

Volume 47  
Number 2

*Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.*

February 2012

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

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

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

### **President's Message:**

Over the past year, we have had many lively and well-attended monthly meetings. Many thanks to all those members who hosted these meetings – the club very much appreciates all your efforts in opening your homes to PVS and your work in preparing for the meetings.

To maintain the vitality and viability of the club, we need more members who are willing to host monthly meetings, and to chair club activities. With regard to meetings, I know that some members believe that their homes may be too small to host a PVS group. Other members may be concerned about the preparation work involved in hosting a meeting, or about the cost of a meeting. I hope that I can assuage your concerns on these issues, and encourage you to host a monthly meeting.

On average, monthly meetings are attended by 25-35 people. Even if your home is small, you probably have adequate space for this size group. PVS members are happy to be in a cozy space, and will be most appreciative of your efforts in hosting the group.

To be sure, some preparation is involved in having a PVS monthly meeting. However, there is no requirement that you go to any great lengths cooking and baking – you can purchase appetizers (such as cheese and crackers, dips, salami, and prepared appetizers) and desserts. One possibility to reduce the amount of work is to share hosting a meeting with one or more other PVS members, and divide up the responsibility for providing the food and beverages. We could also have more “pot luck” type events, where members bring an appetizer or dessert. I welcome any suggestions that you may have for encouraging more members to host monthly meetings.

Finally, ExCom does not want any members who are kind enough to host a meeting to incur any cost for this activity. For each regular monthly meeting, every member makes a three dollar contribution at the door to defray the cost of the meeting. The host/hostess receives these contributions

--continued on pg 2

## **----PVS Monthly Meeting----**

**Sunday 19 February 2:00 PM**



At the home of Jannes Gibson  
9412 Garden Court  
Potomac, Maryland 20854-3964  
301-299-1157  
[ttaylor\\_g@hotmail.com](mailto:ttaylor_g@hotmail.com)

**From Washington, DC:** Take River Road (MD-190) to Falls Road in Potomac. Turn left onto Falls Road (MD-189), proceed  $\frac{3}{4}$  of mile, and turn left onto Garden Way. Take the 2<sup>nd</sup> left onto Garden Court; house is the 4<sup>th</sup> on the left

**From Gaithersburg:** Take I-270 toward Washington and merge onto Falls Road (MD-189 S) via exit 5. Stay on Falls Road for about 5.6 miles. (You will go past River Road at Potomac Village.) Turn left onto Garden Way. Take the 2<sup>nd</sup> left onto Garden Court; house is the 4<sup>th</sup> on the left.

**From Virginia:** After crossing the American Legion Bridge into MD on the beltway, take exit 41 towards Carderock. Stay to the left and merge onto the Clara Barton Parkway. After 1.7 miles, turn left on MacArthur Blvd. After 2.2 miles, turn right on Falls Road (MD-189). Proceed 1.3 miles and turn right onto Garden Way. Take the 2<sup>nd</sup> left onto Garden Court; house is 4<sup>th</sup> on the left.

at the end of the meeting. To the extent the cost of the meeting exceeds the amount collected, the host/hostess should submit a request for reimbursement to our treasurer. The club's policy is to allow reimbursement of up to \$150 over the member contributions collected at the door. ExCom strongly encourages the host/hostess to seek reimbursement in accordance with this policy. I reiterate that the club does not expect members who host monthly meetings to absorb part of the cost of the meeting.

In the spirit of encouraging more members to host monthly meetings, I offer my apple cake recipe, which I have made at a number of PVS meetings held at my home. I am not, of course, suggesting that you have to bake, but if you are so inclined, here is my recipe.

### Apple Cake

6 large apples  
 5 Tablespoons + 2 cups sugar (you can cut back to 1 ½ or 1 ¾ cups sugar)  
 5 teaspoons cinnamon  
 3 cups flour  
 3 teaspoons baking powder  
 1 teaspoon salt (I tend to use only ½ teaspoon)  
 1 cup oil (e.g. Canola)  
 4 eggs  
 ¼ cup orange juice  
 1 Tablespoon vanilla  
 Tube pan



1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
2. Peel, core, and slice apples and toss with 5 tablespoons of sugar and 5 teaspoons of cinnamon.
3. Sift 3 cups flour, 3 teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon salt, 2 cups sugar and mix together. Make a well in the center of the mixture.
4. Pour 1 cup of oil, 4 eggs, ¼ cup orange juice, and 1 tablespoon vanilla into the well. Beat the mixture with a wooden spoon until blended.
5. Grease a tube pan. Spoon one third of the batter into the pan.
6. Make a ring of half of the apples on top of the batter.
7. Spoon the second third of the batter on top of the apples.
8. Place the remaining apples on top of the batter, and cover with the remaining batter. Make sure that the apples do not touch the pan.
9. Bake the cake at 375 degrees for 1 to 1 ¼ hours, until a toothpick inserted into the cake comes out clean.
10. When the cake is cool, carefully run a knife around the outer and inner rims to loosen the cake and carefully remove the cake from the pan.

On the appetizer side (just for balance), here is a recipe for sweet and sour cocktail meatballs:

### Sweet and Sour Cocktail Meatballs

5 pounds ground beef  
 2 to 2 ½ cups bread crumbs  
 1 2/3 cups minced onions  
 1 ¼ cups milk  
 5 eggs  
 5 Tablespoons minced fresh parsley  
 1 Tablespoon salt  
 5/8 teaspoon pepper  
 2 ½ teaspoons Worcestershire sauce  
 Oil  
 4 bottles (12 oz.) Heinz chili sauce  
 4 jars (10 oz.) grape jelly



1. Mix the ground beef, breadcrumbs, onion, milk, eggs, parsley, salt, pepper, and Worcestershire sauce. Make small balls.
2. Brown the meatballs in a small amount of oil. Remove the meatballs from the skillet and place in a large pot.
3. Heat the chili sauce and jelly, stirring constantly until the jelly is melted. Add the chili sauce/jelly mixture to the meatballs. Simmer the meatballs uncovered for about 30 minutes.

This is an old recipe that originally came from the Betty Crocker cookbook – I have scaled up the original recipe. I am not suggesting that you make this for a PVS party, unless you love making meatballs (I understand that Costco has very good meatballs).

**Cara Jablon**



**Coming Events:**

**LOGs LOGs LOGs**

What does LOG stand for? Lots of goodies? Love our grandchildren? Live on gracefully? Let's ogle girls? Lucky old geezer? No, no. It is LUNCH OUT GROUP. PVS is reviving and reinventing the old DOGs - Dining Out Group - and transforming it into a new PVS event. John Smith is spearheading the new venture. He plans to arrange a casual lunch once a month (as soon as the skiing season ends), some in Maryland, some in Virginia, and some in Washington. John only needs to know how many people may be coming, so call him at least two days ahead so he will know how many people to expect. Below is information about the inaugural event.



**PVS LUNCH OUT GROUP (LOGs)**



**DATE: Wednesday, March 13, 2012**

**TIME: 1:00 PM**

**LOCATION: Umberto's Italian Restaurant, Cabin John Shopping Center, Potomac, MD**

**INQUIRIES: John Smith at 301-299-8376 or [johnsmith@juno.com](mailto:johnsmith@juno.com) for info.**

**(Directions to Umberto's will be in the March TOOT.)**

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**THE TEXTILE MUSEUM**

**2320 S ST, NW, Washington, DC  
Sunday, April 29, 2012 at 1:00 PM**



Jannes Gibson is a former staff member and a current Advisory Council member of the Textile Museum, [www.textilemuseum.org](http://www.textilemuseum.org). The Textile Museum has a large permanent collection of handmade textiles from all over the world plus special exhibitions. Jannes will give a tour of the Museum and exhibitions that will be on view on April 29, 2012. The major exhibit is: "Sourcing the Museum," curated by Jack Lenor Larson. Other exhibitions are: "Woven Treasures of Japan's Tawaraya Workshop" (these are Court textiles) and "Dragons, Nawas, and Creatures of the Deep." To sign up, inform Jannes at the February meeting at her house, contact her at 301-299-1157 or at [ttaylor\\_g@hotmail.com](mailto:ttaylor_g@hotmail.com). More information and directions will be announced in future TOOTs.

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**F. SCOTT FITZGERALD THEATRE**

**Rockville Civic Center Park**



At the January meeting at the Van Nuys' home, John Smith turned the group's attention to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at the Rockville Civic Center Park where wonderful low-key musicals, band performances, live folk music, choral arts concerts, and the like are held in an intimate 446-seat theatre. He suggested that anyone interested in attending a performance contact him at 301-299-8376 as late as two or three days before a performance. The web site is [www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre). Information about specific performances (see below) will be announced in the TOOT or disseminated by the PVS Electronic Distribution Editor.

**FIRST EVENT - ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND - PRESENTING "ROCKVILLE SWINGS!"**

***Sunday, February 12, 2012 at 3:00 PM***

Except for the Andorra travelers who will be attending the pre-trip party at the Jablons' home, all PVSers are welcome to join John Smith at this free concert at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville, MD on February 12. Tickets are not required. Directions from the beltway: Take Route 355N to Route 28E. Turn right at Route 28E and cross over Viers Mill Road. At the next traffic light, turn right onto Baltimore Road and proceed to a stop sign at the intersection of Baltimore Road and Edmonston Drive. Turn left and then make an immediate right into the Rockville Civic Center Park. John will see you there!

## ***Ski Trips 2012:***

*March 1-12 or 16, 2012, join Nancy and Ray McKinley to See and Ski in Andorra!*

# See and Ski Andorra 2012



*Andorra has sufficient skiing for everyone*

## **The Trip is Full**

## **Don't Forget the Pre-Trip Party**

## **Sunday Feb. 12, 2:00 PM at Jablons'**

*Potomac Valley Skiers is joining BRSC for a true gem of a ski trip—to one of the smallest and most mountainous countries in the world—Andorra, a skier's and tourist's paradise. And we'll visit spectacular Barcelona. There are optional trips: to Madrid and the Prado Museum, the medieval, walled city of Carcassonne, France with its winding cobbled streets, and turrets—a World Heritage Site. We'll have the opportunity to visit the fortress city, Toledo with its Christian, Jewish and Islamic heritage, and Segovia and Avila to see the 2,000 year old Roman aqueduct, the fairyland castle of Alcazar and more.*



*Upper Lift Restaurant*

*Our 10-day 9-night Trip Includes: 3 nights in historic, vibrant Barcelona; 7 nights at the 5-star Crown Plaza Hotel in Andorra's capital, with 2 people per junior suite—and including breakfast and a daily 5-course themed buffet dinner! We include your Emergency Medical and repatriation insurance, a pre-trip party, a welcome party, a mid-week Apres Ski party, and a post-trip party. And a 4-night add to Madrid including 3 superb tours.*



*Crown Plaza Lobby*

***GREAT PRICES-\$2,560; LAND ONLY-\$1,755; SPAIN Add-\$800***

*Information at (703) 527-7126 or at raymckin@gmail.com.*

**BOOK RECOMMENDATION:** “Labyrinth,” by Kate Mosse. A thriller set in the Pyrenees near Carcassonne, taking place in medieval and contemporary France. The lives of two women born centuries apart are linked by a common destiny -- to keep safe the secret of the Labyrinth and protect the true Grail. [www.katemosse.com/content/index.asp](http://www.katemosse.com/content/index.asp)



## ***ATTENTION SNOWMASS 2012 SKIERS***

Please send info on any, or all, of the following 3 suggested topics by Feb. 3 to Kathy Felmey's email address: [k1felmey@comcast.net](mailto:k1felmey@comcast.net). (Please note that after “k” is the #1):

- \* Your best ski adventure;
- \* Your favorite “après-ski” experience;
- \* “Tall Tales” – anecdotes about you and/or any fellow skier!

Remember that the deadline for input is **3 Feb.**

## SKI TALK, FEBRUARY 2012

We just got back from another great trip at Snowmass. It snowed several times during the week and we even had two powder days! While on this trip, I noted several things that would make our skiing easier and safer. We are a group of varied skill level skiers and we need to be conscious of safety when skiing with others. When skiing with a group, stop at a safe distance from the others. The best protocol is to **stop below the group** not above. It is easy to miscalculate your stopping skills and how much distance you need. You want to avoid any possibility of skiing into somebody. Also, since we almost all carry cell phones, please be sure the **ski patrol number is in your phone**. You can find this number on the trail map. If there is a mishap on the slopes in your group, or if you come across an accident, it is easy to pull out your phone and make a call. I have used this several times. Another tip is to **carry an ID and your medical cards**. It will expedite paperwork if you are taken down the mountain. Always be careful, ski in control and think about safety.



### **SKI TRIP COMMITTEE:**

Our Ski Trip Committee (STC) is busy planning for the **2013** ski season. Members of the STC are: Rosemary Schwartzbard, Chair; Polli Brunelli, David Lerner, Liz Warren-Boulton, and Eloise Strand. We look forward to hearing from you with ideas, questions or proposals for the 2013 ski season.

**BRSC Western Carnival** will be held at Big Sky February 2-9, 2013. We are actively looking into this and talking to potential trip leaders.

**BRSC Eurofest** will be held at Trois Vallees, France, March 2-10, 2013. So far, no potential leader.

We are sorry to say that **Carolyn DeVilbiss** is retiring from leading the Snowmass trip after a very successful six-year run. We want to thank Carolyn for keeping this trip going and all the hard work she put into it. We also want to thank Sharon Mulholland who has been the co-coordinator for Snowmass; she wants to take some time off after a two-year run. Anyone interested in leading a trip to Snowmass, please let me know.



We are looking for other proposals. The timeline is as follows: preliminary proposals are due by early March; more detailed proposals are due by late April to be presented to ExCom at the May meeting. The approved trips will be published in the June TOOT. Please send questions, ideas and/or proposals to me at [rosemarysch@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarysch@gmail.com).

### **LOCAL SKIING:**

Despite the poor snow conditions locally, John Smith and Charlie Huggins have led a few successful trips to Ski Liberty. Our local Ski Coordinator is John Smith [johnsmith@juno.com](mailto:johnsmith@juno.com). Phone: [301-299-8376](tel:301-299-8376). John says the best days for him are Wednesday and Friday. He usually decides on Sunday for the following week. Once a decision is made, David Warthen sends out an email to the group. However, please feel free to contact John. If you are not already on the list, please let me know.



Four PVSers, John Smith, Charles Huggins, Shirley Rettig, and Jean van der Tak, plus one guest, Ruth Healey, managed three days of skiing at Liberty Mountain, and one day at Whitetail. It is hard to believe two of the four days were spring skiing in January. It was not until Saturday, January 21, that Liberty Mountain managed to get all the trails open.

Marty Rine and Jan Marx met John Lyon at Massanutten 2 different days and enjoyed pretty good snow. With very few people, the soft snow stayed nice.

We would like to have a mid-week trip to WISP in February if the snow cooperates. Please contact me if you are willing to coordinate this.

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

# Members' Corner

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



## Barcelona Trip – Ellie Thayer & Jack Chapman

For those of you going to Andorra with a side trip to Barcelona, let me introduce you to Barcelona, a wonderful city, ahead of time and encourage you to take in the sights. Jack and I recently returned from six days there with a side trip to Montserrat. Ray and Nancy encouraged me to share some of my personal highlights and lowlights with PVS in view of the Andorra group traveling there in early March.

Barcelona is a Gaudi town. It seems like Antonin Gaudi is responsible for a lot of the prominent Art



*Gaudi Rooftops*



woodworking and wrought iron, parabolic arches, stained glass, and the wonderful, fantastical rooftop. It



*Sagrada Familia*

Nouveau architecture, which dominates the city. Fortunately, it is delightful. We toured the Parc Guell, Casa Mila, Casa Batilo, and Palau Guell, all

designed by Gaudi. My favorite was the Palau Guell (Guell was Gaudi's wealthy patron), one of Gaudi's first works. Accompanied by the audio guide, we saw exquisite

It is a must-see and within walking distance of our (and your) hotel. The Hotel NH Duc de la Victoria is only a few blocks from La Rambla, albeit on a nice quiet street.

The dominant site in Barcelona is the famous Sagrada Familia Church, begun by Gaudi over a hundred years ago and

scheduled for completion in 2026. Everyone will have an

opinion; that is certain. I was speechless when viewing the front Nativity façade. The interior is breathtaking in parts. Other parts left the feeling that I was at an outdoor Parisian café at night. I did not expect to like the Passion façade on the backside of the church. It was designed by a modern sculptor, Subirachs, with strong, angular features. However, I liked it very much. There is an outdoor Subirachs sculpture of St. George at Montserrat that I liked very much also.

We traveled by bus to Montserrat on October 12, Columbus Day – a Spanish national holiday. Unfortunately, everyone else traveled there that day also. After being stuck in a massive traffic jam due to the lack of parking spaces, we de-bused and walked more than a mile to the summit. It was a lovely day and there were great vistas, but, in my view, not enough there to compensate for the bus ride. The standing-room only boys' choir program in the Basilica was only 10 minutes long and the crowd was claustrophobia-inducing. If I had it to do over, I would not wrangle my way toward the front of the Basilica in advance, but instead would walk in the back as the singing began. The loudspeaker system projects the singing evenly in any event. On the plus side, Montserrat has a lovely art museum with a number of works by famous artists. I discovered an artist that I had never heard of, but loved – Ramon Casas.

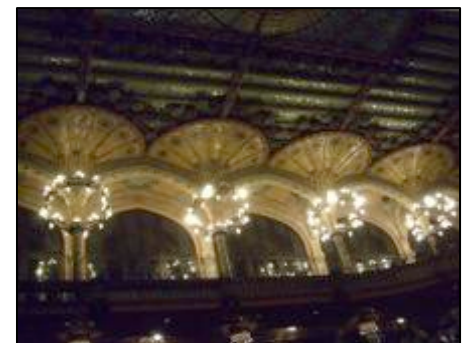
One special event in Barcelona was attending a Spanish Guitar concert. The concert was in an Art Nouveau, Unesco World Heritage building, Palau Musica Catalana. The ambience was magical and the concert perfect in theme, length, setting, and virtuosity. We bought our tickets online at home pre-trip, but others in our group bought them in Barcelona with the help of the hotel. [www.palaumusica.org](http://www.palaumusica.org) The concert palace is within walking distance of the hotel.



*Palau Musica Catalana*

Also within walking distance of the hotel and on the way to the Palau Musica, is a

great little tapas bar recommended by the hotel. It is located at a corner of Cathedral Square and has the name "Bilbao" in it (that is the best I



can do). We chose our skewered tapas from a long, two-tiered counter and went back for more. To calculate the bill, our waiter counted the skewers and added it all up.

The food was hit or miss. Fortunately, we had some good hits. The universally good Rioja wine was a sure



*St. George at Montserrat*

hit. Jack liked the local beer, Estrella. Our art and architecture group (we were 24) had two group dinners in Barcelona, both were good. The Attic Restaurant had a small unassuming front. The front was deceiving as the restaurant covered a couple of upstairs levels. Our group ate in a large formal room.

I had veal that was essentially osso buco.

Good. Not everyone liked their fish. We returned to the restaurant another evening and ate on the rooftop terrace overlooking La Rambla. It was a perfect evening. Jack adventurously ordered octopus, which he did not care for. My lamb was good as were our salads. My friend, Nancy, loved the apple cake. It did not seem like reservations were needed for early diners. Restaurant Attic, 120 La Rambla.



*El Gran Cafe*

The other group dinner was at an old wood-paneled, low-ceilinged, charming restaurant, El Gran Café, at 9 Carrer d'Avinyo, also within walking distance from the hotel. We had

innumerable

appetizers such as tomato salad with tuna, Serrano ham, chicken croquettes, and prawns and squid in garlic sauce. My roast shoulder of lamb was hearty and good.

On the walk home at midnight, someone saw a pickpocket target the wallet of a fellow in our group. The attempt was thwarted. There were two other successful purse snatchings (nothing subtle like a pickpocket) observed by people in our group, including a police chase observed by me in the street in front of our hotel. I wear a money belt.

Three other museums are worth mentioning. The Museum of National Art of Catalan is renowned for its

Romanesque frescoes. Not always my favorite type of art, but these were intriguing. Also intriguing was the exhibit that showed how they were taken from church walls and transferred to the same-sized alcoves in the museum. The Picasso Museum held a collection from his early period. Who knew that Picasso dabbled in poster art and produced a few that looked like the art of his friend, Toulouse Lautrec? Thirdly, Jack stumbled across a Salvador Dali Museum. It is called the Real Cercle Artistic and is not in the guide books. I do not think I exaggerate when I say there are a thousand first-run signed reproductions (posters) and many sculptures in that endless museum. We enjoyed it especially because we were not visiting the "real" Dali Museum outside Barcelona.

Another Gaudi highlight is Parc Guell, a multi-acred, rambling extravaganza. It is not within walking distance of the hotel, but is well worth a visit. Gaudi's famous lizard fountain is in Parc Guell. Casa Batilo and Casa Mila, both designed by Gaudi, are within walking distance.

Enjoy Barcelona!

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**An INDEX of various TOOT LINKS is present on the NEWSPAPER page of our PVS WEBSITE <[pvsickers.org/](http://pvsickers.org/)>, courtesy of our Webmaster, David Lerner. Individual Profiles, PVS Anniversaries, Other Special Items, and Obituaries from '65 – Present are accessible; along with Ski Trip Write Ups from 2000 – Present; and Event Write Ups from 2010 – Present. All PVS TOOTs continue to be available for viewing from '65 – Present.**

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**TOOT Distribution to 141 Members:**

-pdf: 109; Text (Att.): 2; USPS: 8

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**Thanks to:**

-TOOT Content/Proof Editor – E. Thayer

-TOOT USPS – B. Leonhardt

--D. Warthen – Layout Editor & Electronic TOOT

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***Happy Valentine's Day***

**Past Events:**

**Report of BRSC 2011 Fall Meeting, 2 October**



The Blue Ridge Ski Council is an association of 26 ski clubs from Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The organization provides on-line advertising for the member ski clubs and it provides advertising of individual club ski trips. The sanctioned trip page, at <http://www.skicouncil.com/tripsbydate.htm>, provides a list of trips that PVS members can join at the same price as members of the sponsoring club. BRSC also organizes a domestic and a European ski trip each year with participation of many of the member clubs. The upcoming PVS trip to the Andorra is part of the 2012 BRSC Eurofest.

Council business and trip planning are conducted at Spring and Fall meetings that are attended by many of the member clubs. The Fall 2011 meeting was held on October 2 in Tysons Corner, VA. PVS was represented by Cara **Jablon**, Dave **Lerner**, and Rosemary **Schwartzbard**. The draft minutes of the meeting can be read on line at: [http://www.skicouncil.com/minutes\\_fall-11b.htm](http://www.skicouncil.com/minutes_fall-11b.htm).

The selection of destinations for upcoming trips is the most important part of the meeting for most PVS members. Our 2012 trip to Andorra is part of the BRSC Eurofest. The 2013 Winter Carnival will be at Big Sky, while the Eurofest will be at Les Trois Vallées. Competing bids from several vendors were considered for each trip. Group Trips Unlimited was the winning bidder for both trips. There was a vote on a destination for the 2014 Eurofest. That trip will be to Chamonix, France.

An announcement was made that the PRW travel show will be at the Marriott Tyson Corner on May 4, 2012. This is a great show for anyone who is considering becoming a trip leader.

**--Dave Lerner**





## January Meeting at the Van Nuys'

Sunday afternoon, sun out, delightful temperature and no wind chill. What a great time to have a meeting on the 15th!

Betty and Bing welcomed us with an invitation to beverages in the kitchen and snacks in the dining room. The table held a variety of dips and dippers, veggies, cheese and a special delight,

### Cheese Cookies (Betty Van Nuys)

2 sticks of margarine  
2 cups sharp or extra sharp grated cheese  
2 cups flour  
1/4 t. red pepper  
  
2 cups Rice Krispies

Have the ingredients at room temperature and mix the first 4 ingredients well. Add 2 cups rice Krispies and mix. Roll out a small amount in palm of hand and either flatten or make a 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch ball. Bake at 350 degrees for 12 - 15 minutes or until lightly browned. Do not over bake.



The "Seldom Scene" were Bill Anderson, Sheldon Drews, and Bob Knopes. Also, Kerry and Marianne Hines ventured in from Delaplane. *Good to see ya!*

Cara called the meeting. In Rosemary's absence, Dave Lerner reported on trips. He started with the hot-off-the-press snow report for the Snowmass trip leaving on Wednesday. There is hope for snow. (As a postscript, Dave was correct and the Snowmassers enjoyed a wonderful, snowy, and powdery week.) Ray went over coming events and the Andorra trip updates.

After the meeting, Betty had two cakes and some cookies ready for us. Yummy, they were. -- I tried both cakes!

Thank you, thank you, Bing and Betty!!

--Jan Marx





# THE KNEE

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

Wow, we had a warm December and an even warmer first half of January. Indeed, here in Crystal City we had cherry trees and dogwoods blooming. We now, finally, have a real honest to goodness winter. And it's too damn cold! I am already ready for spring.

The Republicans claim we are unable to track 11 million illegal aliens as they wander throughout the US. Mike Strand has a solution to this important problem. Considering the Mad Cow disease, he finds it amazing that the US Government can track a single cow born in Canada over three years ago to the stall where she sleeps in Oregon. And we keep track of all of the food the cow ate. We can also track her calves to their stalls and tell what they ate. Mike's solution: As soon as they enter the US, give each illegal alien a cow! And that's not bull.

Ah, the wonders of computers to track everything. Louann Eadie installed a Ski-Tracker app on her iPhone. In one day at Snowmass, she skied over 18.9 miles and hit a maximum speed of 39 mph. The Knee certainly wouldn't want to run into anyone doing 39 mph!

There was an ExCom meeting by telephone whilst the Snowmass trip was on. Pres. Cara Jablon was doing some heavy skiing and didn't have time to get out an agenda. Since many at Snowmass had to catch a bus to dinner, it was the shortest ExCom on record at a mere 17 minutes. However, the Knee believes that it also had some of our best wine ever!

At a recent event, Betty Lawrence was complaining about bad sushi. John Brunelli told her that the secret to getting good sushi is to order it well done. Sounds fishy.

TOOT editor, Jan Marx, wonders why in 1986 12 ski shops held ski swaps. Today there are few. Two reasons for this, Jan: either Global Warming or the Democrats. Or there's only one reason if the Democrats are responsible for Global Warming.

There is an old Taoist saying: Wherever you go, there you are. Yes...but your luggage and skis are another story.

Putting out the TOOT is a huge, mostly thankless, job for our editors, Jan Marx, Dave Warthen and Marvin Hass and coordinator, Ellie Thayer. Last month it was particularly difficult for Jan. She did it on two different computers, one a Mac and the other a PC. Notwithstanding, the Jan. TOOT looked simply wonderful, Jan.

It was a pleasure to see Bill Anderson at the January meeting at Bing Van Nuys. When asked if he was keeping busy, Bill stated that if it weren't for doctors appointments, he would have no social life whatsoever. Bill also had been in contact with two other senior PVSers. Charlie Gordon is now 91, and Gorman Young, is now the oldest PVSer, as in October he turned 99! Perhaps he should be Gorman Old.

Two PVSers are planning to leave the DC area. Ruth Powers has most of her family in the Richmond area and is planning to move there to be closer to them. And the PVS Webmaster (now that's a word that didn't exist when we were growing up), Dave Lerner, is planning to move to Park City. The Knee is certain it's because Dave, who skis four to six weeks a year, loves the Sundance Film Festival. All PVSers hope that Dave gets a large house! Both Ruth and Dave have been active in PVS and have served in several positions. Their presence will be missed.

Earliest PVS skier, Part 2: Dave Lerner skied "The Canyons" in Utah December 10. Although the paucity of snow resulted in it being called "The Canyon." Dave also suggested that the suitcase the Knee tripped over breaking his patella was likely placed by Tonya Harding.

Only one PVSer attended the Capitol Golden Skiers lunch in Rockville. Melissa FitzGerald had a great time and met some of the CGSers going to Andorra. Melissa is warming up for Andorra by skiing at Crystal Mountain, Washington with family in February. Right on!

Our February hostess, Jan Gibson, came by her love of skiing early on. Jan grew up in Aspen, Colorado. It snow joke.

On returning from Sydney, Joe Jevcak took twenty-three hours to go from NY's Kennedy Airport to Ronald Reagan. That's longer than it took him to go from Sydney to LA to JFK. Next time, Joe won't book the last leg of his trip on a turtle!

As we age, our foibles simply provide additional Knee fodder. And being non-sexist, also more Knee modder! You kneed to think about that. Maybe not.

## 2012 Calendar



Feb 12	SUN	Andorra Pre-Trip Party; 2:00 PM (Jablon, DC)
Feb 12	SUN	"Rockville Swings" Concert; 3:00 PM (Smith, Rockville, MD)
Feb 19	SUN	Monthly Meeting; 2:00 PM (Gibson, Potomac, MD)
Feb 21	Tue	ExCom Meeting; 7:30 PM (Jablon, DC)
Mar 13	Wed	LOGs, Umberto's Italian Restaurant; 1:00 PM (Smith, Potomac, MD)
Mar 20	Tue	Monthly Meeting; 7:30 PM (Ufholz, Bethesda, MD)
Apr 17	Tue	Annual Meeting; 7:30 PM (Heitchue, Reston, VA)
Apr 22	SUN	Andorra Post-Trip Party; 2:00 PM (Hines, Delaplane, VA)
Apr 29	SUN	The Textile Museum; 1:00 PM (Gibson, DC)



### Ski Trips

March 1-12 or 16, 2012 Andorra (Ray & Nancy McKinley)

### Useful Ski "Links"

Potomac Valley Skiers	<a href="http://potomacvalleyski.org">potomacvalleyski.org</a>
Capital Golden Skiers	<a href="http://capitalgoldenskiers.com">capitalgoldenskiers.com</a>
BRSC Sanctioned Trips	<a href="http://skicouncil.com/tripsbydate.htm">skicouncil.com/tripsbydate.htm</a>
DC Ski Online News	<a href="http://dcski.com">dcski.com</a>

## PVS Board - 2011-2012

### Officers, Board Members, & Chairpersons

President – <i>Cara Jablon</i>	EXCOM:
Vice President – <i>Jan Marx</i>	First Term:
Secretary – <i>Mary Beale</i>	<i>Melissa FitzGerald</i>
Treasurer – <i>Dick Laeser</i>	<i>Reg Heitchue</i>
Ex-Officio – <i>Sharon Mulholland</i>	<i>John Holt</i>
Ski Trip Committee – <i>Rosemary Schwartzbard</i>	Second Term:
Events – <i>Ray McKinley</i>	<i>Mary Beale</i>
Membership Records – <i>Dave Warthen</i>	<i>Dick Laeser</i>
Membership PR Rep – <i>Carolyn DeVilbiss</i>	<i>Dick Schwartzbard</i>
TOOT Layout Editors – <i>Jan Marx, Marvin Hass, &amp; Dave Warthen (+ e-distribution)</i>	Webmaster – <i>Dave Lerner</i>
TOOT Content/Proof Editor – <i>Ellie Thayer</i>	Meeting Records – <i>Sue Lyon</i>
TOOT (USPS) – <i>Barb Leonhardt</i>	Historian – <i>Jan Marx</i>

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### Nominating Committee for PVS Officers (2012 - 2013)

The Nominating Committee is:  
 Nancy **McKinley** (Chair)  
 John **Brunelli**  
 Dick **Laeser**  
 Serge **Triau**  
 Sue **Lyon**  
 Charlotte **Eddy**

The Committee is presently in the process of securing candidates whose names will be placed in nomination for the offices of President, Vice President, and ExCom. The Committee welcomes any information relating to the nominating process from any club member. After the slate of officers is announced, 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, 2012.