

VOLUME XXXV

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

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NUMBER 11

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

Fellow PVSers:

As some of you may know, I have another role out in the real world away from PVS. I'm a Human Resources (formerly known as Personnel) professional and one of the things I do is recruit staff to get the work done. But things are really tough right now – simply not enough workers to go around. So I'm going to extend my recruiting and tell you about the perfect job I have for you!

You see, our favorite sport is reporting a desperate situation as that figure of legend, the ski bum, goes the way of the dodo and other extinct species. Seems no one wants to forego the opportunity to make it rich on the stock market by hanging around a ski resort for little pay and all the skiing you can handle. Every year Aspen tries to hire 1000 people but is finding it very difficult to fill the roles. So how about a job for the winter working in the lift pass office for \$8 an hour with subsidized housing, 401k, ski pass to all the surrounding resorts, wholesale prices on equipment and even free orthopedic surgery? Think about it. I wonder if they need an HR Director....

Enjoy your second career on the slopes

Nancy
Nancy



MONTHLY MEETING

NOVEMBER 21, 2000, 7:30 p.m..

Home of Ruth Powers, 7580 Potomac Fall Road

McLean, VA 22102. Tel: 703-821-2431

SPECIAL GUEST: Annual appearance of Brian Eardley of the Washington Ski Center to tell us about the latest ski gear.

Directions to Ruth Power's home: From Beltway, take Exit 13 (Georgetown Pike, Rte. 193). Go west on Georgetown Pike for one mile. After crossing a small stone bridge with a prominent sign (Betty Cooke Memorial Bridge), turn right on Potomac River Road. Go to end of Potomac River Road (about 1/2 mile) and turn right on Potomac Fall Road. No. 7580 is first house on the left after turn. Driveway goes down hill to the house.



NATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD EXPO. November 3, 4 & 5, 2000. Ballston Common Mall in Arlington, VA, Glebe Road & Wilson Blvd.

Over 100 exhibitors! Door prizes! Demos and Clinics! Warren Miller's newest movie! Ski Swap! Grand prize trip to Mt. Tremblant! Hours: Friday - 4 to 9 p.m.; Saturday - 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday - 12 to 6 p.m.

BICYCLING GOURMET



Glen Echo to Great Falls (and return)

Thursday, Nov. 16, 2000 10:30 AM



Starting Point: Glen Echo/Clara Barton Parking Lot
[West side of Glen Echo; on MacArthur Blvd. near

Goldsboro Road]. Ride will proceed mostly along (paved) MacArthur Blvd

Bike Path, a dirt road for one mile (no cars; can be avoided at participant's option), and C&O Canal Towpath to Great Falls, MD. Lunch on return at the Inn at Glen Echo at around 1:30 PM (Inn at Glen Echo was once a neighborhood pub, which got "gentrified" a few years ago.)

Lunch will take place even if ride canceled due to weather. Please let one of the leaders by Monday Nov.13 if you are intend to come to lunch (those not letting us know if coming may not necessarily be seated in our private dining room.) Slides of Bicycling in Provence will be shown.

Total distance: 15 miles

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

ANNUAL CHILI HIKE

A traditional PVS event, held this year on Saturday, November 18. Meet at 1:30 at the Great Falls Visitor's Center, Virginia side. There may still be a few places for the chili dinner. Call the McKinleys at 703-527-7126 to reserve a place at the dinner, and to sign up to bring a dish. Cost for supper will be about \$8. All are welcome to hike.

**MUSICAL PRESENTATION, CHARLES SUMNER SCHOOL,
17TH AND M STS. N.W. - FRIDAY DEC. 1, 2000**

PVSers will meet at the Charles Sumner School at 11 a.m. for a 45 minute tour of the building and art exhibit. We will then assemble on the third floor in the ballroom for the noontime concert. The three act concert will take about one hour. Ramona Matthews will be playing in a Brahms trio for violin, cello, and piano. Act two will feature a singer doing a group of songs by Rossini, and act three will feature a piano performer named Thomas Pandolfi.

Paid parking is available, but Metro (Farragut North) is recommended. Interested PVSers should contact Bill Anderson (301) 654-4711 for a headcount as we will go to lunch after the concert with Bill.

***TOUR OATLANDS PLANTATION AND LUNCH AT LAUREL
BRIGADE, LEESBURG, VIRGINIA - THURSDAY DEC. 7, 2000***

The Oatlands mansion was built in 1803 and soon grew to a 3,000 acre working plantation. Oatlands fared well during the Civil War and was bypassed during burning raids by union troops. After the war, it was operated as a country retreat for affluent Washingtonians. Oatlands was sold in 1903 to William Corcan Eustis and his wife Edith. They restored Oatlands to its former splendor. Oatlands was known for garden parties and visits by political leaders such as F.D. Roosevelt, and George Marshall. Mrs. Eustis died in 1964, and her daughter presented Oatlands to the National Trust For Historic Preservation in 1965. Oatlands then became a National Historic Landmark in 1972. Senior admission is \$7, and if we have 15 or more it will be \$6. We should plan to arrive at 10:15 a.m.

Directions: Oatlands is six miles south of Leesburg on Route 15 just 45 minutes from Washington, D.C. Go west on Route 66 to US 50 and take 50 west until Route 15, turn north on 15 and proceed six miles to Oatlands. Frederick residents should proceed south on 15 through Leesburg to Oatlands which is 6 miles south of Leesburg on left side of road.

Interested PVSers should call Charles or Sara Huggins (301) 424-5725 as we will need a head count for lunch.

PUHLEEZESIGN IN and PAY UP!!!

We know our monthly meetings are fun but please don't have such a fun time that you forget to sign in at the front door AND pay the modest \$2 fee. It's a very small price to pay for all that food and drink and ski news and good fellowship. If you forget to sign in and pay up the club must subsidize your evening.

◆ PVS Goes to the Theatre ◆

"Fosse"

The *NY Times* raved "Pure Exhilaration! Terrifically Entertaining". *USA Today* gushed "Explodes Onstage. Danced and Sung by a Brilliant Ensemble". Dancer, choreographer, director, legend. Bob Fosse's sexy style and unique vision revolutionized musical theater in *Sweet Charity*, *Chicago*, *Cabaret* and *Pippin* to name a few. Now, his ground-breaking work is back. 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 Sunday December 17. Tickets are \$68.00 each, that's 10% off the \$75.00 price (including \$0.50 per ticket handling).

It may be possible to get additional tickets. Call Margaret Wyckoff as soon as possible at 301-589-5532 if you are interested.



WISP-----MID-WEEK-----JANUARY 2001

January 10 - 12

**CALL WISP NOW TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM
ASK FOR THE SKI CHALET DEMO DAY RATE
COST**

**ROOM PER NIGHT (SINGLE OR DOUBLE) -----\$59.
VOUCHER FOR THURSDAY LIFT TICKET ----- \$2.
APRES SKI SUPPLIES (APPROXIMATELY)----- \$3. PER PERSON**

ARRANGEMENTS

- ** Let Myron Marquardt know if you are going so he can plan Apres Ski on Thursday night and buy your vouchers from Ski Chalet. Also he will try and match you with a roommate if you need one. Tel. (301) 460-3269
- ** Rooms paid individually. For each room call Wisp Hotel to reserve a room and pay deposit for one night with credit card or mail check. 1-800-462-9477
With a roommate, individual cost drops to \$29.50 per night Wed. & Thurs.
- ** Lift tickets are obtained individually at area with your voucher. 70+ year old skiers do not need a voucher as they ski free.
- ** Meals paid individually. You may bring breakfast or lunch stuff if desired as refrigerators are in rooms.

PVS STEAMBOAT

Monday, January 22 - Monday, January 29, 2001

Final payment for the trip is due November 23.

Please remember to send us your completed medical form in a sealed envelope with your name on the outside along with your final payment. If you have any questions, please call Barbara or Fred at 301-963-8111.



TELLURIDE - FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 7, 2001

Please remember the second trip payment is due November 15th, and the final payment is due December 31. Everything for the trip is GO!



February 10-17, 2001, join Nancy and Ray McKinley to Ski

 *the Canyons, Utah* 

Ski with us at the West's newest mega-ski resort, the Canyons, in Park City Utah. The Canyons now covers **eight different mountains**. One mountain is totally black runs. And, the Canyons has the **most intermediate runs in Utah!** If you skied the Canyons a year or two ago it's now a totally new resort—twice as large. Today the Canyons is the largest ski area in Utah--**3,400 acres!** 7 high speed quads mean no lift lines. It's perfect for PVS with a base at 6700 feet and 9900 feet at the top, so scant altitude problems.

I SPACE LEFT! NEED WOMAN WHO LOVES LUXURY.

We'll stay slopeside at the Grand Summit. The Grand Summit Resort Hotel is Utah's **newest and largest ski-in/ski-out hotel**, having opened in March, 2000. Amenities include: **luxuriously furnished** rooms, full service **health club**, soothingly heated, swim in/swim out pool, 3 whirlpools, steamroom, **sauna**, **massage**, **fine dining/bistro**, lounges, concierge, room service, and **only 40 feet from the new high speed gondola!**

OUR PRICE - \$1584, 65+ \$1552, LAND ONLY \$1295

If you have any questions, or need our flyer, **call Nancy or Ray at (703) 527-7126**. To sign up send your check for \$850.00 payable to Ray McKinley, to 2326 North Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207-4045.



SKI KEYSTONE IN THE SPRING

April 2 - 9, 2000

Luxury accommodations an easy walk to the lifts. Lift tickets good for Keystone, Breckinridge and Arapahoe Basin and almost 2,000 acres of varied terrain. Keystone has won a gold medal for terrain, lifts, grooming and family and a silver for snow, challenge, service, weather, access, food, lodging, off-hill activities and scenery from SKI Magazine. Last year skiing was excellent into late April.

Package includes 6 days, 7 nights in Keystone, airfare, transfers, bag handling, 5-day lift ticket, happy hours and group dinners.

Cost will be approximately \$1195. For more information or to reserve a space, call Bob Knopes at 703-690-2039 or drop an e-mail to BKnopes@Mindspring.com.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ PAST EVENTS ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

OKTOBERFEST

Twenty-four skiers celebrated at the PVS traditional Oktoberfest on September 23rd at the beautiful country home of Mary Ward and Jim Slack on an absolutely perfect fall day. How did they manage it?

We walked in the woods, visited and admired their beautiful horses, had lots of visiting with each other, and then feasted on appetizers brought by guests and beer--beer--beer in the spirit of Oktoberfest. Then on to a variety of wurst, fresh barbecued by Jim, and German potato salad, sauerkraut, red cabbage, and finally a myriad of desserts, including pflaumenkuchen--contributed by guests.

A super-duper occasion! Many, many thanks to Mary and Jim--perfect hosts you are. And to Aina Thomas for coordinating arrangements. It was great!

.....Dot Mills

OCTOBER MEETING

We had a good turnout for our October 19 meeting. Fifty-six members ventured out along the dark and winding streets to Sally Finan's and George Welti's house. We were welcomed with an array of goodies ranging from meatballs and cold cuts to fruits and cheeses. As usual, we did full justice to it all and kept our hostess busy refilling dish after dish.

Afterwards, we went downstairs, and having admired the wonderful indoor pool, we settled down to our meeting. We heard reports about the trips, the local activities and special events such as dinner and theater performances. Our membership chairman also informed us that membership has reached its limit and further applications will now be put on a waiting list. Our president, Nancy McKinley, closed the meeting shortly after nine o'clock to enable us to listen to the presidential debate. But, judging by the number of PVSers who stayed upstairs drinking coffee and munching on cookies, it seems few of us took advantage of this opportunity.

We wish to thank our host and hostess for their gracious hospitality.

.....Edith Rabinovitz

Lu Beale's book, "The Plot Against Santa," which she wrote in 1943 as one of a series, is available from the McKinleys for \$10. Call them at 703-527-7126.

PIANO 300

Celebrating Three Centuries of People and Pianos

On Thursday, October 12th, Maestro John Smith conducted a baker's dozen and more PVS piano-lovers to a most fascinating exhibition, as titled above, at the Smithsonian International Gallery on the Mall. There were antique pianos representing all periods from 1700 when Bartolomeo Cristofori invented the piano in Florence, Italy, to the most modern PianoDisc computerized player piano. Small wooden working models, with one key for us to press, showed the different mechanisms as they evolved through time. Even Liberace's rhinestone encrusted piano was there. We learned that in the 19th Century a well-bred girl was expected to play the piano whether or not she had talent and desire. (I learned this in the 20th C. when for the only time I can remember my Mother took the hairbrush to me for refusing to practice). A professional pianist-docent played music appropriate to the style and age of several of the pianos and told us about the piano and the music. Altho' he said he wasn't a classical pianist (he plays for country and folk dancing in Charlottesville) you could have fooled me. Afterwards, Maestro Smith conducted us to the red Triassic sandstone "Castle" where we enjoyed a fine buffet lunch. Thank you, John!

Penny Hanshaw

DOG in PARADISE by Josie 2

When I was a puppy I accompanied 12 PVSers to Betty Lawrence's luxurious chalet in Blue Knob, Pa. for a 3- day weekend blast. Four years later I am a wise old dog and the Blue Knob weekend is still a blast.

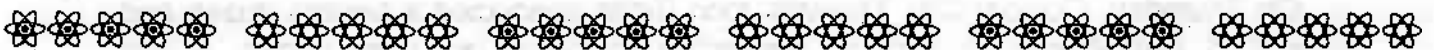
There were 14 this time plus me and there was so much going on I hardly had time for an occasional shut-eye. Some people hiked, some looked at football games, some read, Marilyn Clark and Ray McKinley went antiquing altho there was a perfectly good antique right there at the chalet but they said they were looking for a cake plate which is a different kind of antique I guess.

Everyone does his own thing at Betty's chalet and that's what makes the weekend so successful. That and THE EATING which is BIG TIME. Everyone brought goodies - hors d'oeuvres, salads, breads, desserts while the McKinleys, the Clarks and the Klines produced gourmet entrees. Everyone sat at candle-lit tables to dine. Everyone except me. I vacuumed.

After dinner, there were games orchestrated by Jessma Blockwick. One was a kind of musical chairs where everyone fought vigorously and loudly for too few seats. The next night there was Trivial Pursuit followed by - I'm not making this up - a half dozen guests and the hostess climbing into a huge tub of bubbling hot water and just sit there giggling .Darndest thing I ever saw!

It was a chilly weekend but we did see sun-dappled foliage before the clouds rolled in and we awoke the last morning to find several inches of snow on the ground. Everyone cheered but I was glad they had left their skis at home or they might have gone right out on those slopes and I would have had to tie on a keg of brandy and lead them through the storm. The Saint Bernard is not the only dog on the hill, you know.

Anyway, everyone finally was able to pack up , say fervent thanks to the hostess and reluctantly head back to Real Life. Some say there is a Doggy Heaven. Some even say there is a Skier Heaven. . Whatever. It can't beat Betty Lawrence's hospitality at the Blue Knob chalet.



WITHER GOEST THOU, PVS ?

President McKinley has chartered a committee under the leadership of Jim Slack to address this question. For my part I need to know everyone's opinion of the purpose of PVS before November 16 (when I head for points north and south). Please contact me by phone (703-534-5438), e-mail (phanshaw @erols.com), fax (703-534-0893) or come on over and share a brewski and we'll talk--whatever, carrier pigeon, if you like. I REALLY NEED YOUR INPUT!

Thanks in advance,
Penny Hanshaw



THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

It's finally November. At least in the higher spots, the frost is already on the pumpkins. The highland persimmons have also had their frost and are now cloyingly sweet-tart. Local ski areas have had snow--especially in Blue Knob. So the 2000-2001 ski season is now upon us with its ubiquitous white stuff. With all that winter weather about, can the opening of Ski Liberty be far behind? Well...yes, their scheduled opening date this season is February 19.

They actually "opened" Big Sky Montana, for a few days in mid October for first skiing bragging rights, after a 34" snowfall. It's closed again 'til Thanksgiving. *Enroute* (the Knee loves to use foreign words--like *champagne*) to Betty Lawrence's, fall foliage weekend, we drove by Braddock Heights, MD. Their ski season also has not yet started--their 1970 season!

We all had an absolute ball at one of Betty Lawrence's alternate abodes at Blue Knob. So what else is new--we always have a ball. Ruth Powers had a meat ball. It stuck in her throat. Pres. Nancy was prepared to do the Heimlich maneuver, which frightened Ruth sufficiently for the meatball to disappear. Right down!

A bit of Blue Knob recent history: In the late 80's Betty had an opportunity to purchase the entire resort. It's on state land which is leased for \$1 per year. But the facilities need to be maintained. Betty opted not to buy, so it went to a Reston man with no other ski experience or properties. His big improvement was adding huge fans across the valley to keep the winds up!!

Do you know what they call a new reader of this column? A kneeophyte.

The following quote was heard by John Smith. "When I was 40, my doctor advised me that a man in his 40s shouldn't go skiing. I heeded his advice carefully and could hardly wait until I reached fifty to start again." A PVSer? No, Supreme Court Justice Hugo L. Black. Right on!

Charles Huggins reports the May Spring

Fling raised \$50,000 for disabled skiing. Kneet!

Margaret Wyckoff is recently back from a trip to Hanover, Germany to visit family. Whilst there she visited a cousin not seen in 60 years! Wow! George Hicho is back from a tour of Normandy and one of my favorite places, Britanknee. And Shirley Rettig is back from a trip to Nova Scotia. I personally prefer Alta Scotia

As most of us took normal summer vacations, Betty Byrne took a formal one. She went to the Wagnerian Ring Cycle (which is louder than a motorcycle) Festival at Bayreuth. (Which, as I mentioned earlier means a large body of water near reuth. Were it a small body of water, it would translate Babyreuth.) All the men wore tuxes, and Betty took four evening gowns.

Recently, Jack Peoples was collecting for the US Ski Team, wearing one of their T-shirts.

Interesting license plates: I saw LUV2SKI in Virginia. And Burr Schuler's is SNOBURR. Have you seen interesting ones? Let me know.

Recently, Jeanette Albersheim called Lu Beale and told her "I saw a squabbit." Lu had no idea whatsoever what Jeanette was talking about. A squabbit is one of the characters in Lu's recently republished book "The Plot Against Santa." She sheepishly admitted she had not read it in 40 years!

At the Crabfest, hostess Betty Lawrence assumes some six crabs per person. George Welti admitted to having his "annual crab." In not eating his fair share, George was not being shellfish...

After years as the best in her age group, Suzanne Boisclair has sold her windsurfer and is taking up tennis. She "loves" it!

Some people bring back postcards, but not Bob and Janet Marx. In Argentina, they shot 42 complete rolls of 35 mm. film. Many of the photos were awesome, better than postcards.

According to Mike Hatanaka the name of the toy Pokemon is short for Pocket Monster.

While being a hostess at the National Symphony Designer House, Marilyn Clark ran into Patty Wyckoff, and had a lengthy chat.

Finalknee, Mary Ward and Jim Slack's horse, Cookie, likes Miller Genuine Draft Beer. Does that make her a Draft Horse?? Neigh.

CALENDAR

- Nov. 3 ... National Ski and Snowboard Expo, p 2
- Nov. 4 ... 35th Anniversary Dinner
- Nov. 16 ... Midweek Bike Ride, Glen Echo to Great Falls, p. 2
- Nov. 18 ... Annual Chili Hike, p. 2
- Nov. 21 ... Monthly Meeting at Ruth Powers', p. 1
- Nov. 28 ... ExCom at Bill Anderson's
- Dec. 1 ... Musical concert with Ramona Matthews, p. 3
- Dec. 7 ... Tour of Outlands Plantation and lunch, p. 3
- Dec. 17 ... PVS goes to FOSSE, p. 4
- Dec. 19 ... Monthly meeting at the Dillons'
- Jan. 11 ... Demo Day at Wisp, p. 4
- Jan. 13 ... Steamboat Pre-Trip Party
- Jan. 14 ... Pre-trip Party for Canyons

21 April

PLEASE! Karen Felker asks all PVSers who have E-mail to make sure she has their correct E-mail address. This is useful to send messages between issues of the TOOT.

PVS Website: <http://www.homestead.com/pvskiers>

Bette Walker
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