



Volume 53
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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

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www.pvskiers.org

info@pvskiers.org

President's Message

WHAT CAN I WRITE? WHAT CAN I SAY?

I write this column sitting at my office computer.

It is that time again. But what can I write?

No. I am serious. What *can* I write?¹

I might write about – Religion? Politics? Sex? But can I? Writings on such subjects may offend. Social mores exist for sensitive subjects.

I might write gossip, but I do not know gossip of interest.²

I could write about skiing, but spring has come.

So what can I write?

The question that I raise is the appropriateness of subject matter for *TOOT* columns. By extension, I raise the questions of limits for discussions within PVS.

When I went off to college in 1957, my mother told me, “Don’t sign anything.” Dredging up people’s discrediting actions and words, Joseph McCarthy and his ilk had been recently purging America of people deemed bad. At the time, a grave threat was that something might get on one’s “permanent record.”

We loosened up during the mid and late 1960s. People signed – and said – almost anything, regardless of records, official or otherwise. We marched if we chose. However, the side that we were on deeply divided us then. It does still.

PVS members state with pride that we hold meetings at members’ homes. We connote friendship and sociality. Friendship requires meaningful connections among people. Friends discuss that which matters to them.

A PVS strength is that our members have different backgrounds and beliefs, skiing being one of our commonalities, the strength of our PVS community being another. Generally, religious and irrelevant status barriers

have broken down, thankfully, so that differences that would have mattered when I went to college are hardly noticed today. To their credit and perhaps ours, our children do not see the kind of non-relevant status differences that once had the power to divide. However, we cannot say that no status barriers exist today. The potency of political barriers appears to be increasing.

I read an unsettling book recently, *American Nations* by Colin Woodard (“*American Nations: A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America*”), which I recommend. The author’s thesis is that the United States consists of separate co-existing nations, each with different cultures and values. Boston, New York, Philadelphia, the Piedmont South, the Deep South, the West Coast and so forth have their own ethos. The author contends that America’s regional values were shaped by each area’s first settlers well before the American Revolution and that the differences at the time of our formation continue to this day. He contends that when people move among regions, they adopt the prevailing local mores rather than harmonizing cultural values to form proverbial “melting pots.”

Although his overarching thesis has exaggeration, to the extent that Colin Woodard has a valid point, it will be difficult for the American Nation (singular) to maintain itself as a cohesive whole. The sometimes highly charged political and other differences among us caution for some care in our communications. But if we protect members’ mental as well as their physical space, with a bit of cautionary correctness, PVS members can communicate broadly aiding our ability to know and benefit from each other. If this is the case, I can write *TOOT* columns about anything – even skiing – if I do so politely. Readers beware.

--B. Jablon

¹ I resist an analysis of “can” and “may.” The question asks capability, “What am I able to say?” and permissibility, “What am I allowed to say?”

² I would be pleased to learn that which is salacious.

PVS Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 17, 2018, 7:30 PM

***Stratford Clubhouse adjoining 1860 Stratford Park Place
Reston, VA 20190***

***Hosts: Reg Heitchue, 703-861-9190; Susan Sinclair, 202-361-6677
heitchu@yahoo.com***

Join fellow PVSers at the annual business meeting to **elect new ExCom Officers (page 3)** for 2018-2019, to **vote for full active membership for Applicant Member (page 3)**, and to join in on the perennially favorite **social hour with fellow skiers**.

Please **BRING** a favorite **appetizer (A to P surname)** or **dessert (Q to Z surname)** to share. Beverages will be provided. As we are in a party room, please take your platter and leftovers home with you. **No entrance fee!**

See directions and parking below.

Directions to Annual Meeting from the Beltway:

Take Dulles Toll Road (VA-267) West toward Reston/Herndon.
Take Exit 12 (Reston Parkway, VA-602), and bear right at the end
of the exit ramp.

In 0.4 mile, turn right onto Stratford Park Place.

Park in a space that is **NOT** marked **RESERVED**

Walk to the Clubhouse building located in the center of the complex
by the swimming pool (the other side of Building 1860).





Nominating Committee Report for PVS Officers & Board Members (2018 – 2019)

<p>PVS Officers continuing for the completion of their two-year term in 2018-2019: President: Bob Jablon Vice-President: Jan Marx</p> <p>Candidate Members for PVS ExCom Board, 2018-2019: ExCom: Barry Lake ExCom: John Holt ExCom: Melissa FitzGerald</p> <p><i>Click on linked names above to see profiles of candidates.</i></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 17, 2018</p>	<p>Submitted by the Nominating Committee:</p> <p>Jan Marx (Chair) Dave DeVilbiss Tom Tycz John Smith Nancy McKinley Louann Eadie</p>
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Since ExCom terms are for two years, the following members will continue to serve during 2018-2019 along with the newly elected officers:

Inge Lesjak

Nancy McKinley

Tom Tycz

Terry Michel, Applicant Individual 11/13/17, Reston - Sponsor Rosemary Schwartzbard - qualified as eligible for full active PVS membership and was approved by ExCom as a candidate for this April 17 election at the annual meeting. Her profile is on page 9 in the Members' Corner.



**JOIN PVS FOR THE
ECLIPSE CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA'S
CONCERT SUNDAY,
APRIL 15
3:00 PM**



In its 26th season of world-class performances, Eclipse Chamber Orchestra, one of the nation's premier chamber ensembles, presents exceptional performances of diverse repertoire. Featured regularly on WETA-FM, ECO takes great pride in spotlighting its members as soloists in every concert, where one can enjoy hearing up close the artists one sees only from afar at venues like the Kennedy Center. Please join PVS once again to enjoy this concert at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria. www.eclipseco.org

SUNDAY, April 15 at 3 PM

-Cimarosa's Sinfonia Concertante for Winds featuring flutists Carole Bean and Alice Kogan Weinreb

-Koussevitsky's Double Bass Concerto Opus 3 featuring Rick Barber on double bass

-Prokofiev's Classical Symphony

Optional: gather for dinner in Alexandria

Eclipse Chamber Orchestra is committed to bringing quality music at a price that everyone can afford. Therefore it's "pay as you can." Donations (\$35 suggested) are made at the door, or you can donate online.

Please RSVP to Ray and Nancy McKinley at 703 527 7126 or at nancymckin@gmail.com by April 7 to let us know you're coming, and we'll keep a lookout for you. Let us know if you plan to join us for dinner, and we will include you in the reservation.

We'll see you there!



Coming Event

Join PVS to celebrate spring asparagus - a German culinary tradition!
Spargelfest Lunch
at Old Europe restaurant in D.C.



Friday, April 27, at 12:00 PM
2434 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

SPARGEL! (That's asparagus for non-German speakers.) It's a spring tradition in Germany. While green asparagus is available year-round, the prized white asparagus is limited to spring when it's grown underground in knee-high mounds which impede the development of the green color and make the most tender, delicious stalks.

We'll meet at Old Europe, a Washington institution, for lunch of your choice from the menu. You may choose to gorge yourself on nothing but asparagus (green or white) - with butter or hollandaise, for example, or go all out for a full German meal with ham or schnitzel and May wine.

Check out the special Spargelfest menu under Events at www.old-europe.com. Old Europe has been preparing excellent German food since 1948 and is still going strong. The atmosphere is delightfully Bavarian and we can anticipate a fun spring lunch.

Space is limited. If you're interested, please contact Nancy McKinley at 703 595 8375 or by email at nancymckin@gmail.com. Deadline to sign up, April 22.



Coming Event

Welcome **Springtime** and **Walk** with us at [Lake Accotink](#) in Springfield, VA, on **Wednesday, May 9th**. We will meet at 10:00 am at Danbury Forest Drive, and take a leisurely walk around the lake (approx. 2 hrs).



Then drive a short distance to the Swiss Cafe at Ravensworth Shopping Center for lunch.

Please contact Inge Lesjak for details. Lesjak.inge@gmail.com

SKI TALK
APRIL 2018

Ski season has ended for most of us and it is this time of year that I reflect on my recent ski trips. In January we went to Snowmass and the snow conditions were rather thin. In my twenty years of going to Snowmass in January, I have never encountered similar conditions. Then we went to Big Sky and encountered just the opposite. We had deep snow and frigid conditions.



While neither trip had ideal weather, they were both very enjoyable and got rave reviews.

It is not the snow conditions or the temperature that makes a good trip, it is the people who go on the trips. PVSers are a hardy group. No matter what the conditions, they go out and ski. Whether it is skiing around rocks and shrubs or skiing through deep powder in sub-zero conditions, we were out there skiing.



When people ask what makes PVS special, I immediately reply, “the members”. This is easily seen on the ski trips. Whether you are a long-term member, or this is your first trip, you will be included. On every trip there is a welcome party where people are usually introduced, and information is disseminated about skiing, dinners, après ski events, etc. At each subsequent event, more information is given and people are encouraged to participate.

Our ski trip leaders are volunteers. They are sometimes compensated for their rooms if enough people participate. They take care of the money; they work with the vendor and the hotels; they organize the après ski activities and dinners; they take care of anyone who gets injured or needs help. They are always available which often cuts into their skiing. It is always heartening to see other members volunteer to help the trip leaders with the various activities. Also, we encourage trip members to come up with additional activities such as dinners, museum visits, etc. that they organize and lead.



To keep our ski trips going, we need more people to step up and volunteer to lead a trip. If you are interested, please let me know. Kathy and Barry Lake have agreed to lead Snowmass again. Inge Lesjak has volunteered to lead the BRSC trip to Sun Valley. As a way to get started please attend:

The Washington DC Spring Ski Show

Friday evening, May 4, at the Marriott Tysons Corner. From 6:30-9:30PM.

Mark your calendars and let me know if you are going, and I will pre-register you.

Rosemary Schwartzbard
rosemaryschw@gmail.com

Snowmass, Colorado 2019

Wednesday to Wednesday

January 9-16, 2019

Greetings to all Skiers!

It's hard to believe that it's already time to start planning our ski trips for next year! We will be going back to Snowmass January 9 -16, 2019. Hope you will join us.

Once again we will be staying at the Snowmass Mountain Chalet, which offers a convenient ski in, ski out location. The "Land Only" package will include lodging and a 5-day Senior lift pass. Prices and terms are in discussion. We anticipate the cost being similar to last year's package.

Those interested can register by sending a \$300 deposit payable to Kathy Lake, with PVS Snowmass 2019 written on the memo line. Please send your deposit to us at 11677 Fox Glen Drive, Oakton, VA 22124. Reserve your room now!

- *Snowmass offers direct access to 3,100 acres of skiing, just outside the door.*
- *The skiing terrain totals more than 5,000 acres, with interchangeable lift tickets and free bus service to Aspen Mountain, Aspen Highlands & Buttermilk ski areas.*
- *Lodging at the Chalet includes a daily buffet breakfast and soup lunch, greatly appreciated and served by a friendly, welcoming staff.*
- *The trip includes lodging, transportation to and from Aspen airport, ski prices at a discounted rate, a pre-trip meeting, and social events during the week.*

For further information, please contact us at KathyLakehomes@yahoo.com or 703-625-2715.

Hope to see you there!

Kathy & Barry Lake



Come ski with PVS at Sun Valley, Idaho

Blue Ridge Ski Council (BRSC) Western Carnival

February 2 - 9, 2019



Sun Valley Lodge Apartments

Two Bed/Two Bath, One King/Two Twins \$1,290 per person

Sun Valley Lodge Rooms

Two Queen Beds \$1,530 per person

Sun Valley Inn Rooms

Two Queen Beds \$1,325 per person

Sun Valley Inn Rooms

One King Bed \$1,325 per person

**Available
Lodging**

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

FINAL PRICE pending cost of air, -determined soon.

- Roundtrip air from Washington to Boise
- Roundtrip transfer Boise to Sun Valley
- Seven nights lodging as presented
- Baggage Handling
- BRSC Welcome Reception
- BRSC Après Ski Western Barbecue
- PVS Dinner
- BRSC Final Farewell Dinner and Dance
- BRSC NASTAR Race
- Mountain Tours
- Five of six day Sun Valley lift tickets

Guests have access to all Resort amenities including outdoor pools and the new Sun Valley Resort SPA.

All properties are a shuttle ride to the slopes.

WiFi is available throughout the Resort.

Seniors 65+: Deduct \$5.00 from package price for package with a 5-day lift pass.

Add \$30.00 to package price for a 6-day pass.

TRIP DEPOSITS:

\$300.00 deposit per person due April 30, 2018

\$500.00 per person due August 31, 2018

\$500.00 per person due June 15, 2018

Final payment due October 31, 2018

Deposits and final payments should be made to Inge Lesjak and mailed to:

Inge Lesjak

8123 Kingsview Ct.,

Springfield, VA 22152

(Direct bank deposits available upon request.)

Members' Corner



J. David Warthen, Jr.
dwarthen@verizon.net

Applicant Member:

At the April 17 Annual Meeting, the PVS Membership will be considering the following Applicant Member for Full Active Membership. Her profile is listed for your information in voting.

Terry Michel (Sponsor-Rosemary Schwartzbard)

Growing up in the heat and humidity of pancake flat Houston, snow and skiing were completely alien to me as a youngster. I first strapped on skis at the age of 28 in Les Arc, France - learning under the so-called ski-evolutif (short ski) method, which was all the rage at the time. (Do they still teach beginners with that method anywhere?) It's an understatement to say I was a slow learner, but I did eventually graduate to full length skis.

Until 2014, when I tore my ACL in a ridiculously inane accident at Ski Santa Fe, I skied annually, with Alta and Steamboat Springs being my two most frequent destinations. Since the accident, my skiing has been limited, not so much due to the ACL tear, but due to a plague of other injuries brought on by my other sporting endeavor of marathon running. In fact, I met Rosemary Schwartzbard, my PVS sponsor, at the swimming pool while recuperating from a marathon-induced stress fracture.

I have been living vicariously through Rosemary's PVS trips for the past few years and look forward to getting back on skis and enjoying a PVS trip firsthand in 2019.

Injured Reserve – Kay Christensen, Denver, CO

Thank you, Inge, & all of the PVS members!

You were so sweet to send me a beautiful bouquet of pink, red & yellow tulips that are delightful to look at!

I guess Rosemary told you about my really stupid skiing accident. (The emergency room guys said they all were stupid!).

We were skiing at Beaver Creek and because the snow wasn't very good, just taking it easy down blue groomers. We were well off the lift when I skied over to my friend to ask about upcoming plans. Somehow our skis became entangled and she kept going straight while I got pivoted around so that

I was literally skiing backwards. My legs were in a V and I couldn't stop them from spreading further & further apart. The pressure on my right knee was horrific & it finally popped. Then I fell to the ground. I thought my leg was broken, but instead I tore two ligaments, the ACL & the MCL. Because the ligaments are not displaced, the doctor thinks they could reattach to the bone after blood and new cells grow in the injured area. So I need to keep my knee straight and am in a straight-leg brace from thigh to ankle for 6 weeks. I need to keep it on 24/7 but can remove it to shower, keeping my leg straight. I also can release the brace 30 degrees which allows me to drive

It is literally a pain in the butt! My derriere gets sore from sitting so much. Obviously, my activities are very limited at this point, but I can go play bridge. This inconvenience will be worth it if I can avoid surgery.

I certainly didn't intend to be added to the PVS injured skier-roster! We had quite a few injuries on our ladies' ski bus this season, with two ladies colliding last week. One was okay; the other had to have hip replacement surgery.

Thank you so much for thinking of me. Please give my thanks & good wishes to all PVS members.

March has come and gone with unbelievable winds and even a late snow storm to boot. Can April be far away with varying predictions of when the Tidal Basin cherry trees will bloom. It must be very hard for tourists to plan a visit to DC around these blooms.

April also signals our Annual Meeting – always a nice get together of PVS members. A hardy thank you again goes to Reg & Susan for hosting this annual event.

TOOT Distribution to 148 Members:

-pdf: 131; USPS: 2

Thanks to:

-TOOT Coordinator - E. Thayer

-TOOT USPS – J. Read, & L. Triau

- TOOT Layout Editor & Electronic TOOT,
- J. D. Warthen

Roster Changes: (contact dwarthen@verizon.net)

-Ellie Thayer <ellie.thayr@yahoo.com> (**new e-mail**)

-Nick Arnold <lejeunenay1@gmail.com> & Slaveika Diakova <Slaveika!@yahoo.com> (**new members**)

March 25, 2018 Monthly Meeting at the Home of Shirley Rettig



Shirley's historic house on Princess Street in Old Town Alexandria is a delight and beautifully decorated. It is full of treasures from her travels, her family, and her creations from her hobby as a potter. We were invited to explore the charming bedrooms upstairs.

Shirley welcomed 23 PVSers, plus Bing's wife, Betty, as a guest. We all were pleased that Sarah and Charles Huggins were able to join us, as well as the seldom-seen Polli and John Brunelli. We munched on tasty snacks and beverages as we visited with our friends.



Our esteemed president was out of town, so VP Jan Marx conducted the short meeting.



Nancy McKinley presented upcoming events and meetings and reminded us about Marianne Cook's memorial service on April 14, the Eclipse concert on the 15th and our annual meeting on the 17th. Whew. Rosemary Schwartzbard updated us on next year's ski trips. John Smith reported that the local ski group had 10 days of skiing, which translates to at least 10 weeks of good local skiing this season. He proposed one last day on Monday or Tuesday.



Following the meeting, cookies, brownies, and a nice lemon cake were available for our sweet teeth to savor.

A **Grand Thank You**, Shirley, for the lovely afternoon.



More pictures at Shirley's historic Old Town Alexandria home:



April 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

PVS Calendar 2018:

- April 14 Sat Memorial Service for Marianne Arden Cook, 2-4:00 PM, Chevy Chase, MD, see 3/11 e-mail PVS Reminder, contact M. Wyckoff <mswyckoff@comcast.net>
- April 15 Sun Eclipse Concert, 3:00 PM, McKinley, Alexandria, VA, p 4
- April 17 Tue Annual Meeting, 7:30 PM, Reg Heitchue/Susan Sinclair, Reston, VA, p 2
- April 27 Fri Spargelfest Lunch 12:00 PM, McKinley, Old Europe Restaurant, Washington DC, p 5
- May 04 Fri The Washington DC Spring Ski Show, 6:30-9:30 PM, Marriott Tysons Corner, VA, p 6
- May 09 Wed Springtime Walk - Lake Accotink, 10:00 AM, Lesjak, Springfield, VA, p 5

PVS Ski Trips 2019:



- January 9-16, 2019, **Aspen/Snowmass, CO**
(Kathy & Barry Lake)
p 7
- February 2-9, 2019, **Sun Valley, ID**, Blue Ridge Ski Council
(BRSC) Western Carnival (**Inge Lesjak**)
p 8



Useful Ski "Links"

[Potomac Valley Skiers](#)
[BRSC Sanctioned Trips](#)
[DC Ski Online News](#)
[Best of Times Ski Club](#)

ExCom

<u>Officers:</u>	<u>Chairpersons:</u>
President – <i>Bob Jablon</i> V. President – <i>Janet Marx</i> Secretary – <i>Ellie Thayer</i> Treasurer – <i>Dick Schwartzbard</i> Ex Officio - <i>Carolyn DeVilbiss</i>	Ski Trip Committee – <i>Rosemary Schwartzbard</i> Events – <i>Ray and Nancy McKinley</i> Membership Records – <i>Dave Warthen</i> Membership PR Reps – <i>Inge Lesjak & Marianne Sophonis</i>
<u>Board Members:</u>	TOOT Coordinator – <i>Ellie Thayer</i>
<u>First Term:</u>	TOOT Layout Editors – <i>Jan Marx, Kerry Hines & Dave Warthen</i>
<i>Inge Lesjak</i>	TOOT (E-Distribution) – <i>Dave Warthen</i>
<i>Nancy McKinley</i>	TOOT (USPS Distribution) – <i>Barb Leonhardt, June Read, Liz Triau</i>
<i>Tom Tycz</i>	Webmaster – <i>Mary Ellena Ward</i>
<u>Second Term:</u>	Meeting Records – <i>Sue Lyon</i>
<i>Barry Lake</i>	Historian – <i>Jan Marx</i>
<i>John H. Smith</i>	
<i>Ellie Thayer</i>	

Reminder: It is club policy that contact information in the club's roster not be used for promoting personal business, for advertising, or for personal financial gain without the advance permission of the individual member to be contacted. Membership contact information shall not be distributed outside PVS.