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<http://www.potomacvalleyskiers.org>

[info@potomacvalleyskiers.org](mailto:info@potomacvalleyskiers.org)

Greetings PVSers,

I was delighted to see the large turnout at our September monthly meeting at the Leonhardt's home. Unfortunately it was marred only by the recent loss of our beloved longtime friend and member, Bob Marx, who passed away on Labor Day. To say that Bob will be missed in the club would be a giant understatement, and we all extend condolences to Jan and the family after a long and difficult ordeal. Funeral services for Bob will be held on Saturday, October 10, and additional information is available in this issue of the TOOT.

It will be difficult to fill Bob's shoes in many respects. One of Bob's roles in PVS was chairman of the Ski Trip Committee. Rosemary Schwartzbard has been doing a terrific job of filling in for Bob as temporary chairman, and at our last ExCom meeting Rosemary agreed to continue as chairman of the Ski Trip Committee. Thanks, Rosemary! She is encouraging PVSers to think ahead to the 2010-2011 ski season and consider leading or co-leading a ski trip. It is not too early to start thinking about where we might be going on our various trips, so be sure to give Rosemary any suggestions you might have for possible locations. If you feel you might be ready to lead a ski trip for the first time but need a little mentoring, help is available. Think about offering to help one of this year's ski trip leaders in order to "learn the ropes".

THIS COULD BE YOUR LAST ISSUE OF THE **TOOT!** (OK, I realize this is not really life-threatening – but close.) If you have not renewed your membership and sent your check to Dave Warthen, your membership privileges end this month. Please don't let this happen to you. I know there are members out there who may put off paying until the last minute, but THIS IS IT! And speaking of the TOOT, thanks again to Dave Warthen for being editor of this month's edition. Dave has been editor for the September and October TOOTs, with help from Sue Lyon who did the "snail mail" part. Kerry Hines will be our temporary editor for the November and December issues, with help from Carolyn & Dave DeVilbiss on the mailings. Thanks to all of them.

Best wishes,  
Dottie

## Monthly PVS Meeting



At the home of Mary Beale  
4040 51<sup>st</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC 20016-1922  
marybeale1@verizon.net  
202-363-3521



**Tuesday, October 20**

## Directions to the home of Mary Beale:

**From Key Bridge** - Go left onto M Street. After ½ mile keep to right, street name changes to Foxhall Road. Go 2 miles until it ends at Nebraska Avenue. Go left on Nebraska. Take 1st right onto Indian Lane. Take 1st left onto Rockwood Pkwy. Take 3<sup>rd</sup> right onto Tilden Street. Take 2<sup>nd</sup> left onto 51<sup>st</sup> Street. Look for 4040 51<sup>st</sup> Street.

**From Chain Bridge** – Take right onto Canal Road. Take 1<sup>st</sup> left onto Arizona Avenue. Arizona Avenue ends at Loughboro Road. Go left on Loughboro Road. Take 1<sup>st</sup> right onto Glenbrook Road. Take 2<sup>nd</sup> left onto Rockwood Parkway. Take 2<sup>nd</sup> right onto Tilden Street. Take 2<sup>nd</sup> left onto 51<sup>st</sup> Street. Look for 4040 51<sup>st</sup> Street.

**From the inner loop of the Beltway (495)** – Take the MD-190/River Road exit, exit 39, toward Washington/Potomac. Merge onto River Road/MD-190E via exit 39B toward Washington. Continue on River Road approx 3.7 miles. Turn right at Little Falls Pkwy. Little Falls Pkwy ends at Massachusetts Avenue. Turn left onto Massachusetts Avenue. Turn right at 3<sup>rd</sup> light onto 49<sup>th</sup> Street. Take 3<sup>rd</sup> right onto Upton Street. Take 2<sup>nd</sup> left onto 51<sup>st</sup> Street. Look for 4040 51<sup>st</sup> Street.

**From the outer loop of the Beltway (495)** – Merge onto MD-190E/River Road via exit 39 toward Washington. Continue on River Road approx 3.7 miles. Turn right at Little Falls Pkwy. Little Falls Pkwy ends at Massachusetts Avenue. Turn left onto Massachusetts Avenue. Turn right at 3<sup>rd</sup> light onto 49<sup>th</sup> Street. Take 3<sup>rd</sup> right onto Upton Street. Take 2<sup>nd</sup> left onto 51<sup>st</sup> Street. Look for 4040 51<sup>st</sup> Street.

Attendance at the October PVS Monthly Meeting is a golden opportunity to visit with beloved Daisy & Buddy Beale, the adventures of whom have been documented in the Members' Corner on many an occasion, including this issue.



## Coming Events:

Evening @ The Gracious Fife & Drum Restaurant, Fort Myer Officers' Club  
Friday, 2 October 2009



Liz Warren-Boulton and Joe Jevcak are sponsoring this event in Arlington VA. The evening will begin at 7:30 PM with dinner, accompanied by the Strolling Strings, usually a violin and an accordion/bass. At 8:30 PM a three piece band follows with popular dancing music and song. Standard dinners range from \$9.95 for salmon salad to \$19.95 for filet mignon and salad, plus tip. A selection of wine and beverages are available. Dress is sports coat for men and cocktail dress for women. Singles and couples welcome. RSVP was 28 September, but please e-mail Liz at [elizawb@gmail.com](mailto:elizawb@gmail.com), (202-244-5717) about this fun evening. Liz and Joe will make reservations and provide directions and instructions to get on the base.





# Oktoberfest

31<sup>th</sup> annual PVS Oktoberfest



**When:** Sunday, October 18, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. Rain or shine.

**Hosted by:** Louann and Bob Eadie, Dottie Villers

**Where:** Louann's house – 2054 Eakins Court, Reston, VA

**We Provide:** German Sausage, Beer-Beer-Beer - Wine, Soft Drinks, and Pretzels. And **Oompah music!**

**You Bring:** An appetizer; sauerkraut, potato salad or baked beans, or dessert.  
Suggestion: Pflaumenkuchen recipe is in the PVS Cookbook.

**Also Bring:** Your own eating utensils and plate (and your favorite beer mug).

**Optional:** Lederhosen and Dirndl.

**Cost:** A small fee of \$7 will be charged.

**RSVP:** Dottie at (703) 476-9259 by October 12<sup>th</sup>. **Tell her what dish you will bring.** Limited to 60 people.

**Directions:**

**From the Beltway** – Take the Dulles Toll Road (Rte 267) west to the Wiehle Ave. exit. Turn left onto Wiehle Ave. Wiehle Ave. ends in a tee at Sunrise Valley Drive. Turn right onto Sunrise Valley. Go 0.4 miles to left onto Soapstone. Take the second left onto Purple Beech. Take the first right onto Eakins Court. 2054 is at the end of the cul de sac.

**Note:** parking is limited on Eakins Court so consider parking on Purple Beech.

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## READY, SET, GO - Frank Shelburne Memorial Hike - Burke Lake, VA

**9:45 AM., Thursday, October 22, 2009** (NOTE change in date)

Join me for a moderately paced 5-mile walk/hike around Burke Lake in Fairfax, Va. The trail is flat and well worn by many hikers, bikers, baby strollers, runners, etc. Following our outing we will have lunch in Clifton at the 'Heart in Hand' restaurant.

Dress in layers, and bring plenty of water and cameras. The lake-views should be lovely at that time of year. Hiking boots and poles are not necessary but may add to your comfort if desired.



**Directions:** Meet at the marina at Burke Lake. Turn into the main entrance off route 123, pass by the gate house, and follow the main road to the right. The road ends at the marina. There is ample parking and restrooms at that lot.

Please call and RSVP so I know to expect you. IF there is a 50% or higher prediction of rain (or snow ☺), the hike will be cancelled. Hope to see you at Burke Lake!

Marty Rine, 703-978-0179 (H), 571-344-5141 (cell), [mrine@cox.net](mailto:mrine@cox.net).



## 2009-2010 Ski Trips



# Steamboat Springs

## Wedel Week Reunion (7<sup>th</sup>)

**A good relaxing way to start the new ski season for \$690**

December 12 – 19, 2009

The [Potomac Valley Skiers](#) invites you to attend a Wedel Week in Steamboat Springs, Colorado with Dick & Betty Comerford as your host and hostess. [Steamboat Springs, Ski Town USA](#), has a base elevation of 6900 feet, ideal for anyone who has difficulty adapting to high altitude (sleeping below 7500 feet keeps the headaches away).

The purpose of Wedel Week is to get in shape for the coming ski season, both by working hard on ski technique and practicing après-ski activities in the evening. For the skiing end of it, Steamboat, rated as one of the top five areas in the nation, offers terrain for all levels of skiers, and routinely has some of the best powder in the Rockies. On the lighter side, après-ski activity is centered around our ski-in/ski-out [Ptarmigan Inn Hotel](#). The package includes all breakfasts, three good group dinners, and an awards ceremony. We hope to ski with Billy Kidd, but if he is not available, the [Over-The-Hill-Gang](#) will help. **Continued on page 12**

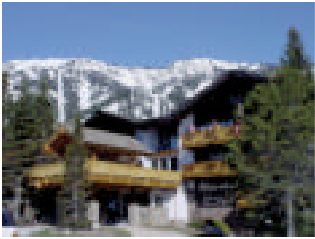
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## **Snowmass 2010** Wednesday, January 13 - 20, 2010

- We're returning to Snowmass!! The developer has delayed plans for renovation of our beloved Snowmass Mountain Chalet! Join us again in 2010 for this PVS favorite.
- Snowmass offers direct access to 3,100 acres of slope-side skiing just outside the door.
- The skiing terrain totals more than 5,000 acres with interchangeable lift tickets and free bus service to Aspen Highlands, Ajax Mountain, and Buttermilk ski areas,.
- Slopeside lodging at Snowmass Mountain Chalet includes a daily family-style breakfast and daily soup lunch, greatly appreciated by trip participants and other guests, many of whom return year after year. This small hotel, with its welcoming staff, is unique for its convenience and friendly ambiance.
- The trip will include group dinners, après-ski parties, and other activities available in the Aspen environs.
- Complete trip cost is \$2,138, which includes air, lodging, lift tickets, and party events.
- For more information:
- Contact trip leaders Carolyn and David DeVilbiss at 703-370-4865 or
- To reserve: -- Send payment of \$1000 per person, trip application, and signed waiver to:  
Carolyn DeVilbiss  
4508 Peacock Avenue, Alexandria VA 22304
- Note "PVS-Snowmass 2010" on the memo line.



**Call trip leaders regarding space availability.**



February 18 to 25, 2010

## Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Response for the Jackson Hole trip has been terrific! We now have 38 people going and the trip is filled. If you missed the boat (or plane in this case) and didn't get your application in, you can add your name to the waiting list.

Slope side accommodations are at the Alpenhof Lodge, a cozy Bavarian style lodge with ski in ski out access. There are five of six days lift tickets included (seniors over 65 can deduct \$100). Go on an optional trip over the Teton Pass to Grand Targhee where "the snow comes from heaven not hoses". Cross country skiers have trails outside the front door or options to ski in Grand Teton National Park and Grand Targhee. The trip begins at Dulles, then goes to Jackson, Wy, then a short bus ride to the "Hole". We have a welcome reception of gluwain and fondue.

Full buffet breakfasts are included every day at the hotel. Two group dinners are included, pre and post trip parties, and two après ski gatherings. A short bus trip into the town of Jackson reveals many opportunities for shopping, dining, touring, skiing, and reliving history in a true western town. Yellowstone N.P. is 60 miles north accessible by snowmobile or snowcoach, and a visit to the nearby National Elk Refuge will give you the opportunity to see a herd of 12,000-15,000 elk in winter.

Trip cost is \$1625. See complete trip flier for more details. Contact trip leaders Dottie Villers: 703-476-9259 or Marty Rine: 703-978-0179 to put your name on the waiting list.

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## Ski Trip to Bormio Italy 2010

### Summary Trip Details:

- Participating with the Blue Ridge Ski Council (BRSC) 2010 Bormio *Eurofest*.
- Dates: March 6-14, 2010.
- Price: \$1995 double occupancy.
- Transportation:
  - Airfare: Round trip airfare to Milan from Dulles Airport on Air France (Dulles-Paris-Milan). Air France still offers free wine, cocktails, and baggage.
  - Ground: Round trip charter bus from the Milan airport to the hotels in Bormio, with two hour stop at Lake Como on the way.
- Lodging: Seven nights lodging, double occupancy at the (4 star) Baita dei Pini Hotel centrally located in Bormio.
- Food: Full breakfast and dinner included daily.
- Insurance: Emergency Medical and repatriation insurance provided at no extra cost.
- Around Town:
  - Discount at Bagni di Bormio and Terme Bormio, the ancient and the modern town hot springs and spa.
  - Complimentary welcome card entitles each guest to Free public transportation throughout the ski valley.
  - Optional day trips and trip extension are available.
  - 3 Blue Ridge parties with drink coupons. Friday night party includes DJ for dancing. (Total of 4 drink coupons per person for the week)

Contact: dick.comerford@verizon.net (H) 703-777-9374 (C) 571-426-3098

# Members Corner



by J. D. Warthen, Jr  
(PVS Membership Records)  
dwarthen @verizon.net, 301-774-2653

## The Adventures of 'Buddy' Beale

I no sooner arrived at my new DC home when I was shipped off to Friendship Animal Hospital on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, having picked up a parvo virus. I was isolated and given an IV in my back paw to regain fluid. Ouch! They wouldn't even let me chew on it, because they put one of those 'fashionable' collars on my neck. The hospital allowed visitation, and my mistress came to see me twice a day, and I got held for an hour or two each time. She really needed that! Fortunately, I turned the corner in 24 hours and was discharged to Daisy and my mistress on September 4. I am keeping them busy getting rid of all this hydration, and am making up for missed meals by eating my food and joining Daisy at her dish. Hospitalization is now in the past, and I am back entertaining the household. I think they were really worried about me, but I'm worth it.

## PVS Biennial Membership Renewal 2009-2011:

The PVS Biennial 2009-2011 Membership Renewal period began on 1 July 2009. Every PVS member was sent a renewal application via electronic or USPS distribution. As of 30 September, 125 PVS members renewed their membership for the 2009-2011 period. If you have already renewed your membership, [thank you so much for your remittance](#). If you have NOT renewed your membership, **PLEASE RENEW ASAP**. Please let me know if you do not intend to renew your PVS membership. According to PVS By-laws, there is a grace period for membership renewal. You will receive ONE FINAL electronic, USPS, or phone reminder prior to the end of the grace period. If you have not renewed after the grace period, you will be removed from PVS membership and will no longer receive TOOT, appear on the PVS Roster, or qualify to participate in PVS activities. Membership cards will be distributed after the grace period.

## Our Best to Bob Eadie:

Bob underwent facial surgery on 14 September for a malignancy. The sentinel node biopsy was CLEAR! Yippee! We are pulling for you, Bob!

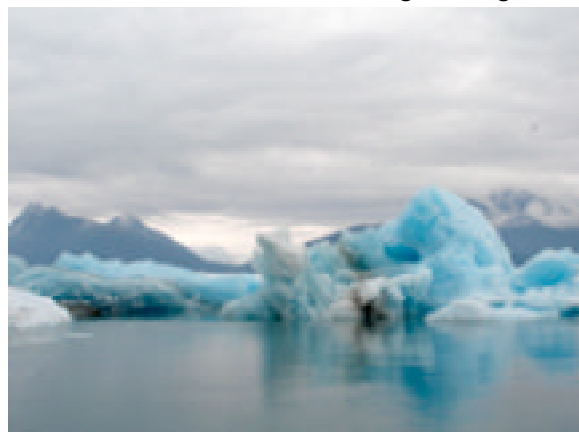
**Members' Corner info continued on page 11**

## Alaska-Wildlife and Scenery by Barbara Leonhardt:

While Fred and his sister did a nostalgia tour from MD to Maine to visit places they knew as children, my brother and I spent 2+ weeks in Alaska. A tour guide in Alaska <Rainbowmountainadventures.com> created a custom itinerary for us, based on what we wanted to see and do, and then made ALL of our reservations including lodging. She prepared a 2-in thick tour book for us with maps, directions, times, and details about everything on route. We put 2000+ miles on the rental car and took: 2 long train trips, two 9-hr cruises to glaciers and views of lots of sea life, an all day bus trip



90 mi. into Denali National Park where we saw lots of wildlife, a flight to a remote lake to watch bears feeding on salmon, and a scenic flight back over glaciers and lakes, a 2-hr trek on a glacier with a guide, a boat trip to a cove/artist haven for dinner, a car ferry trip, and a 2-hr Mt. McKinley scenic flight. In our "spare" time, we hiked to glaciers, drove through the Wrangell Mountains, and did all sorts of other sightseeing. We



enjoyed staying in log cabins or B&Bs with hosts, including an Iditarod dog musher and a mountain adventurer. Most of our lodgings were off the beaten path, and had incredible views. I took over 1600 photos and now face the task of dealing with them.

## PVS Webmaster Updating PVS Website:

Take a look at the Photo Gallery on the PVS website. New pics are beginning to show up, thanks to D. Lerner.

*Robert Wyman Marx*  
*August 27, 1942 - September 7, 2009*

The Club lost a wonderful friend in September. After spending 5 months in Minnesota (MN) where Bob with his devoted wife Jan had gone to receive a bone marrow transplant, Bob succumbed to complications of graft versus host disease (GVHD). Long viewed as one of the pillars of PVS, news of Bob's death has greatly saddened fellow Club members.

On the Caring Bridge website where individuals can chronicle their medical progress for family and friends, Bob wrote in mid June "I'm 66, married 44 years to my marvelous soul mate Janet. We have two grown sons (Eric and Brian) who, with their spouses, have provided 8 wonderful grandchildren...Life is good."

Bob was diagnosed with MDS or myelodysplastic syndrome in April '08 after an abnormal blood count. Although MDS is not well understood, a successful bone marrow transplant offers hope of a cure. The University of MN has one of the world renowned bone marrow transplant programs. Its reputation combined with the fact that Bob and Jan both hail from MN, led them to seek treatment there. A non-related healthy donor was identified through the National Marrow Donor Program.

Bob received an infusion of donor bone marrow cells on April 30<sup>th</sup>. In the days preceding the transplant, a combination of radiation and chemotherapy were used to ready his body for the new cells. In the weeks that followed, Bob and Jan were able to move from the hospital to a nearby apartment. Bob wrote on the Caring Bridge site of walking increasing distances, sightseeing (Guthrie Theater, MN Science Museum), and visiting with relatives. In mid July Jan took a long weekend at the family cabin while son Brian took over care giving duties temporarily. In late July symptoms of GVHD (a process in which donor cells attack recipient cells) increased. This development and the consequences of its treatment proved to have too great a toll. Bob passed away on September 7<sup>th</sup> with family and friends by his side.

For 42 years Bob and Jan shared their gentle spirits, good will, and thoughtfulness with PVS. Regardless of the nature of the event, their presence always added. They actually met as members of their University of MN ski club (Skeewaksurs) while in college. Skeewaksurs offered canoeing, white water rafting, and winter skiing. Bob graduated in 1964 with a degree in Geography. He and Jan married in 1965, moving to the DC area a year later as Bob started work at the Census Bureau. He would become Chief of the Geography Division in 1983, a position he would hold until his retirement in 2003. In the 1980's his division orchestrated the development of a major new computer system to store geographic information. The system known as TIGER would become the largest integrated, automated geographic database in the world when it was rolled out in time for use in the 1990 Decennial Census. Bob received numerous honors and awards for his contributions and achievements at work.

Son Brian recalls that Bob was "always so modest about the tributes that he received. He left his work at the office." Bob was a devoted family man. Jan says that he was actively involved in Eric's and Brian's scout and church group activities. Eric ultimately became an Eagle Scout. Skiing was a family sport. Both Eric and Brian became accomplished skiers. After the boys settled in the Richmond area with their respective families, Bob and Jan made frequent visits. They attended dance recitals, karate events, soccer games, birthdays, and other occasions that their grandchildren were involved in. "If you invited them, they would try to come," said Brian.

One acquisition which made it a lot easier for Bob and Jan to visit family and satisfy their wanderlust was a 15 passenger van. With ingenuity and Brian's help, Bob retrofitted the van to function as a camper. Four solar panels that were placed on the top of the van supplied two batteries which powered a small refrigerator, microwave, AC, electric blanket, and heater. A porta potty was installed as well. Off the grid, they were entirely self-sufficient.

Bob loved to work with his hands. "We liked to fix things rather than buy new," confided Jan. "We both had fathers who were the same way. That's why we have so many tools in our basement." While in college, Bob found a wooden canoe with a hole in it. He made the repairs which included a rib replacement, adding fiberglass, and a paint job. "We still have it," said Jan. "It's awfully heavy."

Their home displays the fruits of Bob's handiwork: skylights in the kitchen, built-in shelves in the study, and all sorts of landscaping. As needs arose in their sons' homes, Bob and Jan were there to provide assistance with painting, floor replacement, babysitting, and other tasks. At the family cabin on Cass Lake in northern MN where Bob and Jan retreated each summer, Bob assumed the maintenance work and repairs. One recent summer he built an entire shed to house their

equipment. Their leisure time there was spent exploring and hiking, swimming, canoeing, and sailing, and relaxing during the evening's happy hour.



Bob showed a connection with the outdoors from an early age. Jan recalls that backpacking in the Boundary Waters at the Canada-United States border had been a love of his. In college one summer he hiked the AT with a friend. The two walked from Mt. Washington in New Hampshire to the smoky mountains, hitch hiking past parts of the AT in order to finish by the time U of M started Fall classes.

Over the years Bob and Jan found ways to mix business with pleasure. When attending conferences in other countries, they charted their own add-ons. They traveled through areas of Australia, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Indonesia, Africa, and Alaska. In 1987 they toured Europe as a family with Jan's father and his wife. Their love of skiing provided more opportunities for travel. "We have skied in the US, Canada, Argentina, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Austria, Switzerland, and France," recalled Jan. "Bob also skied in New Zealand.

Since joining PVS in 1967 both Bob and Jan have worn many hats. They have served as trip leaders, Excom members, meeting hosts, and event participants. Bob was President in '81-'83. More recently he was Chair of the Ski Trip Committee. He oversaw a major revision of the Ski Trip Guidelines which has been an invaluable aid to the Club as it conducts its task of planning trips. When Jan became editor of TOOT, Bob provided computer assistance, tweaking the layout and the presentation of photos. "A good proof reader too" said Jan.

In every capacity, Bob's forthright steady manner came through. "He very much enjoyed socializing," said Brian. "He saw the good in people. I think he got that from his mother. He was very much the caring, loving person she was."

I once attended a dinner dance function where Bob and Jan were among the guests. When a golden oldie started to spin, Bob and Jan took to the dance floor and fell into a jitterbug step from the late 50's. For a moment these two remarkable people looked just like everyone else. It was a temporary cover.

Our hearts go out to Jan, Eric, Brian and their many loved ones. We celebrate Bob's extraordinary life with you.

**Mary Beale**

### **Memorial Service for Bob Marx**

My family and I invite you to the Celebration of Life for Bob on  
Saturday, October 10, 2009 at 10:30 AM.

It will be held at Springfield Christian Church, [www.SpringfieldChristianChurch.org](http://www.SpringfieldChristianChurch.org)  
5407 Backlick Rd., Springfield, VA 22151 703-354-4994

- There will be a time during the service inviting Bob's friends to share their memories.
- Following the service, there will be a time for camaraderie and sharing of memories in the church's fellowship hall.
- Light refreshments will be provided by members of the church.
- Parking is available in the church lot. Carpooling encouraged.
- In lieu of flowers, see distributed invitation for where donations can be made in honor of Bob.

The best to you,

Jan

**Directions to Springfield Christian Church** <http://www.springfieldchristianchurch.org/directions2.aspx>

***From the Beltway:*** Take the Braddock Road exit East from I-495 for 3.5 miles and then make a right at the intersection at Braddock and Backlick Roads. Go ahead for about 0.5 miles and SCC is ahead on your left at 5407 Backlick Road.

***If you're coming from I-395 or I-95:*** Take I-395 to Westbound Edsall Road (Exit 2B). Follow Edsall Road until it meets Backlick Rd. (a T intersection), make sure you're in the far left lane. Turn left onto Backlick Rd. and the Church is the third left, immediately following the Christian Science Church.



## Past Events:

### Wilson Bridge Hike and National Harbor Outing:

It had been a dark and stormy night – BUT – as we seven hardy hikers stepped onto the pedestrian path to cross the Wilson Bridge on Friday morning, September 11, the rains ceased, the thundering skies parted, and we leisurely strolled across to National Harbor. For many of us, it was our first crossing and we found the walkway, the view, the historical plaques, the large sitting rocks, and the occasional inlaid designs in the stones delightful.

National Harbor was luxurious and impressive, albeit in need of more visitors. Alas, the poor awakening giant (sculpture) longed for his old home at Hains Point where he used to stretch out in perfect proportion. At the National Harbor, he was smashed in too small a space and looked out of sync and out of sorts.

We lunched at McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant where the hikers, Rosemary S., Dick S., Shirley R., Bob H., Sally Ann Greer (a guest), Jack C., and Ellie T., met up with the drivers, John B., Eloise S., Carolyn D., and Sherri McK. The food was delicious from the sole and tilapia to the crab soup to the calamari to the salmon risotto and more. We were a happy and satisfied group, especially those who ordered a glass of wine and ended up with an 8-ounce carafe.

We hiked back to Virginia and, once safely belted into our cars, a few little sprinkles served to remind us that the weather had cooperated beautifully. No one biked because of the wet conditions. Many thanks to Rosemary who organized and led our group.



Ellie Thayer

### Monthly Meeting at the Leonhardts, September 15:



A group of 43 PVSers were on hand at the home of Barbara and Fred Leonhardt for our first meeting after the summer. Jackie Flaherty joined us, and it was great to see her again. Dottie Villers introduced applicant member Donna Diewald. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of two longtime PVS members who passed away this summer, Sally Finan and Bob Marx, both of whom will be missed very much by PVS. Barbara Leonhardt provided a sympathy card for everyone present to sign.

The weather cooperated enough for us to enjoy the lovely outside deck. As ever, Barbara provided a variety of delicious appetizers for us to munch on before the meeting. Dottie Villers was on hand to conduct the meeting and provide us with an update on ski trips and other upcoming PVS events. After the meeting, Barbara served several delicious desserts, and everyone enjoyed more socializing and catching up after the summer. It is always a pleasure to enjoy a meeting at the Leonhardt's lovely Kentlands home. Thank you Barbara & Fred for hosting another PVS meeting.

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Suzanne B. (four months after knee replacement) and Betty L. skiing in Alyeska, Alaska, March 2009. Go girls!!!





# THE KNEE

by  
**Ray McKinley**  
[RaysKnee@gmail.com](mailto:RaysKnee@gmail.com)

Devastating. That's the only description for the loss of good friends and long-time PVS Members, Sally Finan and most recently Bob Marx. Both were great and stalwart skiers. Sally had been in PVS for some 25 years, served on ExCom, and was a willing volunteer to host or run events. Bob was a PVSer for four decades; he served as President, Ski Trip Chair and a host of other positions. They will remain in our thoughts and be missed terribly...

On to more pleasant subjects. During PVS's 1989 membership drive, the *Knee* was asked to help spur membership. So along came PoetKnee who composed some poetknee to spur on membership. Soon we reached our 200 person limit. This year Membership Chair Dave Warthen asked us all to help.

So you know what you will be missing if you don't rejoin. Herewith (I love to use legalistic sounding words like "herewith," "whilst" and "sue") a newly updated version of that literary classic. And it's in italics and color too.

*The Knee*  
*Doesn't come for free.*  
*You must pay for me*  
*by rejoining PV*  
*S.*

*PVS's been around over fortknee*  
*That's also more than two score.*  
*The Knee's just a few years younger*  
*And 31 years of kneepuns makes*  
*you hunger*  
*for more*

*The Knee tells all,*  
*in Summer, Winter, Spring and Fall.*  
*He's got up-to-the-minute gossip,*  
*including some he makes up.*

*Now you can join a big ski club*  
*or you can join a slight one.*  
*Or you can join an old ski club*  
*or you can join a young one.*  
*But it's best for you to be*  
*In our PVS, "The Club with a Knee."*

*The Club with a Knee,*  
*The Club with a Knee.*  
*PVS --*  
*The club to be*  
*in.*

Now be honest, doesn't that leave you just a little bit teary? It has an epic flavor--a light opening, strong central theme and a lyrical, airy coda. And I'm sure you noted the splendid change of cadence in verse 4. It also shows my understanding of major poetic terms like illiteration and automated poea. Simply wow!

If you want to rejoin and have misplaced your reapplication form, be certain to contact our superb Membership Chair, Dave Warthen, immediately. The *Knee* kneeds all of his loyal readers. And don't forget to send me gossip at the address in the logo.

We won't have Pres Dottie Villers to kick around much longer. She has bought a home in North Carolina so she can get back to her beloved sailing. But Dottie will rent her home back to the builders to use as a model for 18-24 mos. So she can finish out her term in PVS.

Jack Chapman and Ellie Thayer recently flew to Colorado, and spent a couple of days acclimating to the altitude. Then they in one day hiked/climbed a fourteen thousand footer, Mt Democrat. It left you breathless said Jack. On their return they "recuperated" at Deep Creek Lake. According to Ellie, ski conditions in early September were "poor."

According to Marvin Hass, Russian Prime Minister Putin supervised the release of two snow leopards into a wildlife sanctuary near the southern resort of Sochi, host of the 2014 Olympic Games. Snow leopards are extinct in the Caucasus, although they survive in the mountains of Central Asia.

Sometimes I can't remember if a certain item has been in the *Knee*. I call it amkneesia. My solution is to use a lot of kneemonics.

A tip of the ol' Knee cap to Suzanne Boisclair. Aside from her other activities, she's playing winter tennis.

## Calendar and Information

Local Event Calendar				Ski Trip Calendar			
Oct	02	Fri	Fife & Drum (Warren-Boulton)	Dec	12-18	2009	Steamboat ( <i>D. Comerford</i> )
Oct	18	Sun	Oktoberfest (Villers/Eadie)	Jan	13-20	2010	Snowmass ( <i>C. &amp; D. DeVilbiss</i> )
Oct	20	Tues	Monthly Meeting (Beale)	Feb	18-25	2010	Jackson Hole ( <i>Villers/Rine</i> )
Oct	22	Thurs	F. Shelburne Hike, Burke Lake (Rine)	Mar	06-14	2010	Bormio, Italy ( <i>D. Comerford</i> )
Oct	27	Tues	ExCom (Schwartzbard)				
Nov	17	Tues	Monthly Meeting, Ski Center, DC (Strands/Schwartzbards)				
Dec	08	Tues	Nov/Dec ExCom (TBD)				
Dec	15	Tues	Christmas Party (McKennas)				
Jan	03	Sun	Snowmass Pre-trip Party (Powers)				

## Members' Corner cont.:

### Getting to Know You:

**John & Barbara Holt** (Applicant Members) have been married for 31 years. She was born in NY but raised in Florida, while John is a many generational Washington DC native. They met in the Ski Club of Washington DC, where they were both very active, leading ski trips to Europe, New England-Canada, Colorado, Utah and Nevada. They were both program chairmen and activity leaders for numerous dances, raft trips, bus trips, social and cultural activities of the SCWDC. Barbara is a long time teacher, now retired, teaching in Florida and Fairfax County, as well as being a Professor at Northern Virginia Community College (teaching computers). John is still working, although retired from the Federal Government 16 years ago. John is a Mechanical and Nuclear Engineer and currently working for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, which is in Ballston, Va. They live in McLean, VA, and have 3 children in their late 20s. John has 2 additional children from a previous marriage.

### Roster Changes:

•Donna **Diewald** (New Applicant Member)  
2296 Gunsmith Square  
Reston, VA 20191

donnadiewald@verizon.net, 703-476-6599

•Jannes **Gibson** (New Applicant Member)

9412 Garden Court

Potomac, MD 20654

Ttaylor\_g@hotmail.com, 301-299-1157

•Irene **Ragen** (new address)

3400 Paul Sweet Road, Unit D202

Santa Cruz, CA 95065

•Sue **Walsh** - azsuwal3@gmail.com (new e-mail)

•Liz **Warren-Boulton** & Joe **Jevcak** –

Elizwb@gmail.com (new e-mail)

### TOOT Distribution to 173 PVS Members:

pdf: 87; USPS: 37; MS-Word: 27;

Emb. Text: 3; and Text (Att.): 2.

### Roster Changes:

[dwarthen@verizon.net](mailto:dwarthen@verizon.net), 301-774-2653

## TRAVEL ALERT

Be aware that there are new travel requirements that you will have to comply with for the upcoming ski season. Under a new program, "Secure Flight", the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) requires the following:

1. When making flight reservations, you must provide your exact name as it appears on the ID you use to get on a flight, which means either a passport or driver's license. This will present no problem if your passport and driver's license are issued in the form you normally use when traveling.

2. You must also provide your date of birth and gender when buying tickets.

TSA has built in some flexibility for the near future but you should strive to obtain consistency between the name on your ID and travel documents.

Rosemary Schwartzbar

\* 7 Nights Lodging

\* 30 Yards to the Gondola

\* Rooms Have 2 Queen Size Beds

\* Coffee in Each Room

\* Heated Outdoor Pool & Hot Tub

\* Convenient to Restaurants & Shops

\* 3668 Vertical Feet

\* 165 Named Ski Trails- 18 Lifts

\* 18 % Beg, 42% Int, 44% Adv

\* Average Snowfall > 27 Feet

\* 5 Days of Skiing – No weekend days



### Itinerary:

1. 12/12 Fly to Denver on your own schedule –Alpine Shuttle to Steamboat –Ptarmigan Inn
2. 12/13 – 12/18 Skiing at Steamboat Springs
3. 12/19 Alpine Shuttle to DIA – Fly home

### Accommodations:

Ptarmigan Inn - Steamboat's coziest ski-in/ski-out lodge, the full-service Ptarmigan Inn offers [SportStalker Ski and Snowboard rentals](#) and complimentary valet ski storage, outdoor heated pool and hot tub, sauna, in-room refrigerators, coffee makers and remote color cable TVs. The [Snowbird Restaurant & Lounge](#), located slopeside in the hotel, allows you to dine while you watch the skiers go by. The lounge offers a daily happy hour that is the main watering hole of Steamboat ski instructors.

### Optional Activities:

The Ptarmigan Inn is located just steps from the Silver Bullet Gondola, making it one of the closest lodging facilities of any Colorado Ski Resort. From there you will enjoy:

- ❖ One of the largest ski mountains in the country.
- ❖ Besides world class skiing, Steamboat offers a wealth of recreational winter activities:
- ❖ Snowmobiling in Colorado's top locations and on private terrain.
- ❖ Tubing right outside our door.
- ❖ 20 kilometers of groomed cross-country trails at our Nordic-touring center.
- ❖ Snow cat powder tours, sleigh rides, snowmobiling and ice-skating.
- ❖ Dog sled adventures and winter horseback riding, Dinner Sleigh Rides
- ❖ Soak in our natural mineral hot-springs
- ❖ Hot air balloon rides, glider rides and indoor tennis



**Cost: \$690. (\$200 deposit with application, \$490 by 10/1/09)**

Included in cost:

Lodging at the Ptarmigan Inn for 7 Nights

Daily Breakfasts

Three Dinners – Yacht Club, Ore House Restaurant, Western BBQ (with Entertainment)

Private Après ski in Trip Leaders Room

Not included in the cost:

Transportation to and from Steamboat on Alpine Shuttle – [alpinetaxi.com](http://alpinetaxi.com)

Ski tickets – If we have enough participation, we can get group tickets

Airfare – I will get pricing for group airfare, but people will be able to and get lower fares by booking early. Airlines will run specials that a group rate cannot beat. (E.g. recent quote on Southwest from BAL for October was \$248, IAD was \$288;

Delta IAD – DEN 272; American IAD – DEN \$278) –Frequent Flyer Tickets?

### Miscellaneous:

We will be able to get discount rates for ski rentals.

Recommendation is to rent skis and bring your boots.

Southwest Airlines is baggage friendly.

**Cancellation Policy:** If it becomes necessary to cancel your trip, the trip leader will make every effort to minimize your loss. There will be NO loss if the cancellation is prior to September 1, 2009, after that date varying penalties will apply based on the airline, hotels and tour operator agreements.

**Contact:** Dick Comerford, [dick.comerford@verizon.net](mailto:dick.comerford@verizon.net), (H) 703-777-9374, (C) 571-426-3098