

VOLUME XXXVI

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

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VIRGINIA

Greetings, PVSers:

Providence keeps us as we want to be. We are still grateful to Irene Ragan for her 18 years of service as PVS secretary. Karen Felker has served so well for 3 years as Secretary to ExCom. What a spot! To be there to observe, interpret, digest, record for history the crucial discussions, debates and conclusions of ExCom is unique, and a rich opportunity. Well done, Karen! Thank you. And now we have a volunteer replacement. Dottie Viller, a new member, has stepped forward to fill that job beginning this month. And we are most grateful.

After the gala gathering at Jean and Reg Heitchue's, many present enjoyed midsummer night dreams of winter weather. Our dynamic chair of the Trip Committee, George Hicho, enthusiastically introduced his eight invincible trip leaders who presented current details of our '02 - '03 skiing season. Snowmass is filled! Steamboat, Whistler/Blackcomb and Crested Butte are half-filled. Sign up soon and watch for early snows.

And thanks to Rachel and David Abraham for graciously hosting the July ExCom meeting.

So now, until the September general meeting at Dorie and John Waddicks', have a happy summer—with stocks rising!


Ned Flaherty XXIV



**It's time to begin thinking big—
Big snow, that is.**

BEER TASTING EVENT

- WHAT:** Beer Tasting/Picnic
- WHEN:** August 10, 2002
- WHERE:** At the Sharer's in Potomac, 12404 Beall Spring Road
- TIME:** 7:00 P.M.
- COST:** \$10 per person



We will try to keep the rain away this year but of course we can't promise. Come with your swim suit if you are so inclined. We are limiting the event to 30 people.

Take River Road from the Beltway through Potomac Village and continue West for five miles to Beall Spring Road on the right. We are the sixth house on the left and the house is painted blue. Or, take Travilah Road or Duffie Mill Road West to River Road and turn left on River Road. The next street on the left is Beall Spring Road and then look for the blue house on the left.

The event is full but call the Sharers at 301-975-9411 to be put on the wait list—or Email them at Wilma@sharerassociates.com.



BICYCLING GOURMET

VIENNA TO ARLINGTON (and return)

Thursday, August 15, 2002 10:30 AM

Starting Point: Vienna Community Center. **Directions:**

Beltway Old Exit 11: Take Rte. 123 (Chain Bridge Road) south (direction: Tysons Corner) about three miles to Park

St in Vienna (has left turn lane with traffic light--look for Fresh Fields on left).

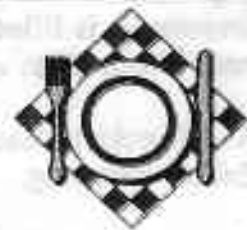
Take left turn into Park Street and proceed 1¼ blocks to Community Center on right (where W&OD Trail crosses road). Rest rooms and water available at Community Center. **Route:** Ride will proceed east on the W&OD Trail to Arlington and explore the Bon Air Rose Gardens and the cool wooded glades of Glencarlyn Park. **Distance:** 19 miles. Lunch at end of ride in Vienna at Anitas (featuring New Mexican cuisine -- a favorite of local cyclists) Terrain: mostly flat.

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

Note: These trips do leave promptly at time indicated. Please allow sufficient time to arrive at the starting point, to get your equipment in order, fill water bottle, visit rest room, etc.

July 18 Trip Review: C&O Canal from Great Falls to Seneca. Hot and humid, but this tree-shaded bike route is actually OK for such days. See Web site for photo images.

Sept. Ride: Thurs. Sept. 19 — Glen Echo to Woodend Mansion via bike paths; lunch in Bethesda.





SUMMER SOUNDS 2002 AT STRATHMORE HALL

Tuesday, August 20. Enjoy the U. S. AIR FORCE – AIRMAEN OF NOTE
(Performing Traditional Jazz Classics)

Picnic with Picnic with PVS at 6:30 P.M.. You may purchase dinner from "O'Brien's Pit Barbeque" starting at 6: 30 or bring your own goodies

The concert is free and begins at 7:30 P.M.

NOTE: Parking for concerts is available at the Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro station. Parking on the lawn is no longer available

Directions:

Strathmore Hall is located at 10701 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda, Maryland, adjacent to Grosvenor Metro Station (Red Line), 1/2 mile north of the Beltway (Exit 34) and 1/2 mile south of White Flint.

From the North:

Strathmore Hall is located on your right 1/2 mile north of I495 Exit 34 (Wisconsin Ave./Rt. 355 to Rockville/Bethesda). Please note that Wisconsin Ave. becomes Rockville Pike just before Strathmore Hall.

From the South:

Exit I495 onto Old Georgetown Rd. (Rt. 187, Exit 36). Turn left off the exit ramp onto Old Georgetown Road. Turn right onto Tuckerman Lane. Turn left onto Rockville Pike. Strathmore Hall is located 50 yards from the intersection on your right

Please call John Smith or Pat Tengel (301-299-8376) for further information or just show up and look for them and other PVSers on the lawn.

Annual Golf Outing at Leisure World

Friday, August 23rd

Sign up no later than July 23rd to save a space. Call either Bob Schafer at 301-598-2226 or Myron Marquardt at 301-460-3269. It's a fun time - it's not a tournament. Cost per person for 18-hole green fees and half a cart if \$39.00. Tee times will start at 1:00 p.m.

Leisure World lies at the northernmost end of Connecticut Avenue in Maryland. You can enter the gate there or enter the gate on Georgia Avenue. Tell the guard that you are a guest of Bob's. The guards will not have the name Potomac Valley Ski Club or PVS.

Ask the guard for directions to the Clubhouse I parking lot at the bottom of which is the golfers' parking area. Come early enough for lunch at the Terrace Room in Clubhouse I if you would like. We will meet on the deck by the pool after the golf for beer and post mortems. At that time, if you wish, you can join others who might want to stay for dinner at the Terrace Room.

Report to the golf clubhouse by 12:30 where we will form foursomes and start off at 1 P.M.

Coffee with Richelieu

Save Aug. 25. That Sunday at Olney Theater at 2 p.m. It's the best theater bargain in town-well, a little out of town. Half-price for seniors @ \$15.00. And seats have been reserved near, half-way back and farther back from the stage. Early arrivals to the Theater that day get the greatest selection.

To reserve, call Jeannette Albersheim (301-598-7525) or better yet, write her a check for \$15 and mail to 3574 Fiske Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20906. Deadline is August 11. When you reserve please say whether you think you will stay afterward for dinner with the group at the Olney Grille close by. A different restaurant this year.

The play should be a howl, written by Norman Allen. It's a spar with the great Cardinal Richelieu as he skewers Dumas' classic tale of adventure (The Three Musketeers) with a wit as sharp as a musketeer's rapier.

Directions to Olney Theater: It is located on MD Rte. 108 in Olney, MD, 1 ½ miles east of Georgia Ave. (Rte. 97) and 2 miles west of New Hampshire Ave. (Rte. 650).....Take Connecticut Ave. exit off 495. Go approximately 8 miles north to the intersection of Connecticut and Georgia Aves. Turn left onto Georgia and follow it north 5 miles to the intersection of Georgia and Rte. 108. Turn right onto Rte. 108 and follow it 1 ½ miles to Olney Theater on the left. Lots of parking if you veer right to the lot behind the theater.

Oktoberfest



When: SATURDAY, October 5th, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. Rain or Shine

What: 24th annual PVS Oktoberfest featuring beer, sausages, sauerkraut, pretzels, potato salad, & pflaumen kuchen. Oompah music, too, for dancing of feet, clapping of hands, and cavorting of spirit.

Special Event: The Ladies (Kimber, Sunrise, and Cookie – of the Arabian horse persuasion) will be giving tours of their new barn.

Call: Mary Ward & Jim Slack at 703-754-8814 by Tuesday the 1st of October to reserve your place (limited to 60), to choose low-fat or high-test wurst, and to sign up for bringing a potato salad, kuchen, or other Bavarian delectable. No-shows will be responsible for their share of the cost.

Cost: Approximately \$8.00 per person.

Bring: Your own eating utensils and plate. Your favorite beer mug is, of course, always welcome.

Optional: Lederhosen and Dirndl. Even Pferdekleidung.

Where: Mary Ward & Jim Slack's Termineigh Horse Farm & Nosh Bar, Catharpin, Va.

Directions: In the September TOOT.



www.potomacvalleyski.org

The web site now contains a couple of photo images of the July bike ride including one of ExCom member David Abraham enjoying a well-earned picnic lunch at Seneca overlooking the Potomac. Information and web links for the PVS 2003 trips are being added when received. Those having photos and tall tales about your summer adventures are invited to share them with your fellow PVS'ers using the web site. Send contributions (text; photo files) to the PVS email address info@potomacvalleyski.org

The ExCom has approved the following ski trips:

1. Steamboat Springs, CO
Leaders: Sally Finan & George Welti
Dec. 10 to 17, 2002
703-716-9023
2. Snowmass, CO
Leaders: Barbara & Fred Leonhardt
Jan. 16 to 23 (with possible extension
To Vail Jan. 23 to Jan 27)
301-963-8111
3. Whistler, BC
Leaders: Nancy & Ray McKinley
Mar. 1 to Mar. 9, 2003
703-527-7126
4. Crested Butte, CO
Leaders: David Lerner & Bob Marx
Mar. 19 to 26, 2003
703-281-6923

Snowmass 2003 Jan. 16-23, 2003

The trip is set for Thur. to Thur., Jan. 16-23, 2003. We are in the process of reserving the requested room types at the slope-side Snowmass Mountain Chalet. The optional trip extension to Vail has been canceled due to lack of sufficient interest. Additional nights at Snowmass before or after the trip and corresponding alternate air arrangements are an option. Please call us if you are interested. **Second payment for the trip (\$600/person) is due August 15.** While the trip is full, we are still accepting names for the short wait list. Trip cancellation insurance is being offered. Please contact Barbara or Fred Leonhardt, 606 Firehouse Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20878, 301-963-8111 with any questions.

The Trip You've Been Asking for--March 1-9, 2003, join Nancy and Ray McKinley to Ski



Our all-time favorite ski area!

Imagine a ski trip with **PVS friends** that includes North America's largest ski area: **7000+ acres** of skiing, **200+ trails**, **3 high-speed gondolas**, **12 high-speed quads** and 18 other lifts. A trip that includes North America's **longest vertical (5,280 feet)**. A ski trip where altitude is no problem (the base is 2,200 ft). A trip where your lodging is so good you're tempted to stay in and enjoy it! The 4 star **luxury Le Chamois is at the base of the lifts** with 2 people per 1 BR 2 full bath unit with kitchenette and lots of windows. A trip where the resort is known for its fabulous restaurants, galleries and shops. Where you spend a leisurely day and evening in arguably North America's most beautiful city (Vancouver) at the 5-star Fairmont Waterfront, after your superb ski week. This great trip to Whistler/Blackcomb includes 5 of 6 Day lift passes good at both mountains, airfare on United via non-icy San Francisco, 3 great group dinners at Whistler's top restaurants, happy hours, pre & post trip parties, and gratuities.

GREAT PRICES - \$1,694; 65+ \$1,669; LAND ONLY \$1,299

We are limited to 40 and are more than half full. To reserve a space, send your check for \$250 per person payable to Ray McKinley and send it to the McKinleys at 2326 North Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207-4045. Please call us for a copy of our flyer or for more information at (703) 527-7126.



PAST EVENTS



ALL-SKI-TRIPS SUMMER FROLIC

Ruth Powers

PVSers again gathered at Jean and Reg Heitchue's home for the annual summer party to hear about plans for upcoming ski trips. A wide range of choices was presented, so everyone should be able to find at least one to his or her liking. We were again blessed with good weather, which made the decks overlooking the lake the place to be. The food was even better than ever, with a wide assortment of appetizers, salads and desserts to accompany the barbecue chicken. In between eating, drinking and talking, some of the attendees enjoyed a leisurely cruise around the lake.

Many thanks to the Heitchue's for being such great hosts, for providing such a lovely setting, and for ordering up such pleasant weather (despite a rainy forecast).

BIKING WITH BETTY AND MARVIN

On Thursday, July 18, PVSers, along with several members of a local biking club, "endured" another one in the monthly series of great bike rides. The term "endured" applied mostly to the hot and humid weather which makes this rather pleasurable experience a bit more challenging than it might be otherwise. We rode from Great Fall on the Maryland side to Seneca, a distance of about 9 miles, and back. All along the fairly well maintained C&O towpath where lots of trees actually provide a fair amount of shade.

These pleasurable monthly outings are engineered by our illustrious leader and organizer, Web master, and photographer par excellence, Marvin Hass. He is ably assisted by his beau, our opera aficionado, Betty Byrne. Marvin has a set of rules and standards which intrinsically guarantee the quality and doability of these rides. First, Marvin says, the starting point must be easy to get to, it must have potable water and a comfort station, be a safe place for parking our cars, and reasonably proximate to most members' domiciles. Then, he goes on, the trail must be a safe one in that no motorized traffic is permitted, it doesn't cross innumerable, and possibly uncontrolled intersections where bikers need to compete with motorized traffic, and the destination point and return to the start is not more than a total of 20 miles or thereabouts. He's also looking for rides not requiring Tour-type climbs and descents and a surface throughout which is comfortable for rider's behinds and their equipment.

No doubt, it takes both thoughtfulness and travail to identify what's really good and enjoyable for riders of greatly varied abilities, and to find the places which meet his exacting criteria.

Personally I wished that more of us would take advantage of the Marvin-engineered pleasurable opportunities. It's not only good for our skiing legs but it's also another tangible opportunity for PVS comraderie, to enjoy the outdoors, and pay homage to the folks who have worked tirelessly to preserve these beautiful environs, as have Betty and Marvin, to whom all of us owe a debt of gratitude. If you bike, do come and join us soon.

David G. Abraham



SUMMER SERENADES AT STRATHMORE

On Thursday, July 18 th, seven brave PVS members defied the weather man's dire predictions of rain and thunderstorms and enjoyed a delightful evening of lovely music, good food, and great companionship. The thunder was booming all around but moved further away by concert time and a few sprinkles of rain fell but not enough to break out the umbrellas or to scare anyone away. David and Rachel Abraham, Jessma Blackwick, Jeanette Albersheim, Margaret Wychoff, Pat Tengel and John Smith enjoyed a most delightful concert by "The National Chamber Orchestra". The Chamber Orchestra played a delightful Divertimento by Mozart, the beautiful "Simple Symphony" by Benjamin Britten and ended with the cheerful "Serenade for Strings by Tchaikovsky. We hope to see you all for the next Strathmore concert on August 20 th (weather permitting)

BIO OF NEW PVS SECRETARY, DOTTIE VILLERS

I was born in New York City but only lived there the first several days of my life. I grew up in Connecticut, first Darien then New Haven, before going off to college in Pittsburgh, where I graduated from Chatham College with a B.A. degree in French. After graduation I decided to move out to California. I got married and then went back to college and earned an M.S.Ed. degree at the University of Southern California. Following that I worked as a high school French teacher in Pasadena for eight years.

My husband and I were avid sailors, and at that point in time we decided to quit our jobs and sail our 40' sailboat from Los Angeles to Florida via the Panama Canal. Two years and three months later we arrived in Miami. I decided to do a career change. So I went back to college again, got an A.S. degree in computer science, and got a job as a computer programmer (COBOL) for the school district in West Palm Beach.

After working as a programmer for six years and "retiring" for a few more, I changed gears once again. In 1992 I got divorced, moved to Washington, DC., and got a job in Herndon as a technical trainer. Since then I have worked at several area companies as a trainer and instructional designer after going back to college and completing a certificate program in instructional design. Currently I live in Reston and work at American Management Systems (AMS) in Fairfax.

When I got divorced, I decided to try something I had always wanted to do -- ski. A year or so after moving to this area I joined the Ski Club of Washington DC, took some lessons, and soon was totally crazy about skiing. I realize I don't have as many years of experience as many PVSers (the trip to Chamonix this year was my first time skiing outside of the U.S.A.), but I'm trying to make up for lost time! I look forward to other trips to Europe and Canada as well as out west. When I'm not skiing, I enjoy sailing, traveling and gourmet cooking.

PVS BOARD – 2002-2003

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Eugene Sharer
Margaret Wyckoff

EXCOM EXCERPTS

The Excom expressed appreciation for the work of Karen Felker as Executive Secretary, and welcomed Dottie Villers to the position.

THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley



Throughout the history of Washington and politics, August is traditionally the month of quiet. It is so darned hot and humid that everyone goes away. And nothing bad happens. So it is with the BRSC and PVS ExCom controversies. Everything is tranquil...

So the Knee can discuss important things --like skiing, vacations and gossip. Fred and Barbara Leonhardt and Sharon Mulholland all live in Kentlands, MD. The nearest mini-mall to them is called the Potomac Valley Shops or PVS. And I thought a valley had to have things, like sides.

Several years ago, Nancy and the Knee had a July vacation to British Columbia. On July 3rd, we rented skis and skied Whistler/Blackcomb Mountain. Not great skiing, but it was July. This July 4th, we were generously invited to Mike and Eloise Strand's glorious Wintergreen ski home to sample Eastern July skiing. Traveling through Charlottesville it was 104 deg. 3,000 feet higher, at the Mike and Eloise's, it was ski weather--a bone chilling 88 deg. To the slopes! And soon to return--to a weekend of PVS' other favorite past time, eating. A great time Strands!

The FDA has approved cigarettes for those addicted to nicotine patches. It's true!

Jean Chybinski and Bob Harmon are back from a legal trip to Cuba. The trip was set up by a NOVA professor who was writing a paper. Both Bob and Jean found Cuba to be in great disrepair, but with very friendly people.

A Tip of the ol' Kneecap to Jessma Blockwick and Bette Walker. They did yeoman work (yeowoman? yeoperson? the Knee always tries to be politically correct) to get the last issue of TOOT out before the postage rates went up on June 30. They did it. It was particularly difficult because of all of the ski flyers. Right on!

The June ExCom was held at the spanking new townhome of new member and real estate agent Sharon Mulholland. During the meeting the phone rang several times. Sharon answered, took

the phone downstairs, and during the course of the meeting, sold two homes. Right on!

Newly homeless? Rosemary and Dick Schwartzbard have sold their North Arlington home and must move by mid-August. But it's nip and tuck, as their new Rosslyn condo may not be ready. Whoops. They plan to house-sit several friends' houses. Right out!

After the June ExCom meeting, Bob and Jan Marx left for their Minknesota lake front home. Jan will stay until September, whilst (I love that word) Bob will make several short visits because of his work. Bob, as many know, is a summer ski instructor at Wintergreen.

In order to increase PVS' fine arts knowledge, some time ago John Brunelli provided information on some of Vincent Van Gogh's lesser known relatives. Herewith a few:

- > The really obnoxious brother--Please Gogh,
- > The grandfather who worked in an all night convenience store--Stop N. Gogh,
- > His dizzy aunt--Verti Gogh,
- > The cousin who moved to Illinois--Chica Gogh,
- > And finally, his niece who has been traveling the U.S. in a van--Winnie Bay Gogh. I only print 'em!

Shortly after foot surgery and getting her foot out of a cast, Ruth Powers is off on a five day canoe trip. Oar she isn't!

Ubiquitous PVS: At the great Smithsonian Silk Road folk festival, Mike and Eloise Strand ran into Dick and Rosemary Schwartzbard. The festival was created by cellist Yo Yo Ma. While there they saw Yo Yo. Dick Schwartzbard claims to have also seen Yo Yo Ma's Ma.

Ski the Silk Road? In Kashmir, just miles from the India-Pakistani well armed, disputed line, is a relatively new, four-lift ski area. The area is also in a snow leopard preserve. This winter lift tickets are a bargain at a mere \$16 per day. It's BYOB--Bring your own bullet-proof ski parka!

Congratulations to Marty McNeill. She has just returned from her 50th high school reunion--where she served as the Master (Mistress?) of Ceremonies. Hubby Bob swears that (somewhat) earlier, when he married Marty, the Justice of Peace had "Puff the Magic Dragon" playing...

CALENDAR

- Aug. 10 ... Beer Testing Event at the Sharers', p. 2
- Aug. 15 ... Bicycling Gourmet, p. 2
- Aug. 20 ... Summer Sounds at Strathmore, p. 3
- Aug. 23 ... Golf Outing at Leisure World, p. 3
- Aug. 25 ... "Coffee with Richelieu" at the Olney, p. 4
- Aug. 27 ... ExCom in Annapolis with Pat Tengel & John Smith
- Sept. 17 ... Monthly meeting at the Waddicks'
- Sept. 19 ... Midweek Bike Ride
- Oct. 5 ... Oktoberfest at Mary Ward & Jim Slacks's, p. 4



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