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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

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Dear Fellow PVS'ers:

This will just be a short note to let you know that all is well with your club. Some things that you will be hearing more about in coming months include the "Electronic Toot", some changes to our by-laws that are being considered by your Executive Committee, the possibility of incorporating our club in the state of Virginia, and the election of club officers that will be held at the April Annual Meeting.

Finally, I want to wish a speedy recovery to those who sustained injuries this season: Ilse Keel, Mike Strand and Polli Brunelli. To each of you we say please get well soonest, and if I have missed anyone, my sincerest apologies.

Reg

7:30



MONTHLY MEETING
at
GEORGE and SALLY'S

March 16th at

Sally Finan and George Welti
11311 French Horn Lane
Reston, VA
703 - 716 - 9023

From the Beltway: Turn onto the Dulles Toll Road (267 EAST) Exit at Hunter Mill Road and turn left. Turn right onto Sunrise Valley Drive. At first traffic signal, turn left onto South Lakes Drive. At first traffic signal, turn left onto Twin Branches Road. After passing Lake Audubon, turn right onto Glade Drive. Take second left onto Tumbletree Way. Take first left onto French Horn Lane.

11311 is at the end fo the Cul de Sac, to the right.

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee offers the following slate for election at the PVS Business meeting on Tuesday, 20 April 2004:

For President - Reg Heitchue

For Vice President - David Abraham

For Excom - Marilyn Clark, David DeVilbiss, Mike Strand; and Jack Peoples who was nominated by petition from the floor, which was duly announced at the February meeting.

Section III.H of the PVS bylaws provides that additional nominations may be made by the signature of any five active members in good standing and be presented at a business meeting at least one month prior to the election.

The Nominating Committee thanks those who submitted names, comments, and suggestions. It greatly eased our burden and provided a clear indication of the depth of interest of PVS members in the leadership of the Club.

By the Nominating Committee of Jim Slack (chair), Jessma Blockwick, Betty Byrne, Karen Felker, Myron Marquardt, and Serge Triau.

By-Laws Update

It was the last day of the Snowmass trip. The sun was out; the snow was crisp; and I was cruising the Blues. With thoughts of Section VI-A (bylaws amendments), I took a tumble and twisted my knee. As the ski patrol carted me down the mountain, I couldn't help but think about Section I-B-3-a (the USAA Uniform Basic Ski Test)... where did I go wrong? The x-rays, the medications, the consultations, the costs of it all drew me to ponder Section II-B (biennial dues). And when the pain sunk in, I was reminded of last year's elections and the changes to Section III-B (government and elections).

So this is just a long way of explaining that although a Bylaws Report was absent from February's Toot, it wasn't absent from mind. And thanks to a number of "volunteers" we've put together some important recommendations for bylaws changes. Many thanks to marvin.haas@erols.com, rschwartzbard@hotmail.com, Jebbmarx@aol.com and ddillon39@mchsi.com.

hrdyna@aol.com (Mike Strand)

(Editor's Note: The recommended changes will be published in the April Toot.)

Membership

We have three new applicant members:

David and Susan Trickett

10708 Rosehaven Street, Fairfax, Va. 22030.

Home phone number: 703-691-0711.

E-mail addresses: stricket@gmu.edu,

and kynance@aol.com.

Marianne Gustafson

2500 Virginia Avenue N.W. #707-S,

Washington, DC 20037

Home phone number 202-338-2709.

Email address: gustafsonm@comcast.net

Change,

Ufholz - cheu67@aol.com

Bekey - ibekey@cox.net

Leaser - laeser@comcast.net

Our E-mail Differences

It has been brought to our attention that some of us have slow connections with outer space and some of us have faster ones. Some of us have small mailboxes; some of us larger ones.

Some of our members have received large ski trip picture files from friends who want to share. These files have been from 6.8 to 10 megabytes. Their mailbox holds only 10 MB. The result is that any mail coming in is returned and they have no way to tell who tried to contact them, if it was important or if the sender will resend the message. In addition, those files take tens of minutes to download.

SO:

Perhaps ask the recipient if they have the capability to receive large picture files before sending them.

ALSO: Marvin will be happy to put trip photos on the website.

MARVIN'S WEB POLICY ON PHOTOS. For each trip there would be one web page of "Web editor's choice" of photos with "link" to other web pages associated with each photographer. Reason: For the PVS web site, he has to "edit" photos for file size and sometimes brightness/contrast. He doesn't want to have complaints about excessive loading time for dial-up modem viewers. Often he receives many photos and will allow as many as he can comfortably edit. The main limitation is organization of the photos. There are links to each trip.

The Snowmass "Express link" is

<http://www.homestead.com/pvskiers/Smass04.html> This web page now exists

This can be placed in both online and print edition of TOOT. Those with most Internet browsers might be able to click on it directly from your online edition. He will do the same for other major trip photos.

The Spain/Morocco web page (when available) will be <http://www.homestead.com/pvskiers/Spain04.html> // The Cortina web page (when available) will be <http://www.homestead.com/pvskiers/Cortina04.html>

One can always log into PVS Web Site for latest published web pages.

AS TOOT EDITOR, I can as space allows place one or two photographs into TOOT (online and hardcopy) associated with each trip. The rest can go on the web site with a "link".

COMING EVENTS

GAMES GALORE

Friday, March 19, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

Home of Jessma Blockwick
Apt. 213, 1808 Old Meadow Road
McLean, VA, 703-356-0717

Come for an evening of relaxed fun. Scattergories, dictionary game, charades, Cranium, poker—or what's your pleasure?

Small fee will cover snacks, wine, coffee. Call Jessma to let her know you're coming.

DIRECTIONS: From the Beltway: take McLean Exit, Rte. 123 North. Old Meadow is the first street and traffic light inside the Beltway. Turn right—about 6/10 of a mile-- to a gate which leads to the Encore, second building to the left up the hill.

Or—if coming over Chain Bridge: continue south on Rte. 123 to Old Meadow Road and turn left. Continue as above.



BICYCLING GOURMET
Glen Echo to Georgetown



A Post St. Paddy's Day Event

Thursday, March 25, 2004 10:30 AM

Starting Point: Glen Echo/Clara Barton Parking Lot.

Route: Seventeen mile round trip primarily along bike paths. Will go somewhat beyond Georgetown depending upon weather and road conditions.

Lunch (optional) on return to Glen Echo at the new Irish Inn at Glen Echo at 1:30 PM, a hospitable establishment whose motto is "IS MAITH AN TANNLANN ANT-OCRAS," which can be translated as "'Hunger is the Best Sauce.'" Lunch Reservations Required as we can get a private room if number sufficient. Call Betty at (202) 483-4048 by Monday, March 22. [Average cost for entrée (Irish stew, fish & chips, or sandwich) and beverage (soft) about \$15 (including tax and gratuity and lots of blarney about the joys of cycling in the auld sod)]. OK for non-cyclists to join group for lunch. *Lunch will still take place even if bike ride canceled due to rain.*

Directions to Starting Point: Proceed to Glen Echo/Clara Barton Parking Lot. Closest major intersection: MacArthur Boulevard and Goldsboro Road.

Weather: Check with leaders in event of uncertain weather conditions.

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

Note: Starting time listed above is when cyclists actually depart; please arrive earlier to allow sufficient time to set up your equipment. Rest rooms available at Glen Echo. No reservations needed for participation in bike ride; lunch reservations required as noted above.

Next ride: Thursday, April 15, 2004 Mt. Vernon Bike Trail (Shirley Rettig – leader)

Dinner and Wine Tasting

..... at the Cope's.

This annual dinner with matching wines will be held on

April 24

at Pat and Don Copes' home at Lake of the Woods.

Call Pat at 540-972-9838 before March 15th for reservations or informan.



ECLIPSE CONCERT

SAVE THE DATE, MAY 9, ECLIPSE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA's LAST CONCERT OF THIS SEASON

"As You Like It" audience requested music.

Details to follow in the April Toot

SNOWMASS

by Dave and Marsha Warthen

On Thursday, 15 January, the Snowmass 2004 PVS'ers awoke not knowing what weather to expect. However, the trip to Dulles was uneventful, and the flight to Denver was on time. A brisk walk down the Denver concourse led us to our flight to Aspen. It was a bit overcast, but the landing in Aspen (a first for some) was A-OK.

Our accommodations at Snowmass Mountain Chalet were great, as usual. The Chalet gave us a royal wine & cheese welcome in the dining room. Many of us then took off for various restaurants for dinner. After dinner, it did not take long for 'Cardgame Dave D.' to get a game started in the Chalet lobby. 'Phase 10' was the favorite game on that night and 'Wildcard Dave W.' captured most of the wildcards. Speaking of Daves, there were 4 Daves on this trip: 'Wildcard Dave W.'; 'Cleveland Dave L.'; 'slalom-around-the-trees Dave D.' (aka 'cardgame Dave'); and 'ghost hunter Dave P.' (tour of the haunted Glenwood Springs Hotel). There were also: 'I-have-to-ski-every-run Dick L.' and 'I-don't-have-to-ski-every-run Dick S.'

On Friday, after a hearty breakfast in the Chalet dining room, it was off to the inviting slopes. Depending upon altitude adjustments and skiing ability, each person or group dove into what we all love - skiing. That first run - have I ever skied before? How do I turn? Help! After finding our ski legs in the AM, followed by lunch, it was full speed ahead. After a great day on the slopes, it was jacuzzi and pool for some, and then off to a group dinner at Il Poggio's - great food and fellowship. Rumor has it (according to Eloise) that you must guard your wine glass, if you sit next to Don. :-). After returning to the Chalet, it was game time once again in the lobby. There were 2 tables of Bridge and one of Phase 10. 'Wildcard Carolyn M.' took over the reigning 'wildcard person' title. Other great games included Shanghai Rummy and Quiddler.

Saturday was a gorgeous, clear, crisp day on the slopes. During the usual yummy lunch at the Chalet, Betty L. proudly introduced her great-granddaughter, Isabel, who was visiting from Grand Junction. Later, at apres ski, marvelous reports about skiing conditions were shared. In the late afternoon, many went to Aspen to see snow sculptures, skiers with red flares coming down the mountain, and spectacular fireworks. Dinners at various restaurants in Aspen were enjoyed by all.

Sunday was another clear, crisp day of skiing - perfect weather. Unfortunately, Polli B. broke her arm in several places, while skiing on Green Cabin. However, she didn't miss a single party or dinner after her accident. Three cheers for Polli!

Monday was a repeat of Sunday's weather, and some went to Aspen Highlands and Aspen to ski. At 4:30, the Chalet hosted a lovely spread in the cozy lobby for their guests. It was extremely nice and much appreciated. A group dinner at the Tower Restaurant was enjoyed by all.

On Tuesday, some skied in the overcast weather, taking advantage of the new, champagne powder that was falling. Small groups gathered for dinner at a variety of locations.

On Wednesday, we were blessed again with perfect weather and fresh powder for our last day of skiing at Snowmass. Early in the AM, Sneaky's, Naked Lady, and Bull Run were dream runs. Bob M. And John B. skied the mountain corner to corner - from the bottom of Campground lift to the top of Elk Camp lift. Unfortunately, Mike S. took a spill, also on Green Cabin, and tore the ligaments in his knee. (PVS'ers, beware of Green Cabin!) A group dinner at the Stonebridge Inn, that night, was enjoyed by all. Mike S. was able to attend, wearing an immobilizer for his knee. Three cheers for Mike!

Very early Thursday AM, 32 of the group departed for Aspen Airport for the return trip home. The rest of the group continued on to Steamboat. We thank Dr. Don and Nurse Kathy for assisting the injured and ailing, during this Snowmass trip. It was a memorable trip, and many thanks to our trip leaders, the Sharers. Three cheers for the Sharers!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

(Editor's Note)

On February 26, Lu Beale emailed me at Vail saying: **Ray called from Morocco to say the earthquake that occurred this morning was 200 hundred miles from there and though they felt a quiver they are all safe and well.**

Jean and Nick Chybinski emailed me saying:

We were at the Natural Museum yesterday (2-26) and saw the earthquake as it was happening on a seismograph. Amazing.

Our "Joys of the City" February meeting

by Melissa FitzGerald

For those of you in the suburbs who have no idea that there are magnificent apartments in Rosslyn with spacious rooms and gorgeous views, private elevators and garages, your eyes would have widened considerably on entrance to the Schwartzbard's elegant home at The Dakota. Security is tight: it took the first arrivals a few minutes of standing outside in the cold before admission to the warm interior. After that, all was glowing and festive, as 40 members enjoyed good food and drink. Rosemary and Dick confided that this was the largest group they have entertained since moving into their spacious new home a year ago. They looked in Arlington for five years before settling on this unique building. The comfortable surroundings are tastefully decorated with furnishings and objets d'art from many parts of Southeast Asia. Thai books and decorative scrolls, rosewood chests and tables, porcelain elephants and other beautiful objects were accumulated during the seven years when Rosemary and Dick were posted in that part of the world with the State Department. It was a pleasure just to be there.

Dottie Villiers ably presided over the business meeting, filling in for Reggie. Since so many members were off to Morocco, it was a surprise to see a good number in attendance (42). Wilma Sharer introduced four or five guests and new applicants, and it was a pleasure to see several charter members present. Bob Marx brought up some choices presented by the Blue Ridge Council for trips in 2006; an informal vote indicated preferences for Davos and Banff. With no new business, the meeting ended. Most present happily returned to the well-stocked tables and bar, before reluctantly turning out into the cold night, rosy from the effects of good company, food and drink.



Rosemary and Dick Schwartzbard, hosts for Feb. 17 meeting



THE KNEE

By Ray McKinley

It is approaching March, but skiing is still in our hearts—

and in our plans.

We remain a ski club. And the Knee, as he has over the years, feels required to advise you of some of my favorite skiing causes. So let me remind you that you should all try the newest ski fashion, skiing in knickers.

Knickers are great for skiing. They come in various manners of fabrics and coordinating colors. They can be worn alone (with, of course, short johns underneath.) Knickers can be worn over your ski pants or under them (in which case they are considered to be pantaloons.) And they are great for spring skiing.

Of course, the Knee never wears knickers. He wears kneeckers.

Rapidly recovering from knee surgery (no, he isn't removing the Knee) is Jack Peoples. Sadly, he won't be skiing this year. However, Jack has already volunteered to run one of the BRSC trips next year. Kneat!

At a Ski Trip Committee meeting, Gene Sharer noted that he "Froze his tail off many years ago skiing in Califorkneeia. Bob Marx replied, "It was effective, I noticed that you don't have one." Ouch! The Knee is still pursuing this, as there's more to this tale. Um.

Bob and Jan Marx arrived home only shortly before the meeting. They were at Wintergreen skiing with Eloise Strand. But sadly not with Mike who is still recovering from torn ligaments after a fall on the Snowmass trip. The other-PVser wounded at Snowmass, Polli Brunelli, is now in better humor as her humerus, broken in three places, is mending quite nicely. Super!

While there's been lots of snow locally, there is a cost. PVS Massanutten Patroller, Marty Rine says they have had 3 deaths as a result of ski accidents. Bummer!

At the last ExCom meeting Ray Jones was there without spouse, Judy. Ray had taken Judy to the Emergency Room earlier in the day and was

awaiting the results. It turned out to be one of my favorite diseases, Kneemonia, which has now been successfully treated. Judy was feeling fine two days later and sent Ray off to the PVS Steamboat trip. There, wearing his new ski helmet, Ray Jones kneeded it. He did quite a head plant and bruised his shoulder. A truly sick family!

Steamboat was the third PVS trip for David and Susan Payne. They are New Yorkers, wine makers and friends of Dick and Rosemary Schwartzbard. Welcome!

Lest I forget, knickers are great for skiing at high altitude. Even when the air is quite sparse, if you wear them, you are still breathing in short pants. Ouch!

Nickname: (note that the Knee's favorite nickname is, of course, Nick.) On the Snowmass trip Charles Boykin received an award for being "Popcorn Charlie." And meanwhile, Kirk Burns was searching for dance partners. 30 years later—same Kirk.

Ubiquitous PVS—sort of: Applicant Dick Laeser was telling others of his upcoming trip on a 75,000 hp Russian ice breaker to the North Pole. The next evening, Jack Hadler was wearing a 90 deg North shirt. When asked, Jack replied that 20 years ago he was on the maiden trip on a Russian ice breaker to the North Pole. Cool.

Interesting signs at ski areas: At Taos, according to Dave Lerner is a sign that says, "Last turn off, this trail eats intermediate skiers." And Marty Rine saw one at Grand Targee, "Passing this sign means that you will lose your lift ticket—or you will die." Right off.

Towards the end of the Snowmass trip, the Schwartzbards and trip leaders Gene and Wilma Sharer took a day off, and went to Aspen for a truly grand lunch at Little Nell's. Thereafter, "the girls," Wilma and Rosemary, went shopping. They were joined by PVS' chief flea marketeer, Eloise Strand, on a trip to Suzy's Consignments. Quite a few bargains were found.

And finalknee, instead of wearing apres ski boots with my kneeckers, I wear (what else) skneekers.

As they say in France, and also in Morocco, *je suis finKnee*.

CALENDAR:

- February 28 - March 10...Cortina Ski Trip
- March 10...Hexagon Revue at Duke Ellington Theater
- March 13...Snowmass post-trip party at the Sharer's
- March 16...Monthly Meeting at George Welti's & Sally Finan's
- March 19...Games Night at Jessma Blockwick's
- March 23...ExCom Meeting, TBA
- March 25...Bicycling Gourmet, Glen Echo-Georgetown
- April 17...Spain-Morocco post-trip party at the McKinley's
- April 15...Bicycling Gourmet, Mt. Vernon Bike Path
- April 20...Annual Meeting at the Leonhardt's
- April 24...Wine Tasting Dinner at the Cope's
- April 27...ExCom Meeting, TBA
- May 9...Eclipse Chamber Orchestra, Bradley Hills Presb Church,
"As You Like It" audience requested music.
- May 27...Bicycling Gourmet. Calvert County Riviera



E-mail Notice

If you haven't been receiving our Hotmail emails and the electronic TOOTs (several versions), I DO NOT have your correct email address.

Please let me know what that address is if you want PVS notices and/or electronic TOOT.

Thanks, Jan = jebbmarx@aol.com.

Marilyn Clark
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Annandale, VA 22003-4108