of the Trips Committee for the 2002 season were presented. For the benefit of this members not present, the following four ski trip proposals are have been approved by the Trips Committee and will be submitted at the end of April to the ExCom for their approval. : 1) Jan. 17-24, 2002 — Snowmass {Barbara and Fred Leonhardt — leaders}; 2) Feb. 2-9, 2002 — BRSC Canadian Rockies/Banff (John Smith assisted by Jack Peoples -- leaders) 3) BRSC Chamonix March 8-16, 2002 (Jim Slack and Mary Ward — leaders); 4) March 15-30, 2002 — Meribel (France) and Greek Islands (Ray and Nancy McKinley — leaders). Timing of these trips are such that it will be possible to go to Chamonix and then link right onto Meribel. Details will be forthcoming in the event these trips are approved by the ExCom. At the end of the meeting, club president Nancy McKinley thanked the host and hostess and also remarked that this would be her last closing of a PVS meeting. A motion was made and carried by acclamation to commend the president for her efforts on behalf of PVS during her term of office.

Marvin Hass

Memorial Service at Arlington National Cemetery

Nancy Lewis will come to Washington on Friday 27 April for a Memorial Service for her husband Joe. The service begins at 0900, but anyone attending should be at the Administration Bldg. behind the visitors' center off Memorial Drive at 0830. People will have to proceed in their cars behind the horse-drawn caisson to the Columbarium area, where his ashes will be placed.

After the ceremony, Nancy invites attendees to go to the NCO Club at Fort Myer for a continental breakfast buffet. To get a headcount, she would like to know in advance about how many plan to be there. Please let Karen Felker (703-931-69843) know if you plan to attend, and she will coordinate and send the information to Nancy.

The latter plans to be on the East Coast for a while and will be at the monthly meeting in May..



THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

Writing this at the end of March, I look out the window and see snow.

Not merely a bit of snow, but tons of snow, acres of snow, square miles of snow, all pristine and punctuated by copses of trees and sheer mountain peaks. We are at 35,000 feet flying over the Selkirks and the Monashees – part of the Canadian Rockies en route to some late season skiing at Whistler. If things go well, and the electrons work, this will be emailed back across country to TOOT editor, Jessma Blockwick. If the system failed, you are not reading this.

And now Whistler has another meaning. Microsoft's working names for the Windows 2001 and 2002 upgrades are, respectively, Whistler and Blackcomb.

Both George Hicho and Marvin Hass have looked up PVS on the internet and discovered that it stands for Physicians for a Violence-Free Society. I wouldn't trust these guys! They can't even acronym. They should be PFAV-FS!

Marvin also reports a Reuters item on Iran. They have ski police whose purpose is to enforce the country's strict separation of the sexes laws. Perish the thought that men and women would ski together.

From the Knee's No Accounting for Skiing Department. Retired accountant Mike Hatanaka was lured back to work during tax season. Mike agreed only if he could take off to ski The Canyons and Grindelwald! Right on.

To save trip goes money, the Pentagon Ski Club has changed its western ski trips to 6-day trips rather than the normal 7. They avoid expensive Saturday nights. PVS trip leaders often accomplish the same thing by having our trips be midweek departures and returns.

Want to ski in Europe? Check out www.bluebookski.com. The Blue Book, the

bible of European skiing, which was previously available only as an expensive hard copy is now free on the internet.

And from my Some Things are Just Matchless Department: All of the Snowmass Village restaurants, bars, you name it, are smoke free next year and all except one of the 50 restaurants at Copper (previously known as Copper Mountain) are smokeless.

Skiing in Utah, Sheldon Drews put forth a "Drews Criterion" for what makes a great on-mountain eatery. The rest rooms must be on the main level. The only place known to meet Sheldon's criterion was Deer Valley. We have found another: the Roundhouse at Whistler.

Now firmly ensconced in Arizona, Sue Walsh joined a hiking club and is now in charge of running the hiking orientation. She only has a walk-on role.

Most of us do laundry for a week after returning from a ski trip. Not Alice Swalm. Two days after returning from The Canyons, she was off to a Master's level Bridge Tournament in North Carolina. She needs only a few more points to be a Life Master. Alice has been a life master skier for years.

Ski area news: Next year at Telluride (TellMyRide?) its new Prospect Bowl will add some seventy percent to its size. Prospect's 733 new acres will bring total acreage to a bit over 1,800 acres. It will also increase the vertical to 4,000 feet. Right on and on.

Another bastion of skiing bites the dust! Next year, Aspen's Ajax Mountain will be renamed Aspen Mountain and for the first time, dreaded snowboarders will be allowed. Yuck!

The Mont Blanc Tunnel will be reopened in September, providing much more rapid ski access. As you may recall, it was closed in 1999 after a fire killed 39 people.

And really good news: Lassen County, California has rezoned 6,800 acres for a new ski area. Lots of environmental hoops to go through, but this could be the first new ski area in the US in a quarter century. Right on.

CALENDAR

- April 7 ... Wine Tasting at the Copes', p. 3**
- April 17 ... Annual Business Meeting at the Klines', p. 2**
- April 19 ... Bicycling Gourmet to Alexandria, South and return, p. 2**
- April 24 ... ExCom at Mary Ward and Jim Slack's**
- April 23 ... Sports Group annual trade show, p. 4**
- April 29 ... Spring Fling at Bethesda Marriott, p. 3**
- May 15 ... Monthly meeting at the Leonhardts'**
- May 17 ... May bike ride**
- May 19 ... PVS goes to the Theater, p. 3**
- May 20 ... Canyons Post Trip Party**
- May 22 ... ExCom at Sally Finan and George Welti's**
- June 19 ... Monthly meeting at Betty Lawrence's**
- June 23 ... Spring Dinner at the Colonnade, p. 4**

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