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**President's Message – SNOW, SNOW, WONDERFUL SNOW!**

We had it in abundance during our ski week in Snowmass, and returned home to Snowzilla, the memorable storm of January 2016 in the Washington DC region! But who's complaining? That winter white stuff is what our club is all about. It did cause us to cancel our monthly meeting at Jan Marx' home in order to stay in, warm, and safe. Now the digging out begins. This portends to be a fine year for all three ski trips, as well as local skiing. Do let John Smith know if you wish to join our members to carpool to nearby ski areas. Our many thanks to our intrepid trip leaders, Marianne Soponis, Nancy Pigman, Eloise and Mike Strand, and Inge Lesjak for stepping up to the plate to organize this year's trips out West and in Europe.

In this TOOT you will find the nominating committee slate with recommendations for filling the three upcoming vacancies on ExCom. Thanks to Chairperson Kerry Hines, his committee (Nancy McKinley, Inge Lesjak, Sue Lyon, Eloise Strand, and John Holt), and the candidates for contributing their time to the leadership of PVS.

In February we will try again for a club meeting/party at Jan Marx' home in Springfield on Saturday afternoon, February 20. Until then, enjoy the winter fun!

--Carolyn



**Directions:**

8312 Oakford Dr.      Springfield, VA      22152      703-451-9158

**FROM NORTH ON THE BELTWAY:**

**Take Exit 54A west** onto Braddock Rd. Go to the fifth stop light and angle **left** onto Burke Lake Rd. Turn **left** at next stoplight onto Rolling Rd. Go to fourth stoplight 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.** Go to the seventh stoplight 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**.

**FROM FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKWAY and Braddock Rd east:**

Go to Rolling Road at Kings Park. Turn **right**. Go to fifth stoplight 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 FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKWAY and Old Keene Mill Rd:**

Go to Rolling Rd and turn **left**. 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**.



**Would you like a ride to the meeting from your ZIP CODE area? Are you willing to give someone a ride to the meeting? Contact Inge Lesjak at 703-913-0759 or [Lesjak.inge@gmail.com](mailto:Lesjak.inge@gmail.com)**

## SKI TALK - February 2016

**Call for Ski trip proposals for 2017.** We are now in the process of thinking about our 2017 ski trips. The Ski Trip Committee (STC) is responsible for recommending and coordinating the overall ski trip schedule. Unlike other ski clubs, the STC of PVS does not run the ski trips. Individual members run the ski trips. The trips have a primary leader, typically, but not always someone who has experience running ski trips. There is usually a co-leader who may also be experienced or may just be learning how to run trips. The leaders put the trip together, most often by working with a ski trip vendor.

Here is the timeline for proposals. **Preliminary proposals are due by March.** This can be a half page description indicating the destination, dates, and any other information that the leaders deem important. **Enhanced proposals with full detailed information are due by May.** The proposals are submitted for approval at the late May ExCom meeting. Trips taking place in December or January may be submitted earlier, as reservations at the hotels often have to be made. Half page descriptions of approved trips are included in the June TOOT. Detailed flyers are in the July TOOT. Send questions and proposals to me.

Going to Snowmass in January is a long tradition for PVS. It is a trip many of us have been doing for years, and we hope to continue for many more, but we are in need of a leader for next year's trip. If you enjoy going to Snowmass, think about how you can contribute. If you want to learn the ropes of trip leading, this is a good place to start. Marianne Soponis, who led the trip this year, has agreed to mentor.

The Blue Ridge Ski Council trips for 2017 are: Breckenridge, CO, early February and Grindelwald, Switzerland, early March. Leading a PVS contingent on a BRSC trip is relatively uncomplicated, since most of the arrangements are made by the BRSC-leader; your involvement mainly is in coordinating the PVS participants.



*On top of the world at Aspen/Snowmass*

We would like to have a February trip next year. As noted, the BRSC western carnival is in Breckenridge, CO. This is an opportunity to lead a trip to a popular resort while having much of the work done for you by BRSC. We are not confined to just the BRSC trip for a February trip. If anyone wants to plan a trip to another resort, please let me know.

**Eastern Skiing Opportunity:** This year, BRSC is adding an Eastern Carnival to its ski trips. With all of this snow, we now have, you might want to consider going to Lake Placid, NY, for the BRSC Eastern Carnival, February 21-26. Our members have been invited to accompany Columbia Ski Club in their chartered bus to Lake Placid. The group is staying at the High Peaks Resort in Lake Placid. Interested individuals should contact [jan.oconner.esq@gmail.com](mailto:jan.oconner.esq@gmail.com) from the Columbia Ski Club or at 443-621-1767.

*Rosemary Schwartzbard, [rosemaryschw@gmail.com](mailto:rosemaryschw@gmail.com)*

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BOT <[www.bestoftimeskiclub.org](http://www.bestoftimeskiclub.org)> is going to Aspen, CO, and staying at the Mountain Chalet in Downtown Aspen. Interested individuals should make their reservations directly with the Chalet at 888-925-7797, ext. 772 or at [res@mca.travel](mailto:res@mca.travel); then advise trip leader, Annette Kaufman, 561-750-7456, of your reservation.



**Aspen, Colorado**  
3/5/16 - 3/12/16 (Best of Times Ski Club)



Carolyn & Marianne



**Snowmass 2016**  
**See page 9**



Our Youngins: Peter & Shirley



Louann & Alice



### **PVS Local Skiing**

### **PVS LOCAL SKIING**

There is snow. Indeed, local skiing is the best that it has been in many years. Four or five skiers have congregated each week since the second week in January.

We normally ski at Liberty Mountain or Whitetail during the week. The arrangements need to be quite informal because we can't be sure of the conditions until a few days ahead of time. We normally check the latest weather conditions on Saturday or Sunday to decide which days are suitable, which day people prefer, and where is the best place to go. An email notice is sent out by Sunday of each week to people who have indicated that they are interested in joining us.

For those who want to car pool (recommended), we meet in the morning in Gaithersburg. The directions and meeting time are posted in each week's announcement. I have the current email list from last year of people who are interested in local skiing. If you wish to be added to this local skiing list, please contact me.

Contact John Smith at:

Home – 301-299-8376

Cell – 301-461-2143

Email – [johnhsmit@juno.com](mailto:johnhsmit@juno.com)

**Still time to sign up!**

## **Madonna di Campiglio, Italia**

**The Blue Ridge Ski Council - Eurofest 2016 - February 26 - March 6, 2016**

**Visit Madonna via webcam:** <http://www.funiviecampiglio.it/en/webcam>

- Options:**
- |                                |                                     |         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| A. February 26 - March 6, 2016 | Madonna only + last night in Venice | \$2,550 |
| B. February 23 - March 5, 2016 | 3 days Florence + 7 days Madonna    | \$3,550 |
| C. February 26 - March 8, 2016 | Madonna + 3 days in Venice-Mestre   | \$2,800 |

### **Features to be Included for Skiing and/or Sightseeing:**

- Round trip airfare /Round trip luxury charter coach from the airport to the hotel.
- At Madonna: 7 nights lodging, double occupancy at the 4 star Hotel Carlo Magno, ski-in ski-out party headquarters with breakfast buffet, and full dinner daily.
- Service charge, local tax and VAT are included.
- Trip Insurance with TravelSafe. Color-coded baggage tags, neck valets.
- Welcome Party: Refreshments, familiarization of ski areas, town and logistics.
- Mid week Après Ski Party and DJ for dancing on Thursday night after dinner.
- Optional day trips and trip extension are available at your choice.

**Optional pre-ski-trip to Florence - Feb 23-27:** includes three nights at the 4-Star-Plus Hotel Plaza-Lucchesi with daily full buffet breakfast. Located on the right bank of the Arno River, between Santa Croce Place and Piazzale Michelangelo.

**Optional Post-ski-trip to Venice** 1 night at HOTEL PLAZA at **Venice-Mestre \*\*\*\*\*** w/breakfast. This hotel is located across from bus- and train station with 10 min rides to Venice Island.

*Please note: Vaporetto tickets in Venice ARE NOT included in price. There are different multi day vaporetto tickets to consider. Vaporetto tickets can be purchased at the kiosks at the airport on arrival by credit card.*

**Planned Flight Itinerary with Air France from Washington Dulles via Paris to Venice.**  
**Connections from and to other US cities are available.**

**SKI RENTAL, SKI SCHOOL and GUIDES – booking available in the hotel.**

The cost of a 3-day Superskirama SKI-PASS with access to 380 km of slopes is approx. Euro 125 for 3 days.

**Contact Inge Lesjak, [Lesjak.inge@gmail.com](mailto:Lesjak.inge@gmail.com) or call 703-869-7248 c for details NLT 6 Feb**

## **Nominating Committee Report for PVS Officers (2016 – 2017)**

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Kerry Hines (Chairperson), Nancy McKinley, Inge Lesjak, Sue Lyon, Eloise Strand, and John Holt, is pleased to report that it selected the following candidates to serve on the EXCOM for 2-year terms, and these candidates agreed to serve on the ExCom:

Ellie Thayer has agreed to serve a second term on ExCom, replacing herself, and also to continue as Secretary and TOOT Coordinator of the TOOT;

Barry Lake, one of the newest members of PVS, has agreed to serve on the Excom, replacing Inge Lesjak; and

John Smith, one of the older members of PVS, also is agreeable to a 2-year Excom term, replacing Reg Heichue.

With ExCom's concurrence, these candidates will be presented to the membership at the April General Meeting.

In addition, the Nominating Committee consulted current President Carolyn DeVilbiss and current Vice-President Bob Kramer to confirm that both officers expect to continue for a second year in their respective roles.

Candidates for PVS Officers & Board Members, for 2016-2017	Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Kerry Hines (Chair) John Holt Inge Lesjak Sue Lyon Nancy McKinley Eloise Strand
<p><b>President:</b> Carolyn DeVilbiss†      <b>ExCom:</b> Barry Lake*</p> <p><b>Vice President:</b> Bob Kramer†      <b>ExCom:</b> John H. Smith**</p> <p>    <b>ExCom:</b> Ellie Thayer***</p> <p>Additional nominations may be made by the signatures of any five active members in good standing and must be presented at a business meeting at least one month prior to the election, which will be held on April 19, 2016</p>	

† Profile for **DeVilbiss & Kramer**: <<http://pvskiers.org/TOOT/2010-2019/Mar15.pdf#page=5>>

### **Barry Lake\***

I was born in Leavenworth, KS, into an Army family. After a few years in Colorado Springs, the family took up more or less permanent residence in Arlington, VA. I attended George Mason University receiving a BS in Mathematics, and received an MS in Administration from George Washington University. I am currently a Program Manager for a Reston based Information Technology Company, which provides software development and operational services to the federal government.

While I originally learned to ski during my college days, I did not take up skiing in earnest until I met my future wife Kathy; both of us have enjoyed skiing together for nearly 30 years. We started out skiing mostly on the east coast, but after our first trip out west to Colorado, we pretty much gave up on east coast skiing. Over the years, we have been lucky enough to be able to take at least 1-2 ski trips a year, mostly to Colorado and Utah. We have also taken 2 European trips, to Switzerland & Austria, as well as, 2 Canadian trips. Since joining PVS, we have thoroughly enjoyed two trips to Snowmass and are looking forward to many more. We currently reside in Oakton, VA, with our collie girl named Dreamer. When not skiing or working, we also enjoy time at the beach.

**John H. Smith\*\***

I was born in Rome, NY, but we moved to Phillipsburg, NJ at the end of World War II. I lived there until I finished college. For several years, while I was in high school and college, I was very active as a musician. I was part of a big dance band that played in nightclubs, resorts, and colleges, mostly in PA, NJ, and a little bit in MD and VA.

I graduated from Lafayette College in Easton, PA, with an A.B. degree and also a B.S. in engineering. I then spent one year in Rollo, MO, where I got an M.S. degree in metallurgy from the Missouri School of Mines. I then went to M.I.T. in Cambridge, MA, to complete my doctorate in metallurgical engineering.

After finishing graduate school, I immediately went into the Army in Aberdeen, MD. While in the Army, I was assigned to the NASA laboratory in Cleveland, OH, for about two years. I then joined U.S. Steel in Pittsburgh, PA, for several years before moving to Washington, DC in 1974, to work at the National Bureau of Standards (now the National Institute of Standards and Technology - NIST). Since retiring from NIST in 2000, I have been working as an independent engineering consultant. My work has taken me to many technical meetings in the U.S., Europe, and Japan. I am still active in several International Standards Organization technical committees that require frequent travel in the U.S. and to Europe.

I first went skiing at Mt. Sunapee, NH in January of 1960, while going to school in Cambridge. I skied in New England, until I moved to Cleveland in 1964, and then skied mostly in western New York State and at Stowe, VT, until I moved to Pittsburgh in 1966. I then skied regularly at Seven Springs, and went every year with the Pittsburgh Ski Club on trips to Europe and to the western U.S. After moving to Washington, DC in 1974, I joined PVS and have gone on many of the club's European, U.S. and Canadian ski trips. For many years from about 1998 to 2006, Pat and I organized and led the PVS ski trips to Europe. We skied at St. Moritz, Zermatt, Cortina, Kitzbuhl, and Val Gardena.

Besides skiing and working, I bought my first small sailboat in 1966, and bought a bigger sailboat in 1970. I first sailed on Lake Erie, and took one long cruise around three of the Great Lakes in 1972. Since moving to Washington, DC, I have sailed most of the Chesapeake Bay. In addition, I have had a trawler type motorboat with a partner that we kept in Annapolis for several years, and then moved it up to Rockland, ME where it was cooler in the summer.

**Ellie Thayer\*\*\***

I was born many years ago on a farm in northwest Iowa, with nary a ski slope in sight. After graduating from an Iowa women's college, I worked as a historian for the Division of Naval History in Washington, DC. Soon, I married a Naval Officer, became a full-time mom with two children, and lived in Rota, Spain; again with nary a ski slope in sight. After six years in Virginia Beach, I moved my two children and myself to Arlington to start law school in 1978.

The latter part of my legal career was spent at the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit where I served as the Senior Staff Attorney until my retirement in 2006. Early in this period, I married a skier (Jack Chapman) and learned to ski as a forty-plus year old. Jack and I bought a week interval at a condo at Beaver Creek, Colorado, 25 years ago and we have gone there almost annually to ski in January.

I joined PVS about 10 years ago and served on ExCom from 2009 to 2010. From 2010 to 2011, I served as Vice President. In 2014, I again served on ExCom. In 2010, I became the TOOT Coordinator and in mid-2013, I was appointed Secretary.

# ***Members' Corner***

J. David Warthen, Jr.  
[dwarthen@verizon.net](mailto:dwarthen@verizon.net)



## **Charlotte Eddy:**

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Charlotte Eddy and her family at the sudden loss of her 60-year old son, James John Ferro, Jr., on 26 December 2015. His beloved daughter, Angelina, survived him. He made his home in Virginia Beach and Fairfax. A memorial service was held, Saturday 16 January 2016 at Fairfax United Methodist Church.

## **New PVS Web Site:**

Beginning in mid-February the PVS web site will have a new format. There are several reasons for the change. One is to make the web site adaptable to mobile devices such as tablets and cell phones. The new layout also offers larger fonts for easier reading. Moreover, on a personal note, the new site will be easier to update.

In the meantime you can preview the new site by visiting [www.pvskiers.org](http://pvskiers.org). Click on the link below the picture of the happy PVS skiers, and it will open a new tab with the new format. There are no real content changes at this time although some of the menu buttons have changed.

Prior to official implementation, various pages may change as different bits and pieces are adjusted. Suggestions for improvements are welcome with the proviso that not every request may be possible within time and skill limits.

Contact Mary Ward at 540-463-5071 or [MWard@Termineigh.com](mailto:MWard@Termineigh.com) with comments and questions.

## **Mac Safari & Adobe Reader for PVS Web Site:**

All of the links within the **INDEX-TOOT LINKS** Table at [http://pvskiers.org/toot\\_index.html](http://pvskiers.org/toot_index.html), within the PVS web site <pvskiers.org>, link to a specific page within a pdf TOOT, rather than just the title page of that TOOT. This means that you can link to a specific page within a specific TOOT for a personal Profile, an Anniversary TOOT/Special Item, a personal Obituary, a specific Ski Trip (2000-present), or a specific Event (2010-present).

However, Adobe Reader is essential to make this feature work properly with the Mac Safari browser. Mac Preview pdf reader does not work. Download: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>

Install the Adobe Reader on Macs and explore the links to specific pages of TOOT issues in the **INDEX-TOOT LINKS** Table. This is a useful tool for PVS Members, particularly ExCom Officers and ExCom Members.

Make use of PVS' web site; it was designed for you by our webmaster, Mary Ellena Ward, who has spent countless hours and expertise in its construction. Stay tuned for future design changes.

Questions – contact [dwarthen@verizon.net](mailto:dwarthen@verizon.net).

## **Valentine's Day:**

February **14** is just around the corner.



Have a great Valentine's Day! Remember cards, dinner out, chocolate, flowers, & jewelry. **L-O-V-E** makes the world go round and makes life worth living. Don't pass up an opportunity to be kind, nice, and loving to another.



## **TOOT Distribution to 157 Members:**

-pdf: 133; USPS: 3

### **Thanks to:**

-TOOT Coordinator - **E. Thayer**

-TOOT USPS (3) –

**B. Leonhardt , J. Read, & L. Triau**

-TOOT Layout Editor & Electronic TOOT –

**D. Warthen**

**Roster Changes (notify-[dwarthen@verizon.net](mailto:dwarthen@verizon.net))**

## Ski Trip Report:

**Snowmass -- January 13 - 20, 2016**

A Winter Wonderland!



Rosemary Schwartzbard (Ski Trip Committee Chair) gifts Marianne Soponis (Trip Leader) with a scarf at the farewell dinner

We had snow almost every day making the slopes a beautiful winter wonderland. While visibility was a slowing factor at times, there were some sunny days with blue skies (many folks' preference including **Dave Warthen's**). Snowmass had terrain and conditions to suit everyone's liking (even those getting new body parts used to skiing): groomed blue trails like Bull Run and Sneaky Pete's – Alice **McNulty's** favorites giving Dick **Lau** some time for trees along the way. While Peter **Russell**, ever the trooper, had fun on the runs in front of our Mountain Chalet. The trails off the 6-pack lift kept Bob **Jablon** busy. Nancy **Pigman** got in some fun runs before she had to leave early. There were fresh tracks to be made by early risers. There was fresh powder, especially in the trees for Dick **L.** And, yes, bumps for Cara **Jablon**. There were also plenty of expert runs for those who wanted the challenge.

Snowmass was just as welcoming as in previous years. The only change this year was a new lift, called High Alpine, which replaced a slow double chair. No more poling to get to Upper Green Cabin. Yay!

Kerry and Marianne **Hines** navigated groups all over the mountain. At one point they ventured up to the highest point at Snowmass. They reached The Cirque by way of a poma lift. The breathtaking views were enjoyed by all

Jon **Wechsler** coordinated a day trip to Aspen Mountain. The all-day-in-Aspen event for five skiers, (**Jon W.**, Jannes **Gibson**, Louann **Eadie**, Barry **Lake**, and Kathy **Lake**) turned out to be a big success. **Jannes'** familiarity with Aspen was very helpful. On Ajax Mountain, we had a long guided tour with a bit of history followed by the three-mile long downhill

to the gondola. Then, we took the gondola back up for lunch at the Sundeck. We still had a lot of the afternoon to shop and explore. A well-earned final supper at the J-Bar in Hotel Jerome did contain a little celebrating! Thank you **Jon W.** for organizing this – especially for arranging the transport of skis and boots both to and fro!



We had quite a few Nastar race medal winners. Dick **Schwartzbard** received a gold and **Dick L.** a silver. **Cara J.** won silver. **Rosemary S.** won two bronze and one silver medals. **Kal N.** won two bronze medals, which he turned in for a gold! ☺ Who knew we had so many Olympians among us!

After an invigorating day of skiing, a soak in the hot tub was so relaxing. Here's **Kal's** take on that:



Jon, Louann, Jannes, Kathy & Barry @ Aspen

**At the surface of the tub, the water jet welcomed me. It created a subterranean spring spouting hot water like a mini fountain.**

**This hot tub is designed for me, for my own pleasure and comfort.**

**"What a life" I said.**

**Sitting in the hot tub I had a steaming glass of chocolate. The odor brought memories of my mother giving me this treat when only I had good grades.**



Some folks decided to take a day off from skiing and went to Aspen to partake in some of the festivities. Shirley **Rettig** enjoyed the music of the bands and bagpipes celebrating Winterskol. **Dick and Rosemary S.** had fun exploring the quaint town even revisiting the exquisite glass gallery. One of the attractions of interest was the Aspen Art Museum. Carolyn **DeVilbiss**, Jill **Nelson**, Bing **Van Nuys**, Barry **L.**, and **Kathy L.** had their names written on the wall of one of the exhibits. It is a pendulum in time showing everyone and the time as they viewed this work of art. We became part of this living art!

We had an unexpected guest at our wine and cheese party. A foreign correspondent from Egypt stopped by to hear why PVS members keep coming back to Snowmass. The reporter/Egyptian Princess turned out to be Blanca **Hotaling** in disguise! What a scary microphone she had. ☺

One night a group of us took the bus to Aspen to have dinner at Hickory House. Delicious ribs, barbecue, and brisket were enjoyed. Other folks ventured to other favorite spots like The Stew Pot and Big Hoss's, to mention just a few.

In the evenings, **Carolyn** and **Dave D.** taught us quite a few new games to play. We learned Mexican Train, Deer in the Headlights, Quirkle, and Quiddler. It was a lot of fun!

On the weekend some folks, including Marianne **Soponis**, Bing **V.**, Dave **W.**, Dave **D.**, Jill **N.**, Bob **N.**, and Barry and **Kathy L.** watched the NFL playoffs in the lobby, occasionally cheering for opposing teams.

#### **A couple of funny stories from the week:**

Aaron **Schwartzbard** and Martha **Nelson** ended up in a heap in the woods while following nine and ten year old girls through the trees. Who knew the girls would just stop at the small exit out. ☺

While in Aspen, **Louann** went in to a ski shop to see if they could warm up her new boots. When she pulled her headwarmer/balaclava out of her boots, it turned out to be her black panties. She was a little embarrassed, but made the most of it. Good thing it wasn't a really cold and windy day!

Our fearless leader, **Marianne S.**, did a great job! She planned lots of events for us - a welcome get together, a wine and cheese party, a pizza party, and a farewell dinner at The Snowmass Club. She made sure that we were all having fun. Thank you Marianne!



All went well. A good time was had by all!

*Submitted by Kathy and Barry Lake*



# THE KNEE

by Ray  
McKinley

[RaysKnee@gmail.com](mailto:RaysKnee@gmail.com)

Once again, let me be the first to wish you a Happy **Knee** Year! Our Jubilee was simply overwhelming. Indeed, I'm rarely even whelmed. However, I was overwhelmed by our 50-year golden Jubilee celebration in early November. And with 100 attendees; it was the largest PVS event ever. A tip of the ol' **Knee** cap to Rosemary Schwartzbard and her committee who made it all happen seamlessly. The Jubilee Committee will soon start the planning on our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary party scheduled for November 2065. Right on!

Ski Season isn't always celebrated in the West. Melissa FitzGerald has returned from Sarasota, FL where she visited Susan and David Payne and Linda and Jack Sloan. Snow conditions, however, were bleak.

Wow! Jana Lee Sponberg is back from building 2 houses in (where else?) Tajikistan of course. She worked with Habitat for Humanity and had to make her own cement with a trough and a hoe - Yikes! She describes the experience as exhausting - but worthwhile. Good for you, Jan! If you have some spare time, I have a deck that **Kneeds** some work.

Rumor has it that Bob Jablon is writing a book in his spare time. Can't wait to see what Bob's fertile mind will come up with.

June Read, along with her daughter Jocelyn and her son-in-law, looked splendid at a recent meeting. June was just back from a lengthy hospital stay, but was really quite chipper. Right on!

Small world - at the meeting, June's daughter was surprised to run into Tom Tycz; they worked together years ago along with Linda Sloan.

Betty Lawrence, along with Suzanne Boisclair, spent the holidays in Colorado visiting Betty's daughter— did they get in a few ski runs on the new powder?

Did you know? Eggs Benedict should be served on a hubcap because ....wait for it... there's no plate like chrome for the Hollandaise... Now you know.

A brush with celebrity - Dick and Rosemary Schwartzbard's son, Mark, is in charge of the filming on Aziz Ansari's new Netflix TV program.

During the December meeting, Sam Lesjak went upstairs at Hotalings' to watch the Republican debate. After a few minutes he returned to the meeting and declared that he was not voting...



*The Base at Ski Liberty is rapidly growing - they plan to open soon.*

Our condolences go out to Charlotte Eddy on the untimely passing of her son. We also mourn the passing of long-time PVS super-skier, Alice Swalm. She was a joy to watch on her long K2s on the slopes.

Dave and Marsha Warthen, carpooling with Barb Leonhardt, ran into horrible traffic on the way to the December meeting. (But the meeting was worth it!) They also ran into a "mini-Snowzilla" returning from Snowmass (before our big storm) and they were hit by a police car! Bad News. Things will get better!

The high cost of skiing! Charles Huggins reports that Whistler-Blackcomb has the most expensive lift tickets in North America, if not the world - \$125 a day. Several places have exceeded \$100 and Jackson Hole is now \$110.

Ask John and Polli Brunelli about their recent trip to another exotic location - Malta. Hint: they loved it!

From the Knee archives - some Knee defikneeshuns....

--KNEEDLE POINT: humor aimed at Ray McKinley

--ANY-KNEE-THING: the subject matter of this column

--KNEE JERK: the author of this column

--COCKNEE: my English counterpart

KNEENUF!

***In Memoriam***  
**Alice Luella Swalm**

Alice Luella Swalm of Alexandria, VA died on January 10, 2016, the day after her 99th birthday. She was a member of PVS for 38 years, from 1975 – 2013. There will be a memorial service for Alice at the **Goodwin House at 3 PM on the 11th of February** where she was residing. The address is the Goodwin House of Alexandria, 4800 Fillmore Ave., Alexandria, VA 22331. This is near the intersection of Route 395 and Seminary Rd. Her remains will rest in Denver, CO.

Her spirit is captured by the profile that appeared in the April 1984 TOOT when she was a candidate for ExCom:

Alice Swalm is our Girl from the Golden West and anything you can do on skis she can probably do better. Born in California, reared in Idaho, educated at the University of Colorado, she lived in Idaho, California, Texas, Colorado, and Wyoming before coming to the DC area with the Social Security Administration in 1972. She first skied at Bogus Basin, Idaho, a place with quite primitive equipment. She was in her early 30s and it was a discouraging struggle, but she persisted because it was a sure way to keep in touch with nieces and nephews she doted on and who were all avid skiers. Alice says most of these relatives and now their little ones are better skiers than she, but if you've seen Alice's style on the slopes (even skiing last year with one arm in a cast!) you have to wonder about that.

Alice joined PVS when a lady in her office needed a roommate for a Wyckoff ski trip. Alice volunteered. That was in the mid-seventies and Alice has gone to Europe with the Wyckoffs every year since.

In addition to this noteworthy support of club trips, Alice served as club secretary for three years, helped to compile our cookbook, and has contributed many culinary delights to our dinners.

Retired in 1979, Alice now lives in Arlington and when not skiing or cooking, cultivates many other interests including bridge, music, theatre and, above all, friendships.

These are a few reminiscences from Alice's long-time skiing partner, Jacques Hadler:

It was sometime in the early 1970s that I joined the Potomac Valley Ski Club and went with the Wyckoffs to ski in the French Alps at Val Torens. I started with a group of skiers who were substantially better than I and they soon left me to ski more challenging terrain. Alice, who was skiing with another group nearby, noted my difficulties and left her group to assist me – and that is how we met. One of Alice's great characteristics is her empathy for people in difficulty.

Over the years we have usually skied either in the Alps or in the western U.S., and once in South America. In our latter years we particularly enjoyed skiing at Snowmass. Alice particularly enjoyed cruising the Glades on the Big Burn.

When we became nonagenarians, we decided it was time to hang up our skis. We had the good fortune to wind up our skiing days skiing at Snowmass with Dave Warthen.

Jan Marx remembers how adventuresome Alice was and that she and Jacques were the impetus for the club purchasing helmets. Her obituary notice in the Washington Post noted that, after retirement, Alice enjoyed a life of travel, skiing, books, bridge and the arts.



Alice Swalm & Jacques Hadler



Barbara Leonhardt,  
Alice Swalm,  
Jacques Hadler

2009 Aspen/Snowmass

## **PVS Calendar 2016:**

Feb	20	Sat	February General Meeting, 2:00 PM, Marx, Springfield, VA
Feb	23	Tue	ExCom, 7:00 PM, Telephonic
Mar	19	Sat	March General Meeting, 2:00 PM, FitzGerald, Reston, VA
Mar	22	Tue	ExCom, 7:30 PM, Schwartzbards, Arlington, VA
Apr	15	Fri	Urban Hike on the Mall, Late AM, McKinleys, DC
Apr	19	Tue	Annual Meeting, 7:30 PM, Heitchue, Reston, VA
Apr	29	Fri	Paul Weber Spring Ski Show, 6:30-9:00 PM, Marriott Tysons Corner, VA < <a href="http://www.prwtravelshows.com/DC.htm">http://www.prwtravelshows.com/DC.htm</a> >
May	15	Sun	Eclipse Chamber Music Concert, 3:00 PM, McKinleys, Alexandria, VA



## **PVS Ski Trips 2016:**



February 26-March 6, 2016: PVS/BRSC Eurofest 2016, Italy,  
Madonna Di Campiglio (Inge Lesjak)

### **Useful Ski "Links"**

Potomac Valley Skiers .....	<a href="http://www.potomacvalleyskiers.org">www.potomacvalleyskiers.org</a>
BRSC Sanctioned Trips .....	<a href="http://www.skicouncil.com/tripsbydate.htm">www.skicouncil.com/tripsbydate.htm</a>
DC Ski Online News.....	<a href="http://www.dcski.com">www.dcski.com</a>
Best of Times Ski Club.....	<a href="http://www.bestoftimesskiclub.org">www.bestoftimesskiclub.org</a> > Ski Trips

## **ExCom**

### **Officers:**

President - Carolyn DeVilbiss  
Vice President - Bob Kramer  
Secretary - Ellie Thayer  
Treasurer - Dick Schwartzbard  
Ex Officio - Nancy McKinley

### **Board Members:**

**First Term:**  
Herb Bennett  
Marna Blanchette  
Nancy Pigman  
**Second Term:**  
Reg Heitchue (1-year only)  
Inge Lesjak  
Ellie Thayer

### **Chairpersons:**

Ski Trip Committee - Rosemary Schwartzbard  
Events - Ray McKinley  
Membership Records - Dave Warthen  
Membership PR Reps - Inge Lesjak & Marianne Soponis  
TOOT Coordinator - Ellie Thayer  
TOOT Layout Editors - Jan Marx, Marvin Hass, & Dave Warthen  
TOOT (E-Distribution) - Dave Warthen  
TOOT (USPS Distribution) - Barb Leonhard, June Read, Liz Triaud  
Webmaster - Mary Ward  
Meeting Records - Sue Lyon  
Historian - Jan Marx

