

VOLUME XXXV

# Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

OCTOBER 2001

NUMBER 10

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

## Fellow Potomac Valley Skiers:

The excellent turnout for our first fall meeting at Bill Anderson's special patio and party room generated impressive warmth and congeniality which were a testimony to the resilient spirit of PVSers and America. Thanks, Bill, for making this happy work session possible following our saddest of American weeks.

Ski caps off to the KNEE--aka Ray McKinley--for coming of age on September 18th.

A grateful 21 members are still singing the praises of Kathy and Don Dillon for graciously sharing their golf and beach homes on a glorious first fall weekend. They even produced barbequed ribs when there were none available in the local markets. Bye-bye, Boston.

May God continue to bless PVS and America!

Ned Flaherty  
President XXIV

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MONTHLY MEETING  
OCTOBER 16, 2001, 7:30 P.M.

Home of Bob and Jan Marx  
8312 Oakford Dr.  
Springfield, VA  
703-451-9158



**DIRECTIONS TO THE MARX HOME:**

**FROM NORTH ON THE BELTWAY:**

Take Exit 5 West onto Braddock Rd. Go to the fifth stop light and angle left onto Burke Lake Rd. Turn left at next stop light onto Rolling Rd. Go to third stop light and turn left onto Forrester Blvd. (called Hillside on the right side of Rolling). Go two short blocks and turn right onto Oakford Dr. (opposite the school on your left). Go about two blocks, past the Dead End sign to 8312 on your left.

**FROM SHIRLEY HWY AND 95:**

Exit 95 SOUTH at Old Keene Mill Rd (Hwy 644) West. (Franconia Rd and the Mall go to the East.) Go to the seventh stop light and turn right onto Rolling Rd. Go through one light, past McDonalds and turn right onto Roxbury Ave. (opposite the post office). Turn at the second right (road curves around to the left) onto Fenwood Dr. Go one block and dead end into Oakford Dr. Turn right and the house is the fourth on the left = 8312.

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**3RD ANNUAL FRANK SHELBURNE MEMORIAL HIKE AND LUNCH**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11TH**



We will meet promptly at 10:30 a.m. at the Boat House in Seneca Creek State Park, and hike the circular trail around the lake. The trail is flat and the short (4 mile) hike will build up our thirst and appetite for lunch at Cafe Mileto. Lunch at the Cafe is excellent, and the mussels are almost as good as those served by Roland at Auberge Les Alleghenys in Sutton, Quebec. Interested PVSers should call George Hicho (301-963-1836) or Betty Byrne (202-483-4048). Lunch--anticipated to be around 1 p.m.--is open to non-hikers

Directions: Proceed north on I-270 to Gaithersburg and take exit 10, Clopper Road. Go north on Clopper Road past NIST for a couple of miles. The road narrows and Seneca Creek State Park entrance appears on your left. Enter the Park, bypass the Visitors Center on right, and then turn right after passing the Contact Station. Proceed a few hundred feet, turn left on first paved road, and follow to the parking lot by the Boat House where we will meet for the hike.

Frederick people should proceed south on I-270, exit Quince Orchard Road, go west to the second traffic light, turn right on Clopper Road, and proceed as above.

## BICYCLING GOURMET



### W&OD Trail -- Sterling to Leesburg

Thursday, October 18, 2001 10:30 AM

**Starting Point:** VA Rte. 28 & W&OD Trail Parking Lot. **Route:** 20 mile round trip ride on the flat W&OD trail to Leesburg and return with short detour near end to the Old Dominion BrewPub for lunch. This is a BrewPub which is associated with adjacent award-winning microbrewery. This is now



one of the most popular rides among local cyclists. You can sample at least a dozen fresh beers and ales and dine on hearty pub food.

**Directions to Starting Point:** *VIA Rte. 7* (Leesburg Pike). From the Beltway go 15 miles west toward Leesburg; Exit right on VA 28 South (Sully Road) and proceed 2.4 miles and turn right at traffic light into parking lot 1/4 mile before the W&OD Trail Overpass ( visible from road)..

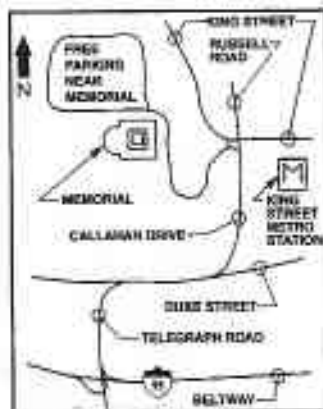
*VIA Dulles Toll Road:* From the Beltway go 12 miles to Rte.28 North (Sully Road). Proceed 3.6 miles to the W&OD Trail Overpass and continue. Just beyond the overpass, turn left (traffic light)from Rte. 28 into parking lot. (less traffic this way, but costs 85 cents toll)

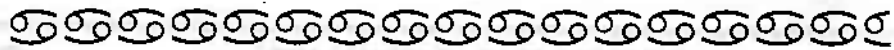
**Leaders:** Marvin Hass (703) 751-4737 and Betty Byrne (202) 483-4048

**Note:** Starting time listed above is when cyclists actually depart; please arrive earlier to allow sufficient time to set up your equipment. Nearest "facilities" are 2 miles beyond starting point. (Portapotty). Rest stop with running water facilities at Leesburg rest stop.

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 10:30 a.m.

**Tour the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, located at the South end of King Street and Callahan Drive in Old Town Alexandria. The Tour starts at 10:30 a.m. Lots of free parking on the Temple grounds. After the Tour, those desiring will lunch at the Potowmack Landing Restaurant, located at the Washington Sailing Marina on the George Washington Memorial Parkway between the Airport and Old Town. All interested should call Bill Anderson (301) 654-4711, for Lunch Reservations.**





# Capitol Hill Extravaganza

Saturday, October 27, 2001 -- 11:00 AM

Hosted by Marilyn and Jim Panagopoulos. We'll start at their Capitol Hill home with libations (Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Soft Drinks) and munches. Thereafter, Marilyn and Jim, as our walking tour guides, will lead a Tour of Capitol Hill. It includes the homes of John Philip Sousa, Roberta Flack and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. In addition we will visit the very renowned Capitol Hill Flee Market. After taking in the atmosphere of Capitol Hill and its extraordinary architecture, we will proceed to a casual luncheon spot where everyone is responsible for their tab.

Limited attendance! Call Marilyn or Jim NOW to sign up  
(202) 544-5503

Location: Marilyn & Jim Panagopoulos home, 406 G Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003

Directions from Virginia: Take 395 N crossing the Potomac on the 14<sup>th</sup> St bridge. 395 becomes the Southeast Freeway. Continue to the 6th Street, SE exit. (Exit will be a right turn.) At bottom of exit take a left up the hill to G. St. SE. Make a left on G. Street and go two blocks to 406 G. St., SE. -- house will be on the right.

From Maryland: Take George Washington Parkway to 395 N (Southwest Freeway) and follow directions above.



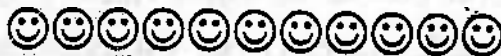
**SAVE  
THIS  
DATE!!! NOVEMBER 9, 2001**

**for the elegant Arts Club dinner,  
Price is being negotiated - more  
information later.**



**NEW EVENT: STROLL AND DINNER**  
**SATURDAY, NOV. 10, 2001**

The Leonhardt's will welcome PVS'ers and their guests to their home in Gaithersburg, MD at 2:00 PM on Sat. afternoon, Nov. 10 for appetizers, wine, beer, and sodas. After time for munching and drinking, Barb and Fred will lead about an hour-long stroll around the lakes in Kentlands; bicycling instead of walking is an option. The walk will end at the Taste of Hong Kong Chinese restaurant in the Kentlands where we will have a group dinner. Entree choices will be pre-arranged by Barbara. Dinner will include: soup, egg roll, entrees served family style, and hot tea. Following dinner, we will walk back to the Leonhardt's for desserts and coffee. Cost for the food is estimated at \$17-19/person. In case of rain, the walk will be canceled and we will drive to the restaurant. Please call Barb and Fred for a reservation at 301-963-8111 or email to [fbleonhardt@starpower.net](mailto:fbleonhardt@starpower.net).



**ANNUAL CHILI HIKE**

**This traditional PVS event will be held this year on Saturday, November 17. 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 join in the hike.**

## **STEAMBOAT SPRINGS**

**MONDAY, DEC. 10 TO MONDAY, DEC. 17, 2001**



Doug Horstman of Alpine Group Consultants will be directing you on our low-budget trip to Denver. Sally Finan of PVS will be our contact at Steamboat Springs. Maureen Kruger, Doug's assistant, should have sent you the second payment request and another letter giving you airline schedules, times of departure and transportation at Denver. All the fine details that PVSers need!

You may reach Doug at [dhorstman@alpinegroupconsultants.com](mailto:dhorstman@alpinegroupconsultants.com) and Maureen at [MKruger@alpinegroupconsultants.com](mailto:MKruger@alpinegroupconsultants.com). Their phone number there is 703-591-8440.

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## **Ski Snowmass, CO Jan. 17 - 24, 2001**



The trip planning is on schedule and the temperatures in Snowmass are dropping. The first snowfall is just "around the corner". Unfortunately the schedule for the Aspen ballet has changed so Betty Byrne will not be purchasing tickets for the group; however, she will continue to look for a cultural event to offer to the group. The final payment is due November 23 and you will receive an itemization of what you paid and what you owe before then. Since our outbound flight on Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> is at 6:50 AM, we will have a very early AM check-in time at Dulles because of the enhanced security requirements. If you decide to stay in a hotel near the airport the night before departure, be sure that the hotel has shuttle service to the airport at ALL hours. If you have any questions, please call Barbara or Fred Leonhardt at 301-963-8111.

## **STILL TIME TO SIGN UP**



## **PVS BANFF / LAKE LOUISE CANADA 2002**

(THIS TRIP IS PART OF THE BLUE RIDGE SKI COUNCIL WESTERN CARNIVAL 2002)

**Saturday February 2, 2002 to Saturday February 9, 2002**

**THREE SKI AREAS: LAKE LOUISE, SUNSHINE VILLAGE, AND NORQUAY**

**WE WILL BE STAYING THREE NIGHTS AT THE "CHATEAU LAKE LOUISE" and FOUR NIGHTS AT THE "BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL"**

**TOTAL PACKAGE PRICE:\$ 1300 (DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)**

**INCLUDED IN PRICE:** PRE TRIP PARTY, ROUND TRIP AIR FARE FROM WASHINGTON TO CALGARY AND RETURN, TRANSFER FROM CALGARY AIRPORT TO THE CHATEAU LAKE LOUISE AND MIDWEEK TO THE BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL, BREAKFAST DAILY, PVS APRES SKI PARTIES, LIFT TICKET (5 OF 6 DAYS), BRSC WELCOMING PARTY, BRSC MIDWEEK APRES SKI PARTY, BRSC FAREWELL DINNER PARTY AND DANCE, BUS TRANSFER TO THE AIRPORT IN CALGARY, POST TRIP PARTY, EMERGENCY MEDICAL INSURANCE.

**TO SIGN UP FOR THE TRIP: SEND A DEPOSIT OF \$100 (PAYABLE TO JOHN H. SMITH) TO:**

**JOHN H. SMITH, AT 8174 INVERNESS RIDGE ROAD, POTOMAC, MD. 20854.**

**CONTACTS: JOHN H. SMITH AT 301-299-8376 OR JACK PEOPLES AT 301-438-7298**

March 15-30, 2002, join Nancy and Ray McKinley for



## *A Grand European Ski Extravaganza and Sailing Holiday*

- *A Week in 4 Star Luxury in Courchevel 1850, the Deer Valley of the 70,000 acre Trois Vallées in the Spectacular Savoie Alps*
- *5 Day Cruise Amongst the Picturesque Greek Isles and 2 Days in Athens*
- *An Outstanding 3-day Add-on in Historic, Exotic Istanbul, Turkey!*
- **Do both weeks or either week alone. Trip can follow BRSC trip to Chamonix.**

Courchevel is perhaps the world's greatest ski resort - the elitest of the Trois Vallées area of France, the largest ski resort complex in the world! You can choose to ski Courchevel or take easy advantage of the largest interlinked

>>Only 1 Room Left!! Call Us Immediately to Sign Up<<

stay at 4\* Les Trois Vallées Hôtel for ski-in, ski-out luxury. Just down the slope is the center of the beautiful little town, home of fabulous shopping and restaurants. Enjoy great rooms, all breakfasts and 4 gourmet dinners in the hotel's lovely mezzanine. All rooms have **unobstructed mountain views** and are designed with perfect European luxury.

Our second week is in **Greece**. 2 nights lodging at the Hotel Stanley, downtown Athens with breakfasts and tour of the **Acropolis** and Athens included. Depart Athens Monday on Royal Olympic Cruise Lines in **upgraded cabins**. Visit Kusadasi and Ephesus, fabled Turkish sites, as well as the most famous Greek Islands, **Mykonos**, Patmos, Rhodes, Crete, and Santorini. On our return, we have a **tour to Delphi** with lunch. Too soon, March 30 we return to the United States. **SPECTACULAR PACKAGE TO TURKEY:** A special 2 night 3 day add-on in Istanbul: air from Athens to Istanbul, stay at 4 \* Taxim Plaza, day tour of Istanbul, world famous bazaars, **Haggia Sophia**, lunch. Return April 1.

### **Full French Ski Extravaganza & Greek Isles Cruise \$3,097; Turkey Add on \$360**

To reserve, send your check for \$1600 to Ray McKinley at 2326 North Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207. Please call us for more information or other options at (703) 527-7126.

[www.potomacvalleyski.org](http://www.potomacvalleyski.org)

Our new web domain name, [www.potomacvalleyski.org](http://www.potomacvalleyski.org), should be easy to remember for those of you with Internet access who wish to explore the PVS Web Site. Here the viewer will find photos of various PVS activities. The latest include those from the Octoberfest held at the Ward/Slack horse farm, the Crabfest held at the new Eastern Shore home of the Dillons, the Beer Tasting held at the Sharers, and the July ExCom meeting held at the Annapolis Marina where Captain John Smith moors his sailboat. These photos will remain on the web site for at least a year and so include those from the ski trips in early 2001. Other items of interest to PVS'ers include an updated email address list and will shortly include an updated postal address/phone list (which will require an additional password to access). Various PVS documents including the Bylaws and various committee reports can also be found.

## BEACH WEEKEND AT THE DILLONS

by Sue Walsh

Ingredients for a fantastic PVS event: Two beautiful houses at Bethany, 23 members of PVS, plus a Friday night appearance of Marilyn and Jim Panagopoulos, the greatest weather anyone could wish, good food, good company, lots of activities, and you have some of the many facets which made this event a true highlight of the year.

The weekend began with the first of many boat trips Don hosted in his speedboat. Our crew felt ours was the best. Not only did we have a wonderful ride, but we were able to assist two stranded boaters and tow them to their slip. Friday night Kathy prepared a scrumptious lasagna dinner with the rest of us supplying a variety of appetizers, salads and desserts. Since it was ALMOST Jessma's birthday, a beautiful cake was presented to her.

Saturday morning and afternoon comprised many activities. Don, Kathy and 6 others played golf. Don played a great game –got a birdie and Betty Lawrence gave him a feather to wear in his cap. In addition, there was hiking, biking, antiques, miniature golfing, and lots of beach time to occupy us during the times we were not eating fabulous meals. The highlight of the weekend was the Saturday Crab feast. Kathy is to be commended, as she made many telephone calls to obtain crabs that were in short supply. She managed to get very tasty large ones. Nancy McKinley won the fashion award wearing her very attractive "crab shirt."

All of us agreed this weekend was one of the best PVS events, and the Dillon's hospitality and organization was nothing short of outstanding. Thank you Kathy and Don – you outdid yourselves.

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## OPENING DAY BY EVERETT CUTLER

We've been awaiting this day for many a moon  
While the summer months crept on past.  
The cold and the snow couldn't come too soon  
But opening day is here at last.

There's not much snow down here at the base  
In the last storm, hardly any fell.  
But the snow-making guns have long been in place,  
The chair is running, so what the hell.

The crowd is small as we load on the chair  
And nerves are a little uptight,  
But on the first ride up through the crispy air  
The hill resounds with yelps of delight.

We glide off the chair and pause at the slope,  
Anticipation is half of the fun  
And as we push off we murmur the hope  
That we can recall how it's supposed to be done.

The first turn is shaky, but the second feels good,  
Then we know we've got back our old skill.  
Soon we're cruising like an old pro should,  
There's nothing quite like this first day thrill.



## **PVS SEASON OPENER**

The PVS social season opened with a bang on September 17 when Bill Anderson hosted the monthly meeting at the gorgeous party room of his apartment building. Seventy-two members and guests gathered in the twilight of a perfect evening on the enormous terrace. There were tables stocked with trays of turkey, beef, ham, shrimp, chicken and tuna salad sandwiches. There were also trays of cheeses, pates, fruit, nuts and crackers. Another table was loaded with 2 and 1/2 cases of red and white wines, plus soft drinks and bottled water.

Among the guests were June Kelsey (from Texas), Sue Walsh (from Arizona), Betty Lawrence (from ???). Also it was good to have seldom seen Bob Grasley, Peggy and Kirk Burns, Shahrsad Miller, and Terry and Ham Morton (who assisted Bill with the wine selection).

The meeting heard reports on the ski trips. The Banff/Lake Louise trip in February has room for several more and the trip to Courchevel has one space left.

Marilyn Clark gave the membership renewal report, and it was surprising that 1/4 of PVSers had not renewed their memberships. Marilyn was happy to report that there are 19 people on the waiting list to join the club, which will fill the void.

After the meeting was over, there were cookies and coffee. Nancy McKinley appeared with a birthday cake for the Knee. We all agreed that the Knee has been around a long time, but he still lacks 6 years before he can purchase a senior lift ticket to ski.

All in all, it was a perfect evening, and we are grateful to Bill Anderson who once again proved himself to be PVS Host with the Most.

...Lu Beale, Charles Huggins, Jan Marx



## PVS CELEBRATES OKTOBERFEST

On a beautiful Saturday afternoon, 30 PVS'ers gathered in the lovely Virginia countryside at the horse farm of Mary Ward and Jim Slack and celebrated the festive occasion of Oktoberfest. With the American flag flying, the sun brightly shining, all participants came prepared for companionship and wonderful food and drink. This was the 9<sup>th</sup> year that Mary and Jim have hosted this event and, as in prior years, everyone had a good time..

It was good to see Dina and Charlie Taylor. Although Bob Harmon could not attend, he loaned a beautiful tablecloth that he purchased in Munich to add to the festive atmosphere. Mary cleverly used it as a wall hanging so all could see its beautiful design featuring the famous cathedral in Munich.

Of course many partiers brought their own steins to use while enjoying Oktoberfest beverages. Among them were an antique one from Glasgow (at a German affair?), a beautiful German Lady's mug, tall ones, skinny and little ones, but no matter the size, the beer, wine, and soft drinks tasted mighty good. While many dressed for the occasion, there were some who, for unmentionable reasons, brought Lederhosen and other German finery but did not wear them. Could it be that PVS feeds their members too well?

As always, the food was wonderful! Following appetizers - including "Lu's famous deviled eggs", cheeses, dips and nibbles - came the main course - green salad, several kinds of potato salad, red cabbage, bean casserole, and great grilled "wurst" - all topped off with scrumptious desserts - pflaumen kuchen, coconut cream pie, chocolate cake and cream puffs.

On such a beautiful day, a hike around the farm was organized to stimulate appetites. Led by our Host we hiked down through the woods, along a beautiful stream and up a steep, steep hill. I believe this showed that PVS'ers are ready for ski season for all reached the top without difficulty. It is interesting how many different ways there are to go over a fallen log.

Many questioned why the horses wore masks, as it was not Halloween. Mary explained that the masks keep flies out of their eyes and told why one of the horses wears very elaborate shoes. The tour included their bountiful pepper and tomato garden. Mary was very generous in letting us pick some to take home. With homegrown tomatoes and various kinds of hot peppers to try, we all appreciate her generosity.

As dusk fell and we staggered to our cars, tired and stuffed, we all agreed that it was a "wurst" party to be remembered.

- Charlotte Kline



## THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

Over twenty years into writing this column, The Knee has tried to hit the light side of skiing. But after the events of the last weeks it's tough being droll. One keeps replaying images of the terrorists committing the heinous acts--acts which are now permanently etched in memory. So many lives lost--and so uselessly.

Let me update you on what I know of PVS and the tragedy. No bad news. Polly Brunelli did work in the Pentagon, but was moved out when the restoration began. She watched the crash, aghast, from her Rosslyn office. And she had several friends on the plane. Genee Boykin and Carol Bridger's son were at work in the Pentagon's far side. Both were safely evacuated.

Further, Sheldon Drews has some terrifying photos of the burning Pentagon, taken from his Arlington Ridge residence. Please let me know if you or a family member were involved. We grieve, and have had tears more than a few times. And more will come. However, ultimately the healing process will begin.

Usama bin Laden was not out to kill Americans on September 11; he was out to kill America and our way of life. Nancy and I feel that every time someone modifies their way of life in the wake of this horrendous attack, the perpetrators win. Giving in, by canceling a trip, lets *them* win. Thus, in mid October we leave for a long planned trip to Provence, France then on to Greece and Turkey to check things out for our ski trip. We simply refuse to let the murderers win.

Since we will be away most of October, for the third time we will have a guest Knee writer. (Do you remember who the other two were?) The selectee has asked to remain anonkneemous, so I won't mention Bill Anderson's name (often). Bill Anderson worried that he would be able to find sufficient gossip. I told him, use my method: make it up. Please be helpful to Bill Anderson; if he needs something from you, make it up!!

More good news: It was truly grand to see Emmi Plowman at Bill Anderson's (who, I understand is going to be an anonkneemous gossip columnist next month). Emmi was there just two weeks after successfully having a cancerous kidknee removed. Right on!!

It was also great to see June Kelsay, back from Texas for an annual beach week, and, after much too long of an absence, Shahrsad Miller.

Fred and Barbara Leonhardt and Liz and Serge Triau returned to DC from several days at Ski Liberty just in time to make it to our September meeting. No, they weren't skiing the dwindling glacier. They were golfing!

Apparent gossip columnist Bill Anderson's party room was an incredible location for a meeting--large, spacious and food-filled. Bill was ably supported in finding his treats by Terry and Ham Morton. Ham suggested the *pate*.

We've finally made it into fall! Now it's definitely time to think of skiing. Many of us take lessons yet we remain "terminal" intermediates. There is a solution: shaped skis. Today's shaped skis are considerably less work and more fun and they cut through fresh snow or crud like a knife through warm butter. Surprisingly, nationwide only half of the skiers use the hourglass skis, and in PVS it's much fewer. I know because you never wear them to meetings.

At Oktoberfest, it was Dick Clark, who when host Jim Slack asked if he would like more wurst, stated "I wouldn't be awurst to it." Ouch.

This will be the first time in 18 years that Nat Seeman has not spent early December skiing at Winter Park and staying at the Arlberg Club. His host, Linc, skied last December at age 90, and decided that was a sufficient ski life. Right on.

Nancy and I are unwilling to say that the American way of life is over because of the heinous acts of deranged individuals. Yet he most horrible act in America's history didn't break us, and it won't. It has brought America together as a cohesive, unstoppable force. We have multiple American flags proudly flying at home and hope you do too. And please tell Bill Anderson.

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- Oct. 16 ... Monthly meeting at the Marxes', pp 1 & 2
- Oct. 18 ... Bicycling Gourmet, p. 3
- Oct. 19 ... Tour of GW Masonic Memorial and Lunch, p. 3
- Oct. 20 ... Walk in the Woods at Lansdowne. Call Betty Lawrence,  
703-726-8165
- Oct. 23 ... ExCom at the Triaus'
- Oct. 27 ... Capitol Hill Extravaganza, p. 4
- Nov. 9 ... Arts Club Dinner, p. 5
- Nov. 10 ... Stroll and Dinner at Kentlands, p. 5
- Nov. 15 ... Bicycling Gourmet. Upper Rock Creek, Garrett Park  
Cafe
- Nov. 17 ... Annual Chili Hike, p. 5
- Nov. 20 ... Monthly Meeting at Ruth Power's
- Nov. 27 ... ExCom at Bill Anderson's
- Dec. 18 ... Monthly meeting at the Strands'

**TOOT Editor: Email - [jblockwick@starpower.net](mailto:jblockwick@starpower.net)  
Fax 703-790-9778 (9 to 5 only)**

**Bette Walker  
#806  
2801 New Mexico Ave, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20007**

