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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
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President's Message:



Many thanks go to Jannes Gibson for a lovely tour of the Textile Museum. The PVS members who participated in the tour were treated to a spectacular collection of Japanese woven treasures, as well as a room of textiles with dragon motifs. As those of you who have been to my home are aware, I am a dragon devotee, and have a collection of dragons of all shapes and sizes. Most of my dragons or dragon depictions are of Chinese origin, although I do have dragons from Vietnam and Japan, as well as a few creative "dragons" from Mexico. I thought it would be instructive to explore the history and legend of the dragon, with a focus on Chinese dragons.

The dragon has a strong cultural significance for the Chinese, and has been viewed as the symbol of the Chinese nation. Contrary to European dragons, which are considered malevolent, the Chinese dragon is an auspicious, beneficent creature with a power for good. According to Chinese tradition, dragons represent the universe, life and growth, with particular responsibility for controlling rainfall. The dragon also symbolizes power, strength and good luck. The pearl that is often seen in a dragon statue or depiction is associated with wealth, good luck, and prosperity.

In Chinese legend, the earliest emperors were closely related to the dragon: one such emperor ascended to heaven as a dragon after his death; his brother was born by "telepathy" with a dragon. Because of this legend, Chinese people refer to themselves as the descendants of the dragon. Ancient Chinese villages built temples dedicated to their local "dragon king," and conducted religious rites to ask the dragon for rain or the cessation of a flood. Dragons were also credited in ancient China with the transportation of humans to heaven after death. On the dark side,

the Buddhists introduced the concept that floods, tidal waves and storms were the result of humans upsetting a dragon.

The 5-clawed dragon was the symbol of the Emperor of China; non-imperial dragons had four or three claws. It was a capital crime for anyone other than the emperor to use the motif of the five-clawed gold-colored dragon.

--Cont. on page 2

PVS MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, June 19, 2012, 7:30 PM

at the

Home of Lee and Sal Mahallati

11595 Cedar Chase Road

Herndon, VA 20170

703-444-6697

LeenSal@msn.com

Directions from the beltway:

-Take exit 45 and merge on VA-267 W (tollroad)

-After 1.8 miles, take exit 16 and merge onto VA-7 W (Leesburg Pike)

-After 7.1 miles, turn left onto Reston Avenue

(Alert! - Reston Avenue is PAST Reston Parkway)

-Take the first right on Cedar Chase Rd.

-When you enter the community 11595 is the 6th house on the left. Park only on the left side of the street.

President's Message, cont. from page 1--

. Dragon carvings are found on the steps of imperial palaces and tombs, and the imperial throne was even called the "Dragon Throne."

Chinese dragons are a composite of parts from a number of different animals, and many of these animals are associated with particular attributes. In particular, dragons have the protruding head of a camel (wisdom) (other sources say the head is that of a horse), the horns of a deer (longevity), the eyes of a tiger (power) (I also found sources stating that the eyes came from the devil or the rabbit), the teeth of a horse (diligence), the neck of a snake, the ears of a cow or ox (success in the imperial examination), the paws of a tiger, the claws of an eagle (bravery), the belly of a frog (or a clam), the scales of a carp, the beard of a goat, and the tail of a fish (flexibility). Occasionally, a Chinese dragon will have bat-type wings, although such wings are more typical of European dragons. Some dragons are depicted as breathing fire. Chinese dragons only have a single head; European dragons can have many heads. Chinese dragons are supposed to be deaf, and to "hear" through their horns.

The earliest known dragon statue has been dated back to the Yanshao culture of 6000 years ago. Dragon depictions appeared on bronze or bone utensils from the Shang and Zhou dynasties (3000 years ago). The Chinese written character for the dragon appeared during the Yin and Shang dynasties (16th to 11th centuries BC). Some historians believe that early dragon depictions represented a saltwater crocodile species, which once ranged in China. The origin of the myth about the dragon's ability to control rainfall may have come from the crocodile's ability to sense changes in air pressure, and hence the onset of rain. In the Warring states period (475-221 BC), dragons were painted on silk. Dragons from the Han Dynasty (206BC-220AD) are very similar in feature to contemporary Chinese dragons. For source information on dragons, see

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_dragon;
- http://www.travelchinaguide.com/intro/social_customs/dragons_lion.htm;
- <http://dragonartworks.com/chinese-dragon-history.html>;
- <http://www.echinaromance.com/cncustoms/dragon.htm>;
- http://www.chinaculture.org/gb/en_aboutchina/2003-09?24/content_22934.htm;
- <http://infinitydragons.net/history.html>;
- <http://www.chinavoc.com/dragon/default.asp>;
- <http://www.moonfestival.org/legends/dragon.htm>.

Traditionally, the Chinese dragon represents the concept of yang with male attributes, while the female counterpart (yin) is another mythological creature, the phoenix. Similar to the dragon, the phoenix is a propitious symbol, representing the qualities of virtue, duty, proper behavior, humanity, grace, loyalty, honesty, reliability, and justice. This creature is a composite of many birds; one description is that the phoenix bears "the head of a golden pheasant, the body of a mandarin duck, the tail of a peacock, the legs of a crane, the mouth of a parrot, and the wings of a swallow" (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fenghuang>). Chinese artists have depicted the phoenix as part peacock, part pheasant, and part bird of paradise, with feathers of red, white, yellow, blue and black. (http://www.stiltman.com/html/phoenix_myths.html). The symbol of the phoenix has appeared on Chinese objects for over 7000 years. When paired with the dragon, which represented the Emperor, the phoenix symbolized the Empress; more generally, the pairing of a dragon and a phoenix represents marital harmony.

The dragon is the only mythological animal in the Chinese zodiac. Being born in the year of the dragon is considered lucky, and associated with health, wealth and longevity. Individuals born in the year of the dragon are allegedly softhearted, respected, energetic, and eccentric. To all members of PVS, I wish you the luck of the dragon, and a healthy and happy spring and summer season.



Coming Event

PVS LUNCH OUT GROUP (LOGs)

DATE: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 TIME: 1:00 PM
Location: INDIGO LANDING
At the Washington Sailing Marina
1 Marina Drive
George Washington Parkway - North
Alexandria, VA. 22314



This month we will come to Virginia. Indigo Landing is particularly nice in good weather because we can sit outdoors on the porch under the trees and overlook the water, with just a slight distraction from an occasional airplane making noise.

More information at: <http://www.indigolanding.com/>

PLEASE CALL: John Smith at 301-299-8376 or email johnsmith@juno.com, so we know how many are coming and for more information.

Directions to Indigo Landing:

From the North: Take the George Washington Parkway south past Reagan National Airport. About 2 miles south of the airport, turn left at the sign for Daingerfield Island and the sailing marina. Cross over the northbound lane of the George Washington Parkway (watch very carefully) to the Washington Sailing Marina.

From the South: Take the George Washington Parkway north from Alexandria. About 1.5 miles north of Alexandria, turn right into the Washington Sailing Marina.

Coming Event

BIKE OVER WILSON BRIDGE TO NATIONAL HARBOR

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

9:00 AM From Roosevelt Island

Join us on Friday, June 22, for a bike ride to National Harbor, the new town center on the shore of the Potomac in Prince George's County. We will start at the Roosevelt Island parking lot, take the bike path along the river, ride through Old Town, Alexandria, and ride over the Wilson Bridge to National Harbor. There is a 12-foot wide pedestrian/bike path on the new (north) span of the Wilson Bridge. The path is wider than the typical bike path and there are three rest areas equipped with telescopes where you can stop and enjoy fantastic views of Washington and Alexandria. It is approximately 2.5 miles from the entrance of the path on S. Washington St. in Alexandria to National Harbor. We will stop and look at the views from the bridge. Once at National Harbor we will see the statue "The Awakening" at its new home. We will stop for coffee, cold drinks and snacks.



It is approximately 12.5 miles (about 25 miles round trip) from Roosevelt Island to National Harbor. You may also join the group for a shorter segment of the ride by starting at the Daingerfield Island Sailing Marina, which is just south of National Airport. It is approximately 6 miles from the Marina to National Harbor (12 miles round trip). **We will leave Roosevelt Island promptly at 9am Friday, June 22. Please plan on getting there a few minutes earlier to meet and greet. We will be at the Marina at approximately 9:45.**

Please email me if you plan on participating and tell me where you will meet us. Also leave your cell phone number. On the day of the ride, call my cell if there is a problem.

Rosemary Schwartzbard

rosemaryschw@gmail.com

703-598-6150

Past Event

What a lively meeting we had at the home of June Read's daughter and son-in-law, Joslyn and Michel. It was a modular home!

Yes, the house was brought from PA on 3 large flatbed trucks and assembled. It is spacious and lovely with an added deck, garage, and now 32 solar panels on the garage room to make it all run smoothly!

Our hostesses provided us with quite a variety of yummy snacks including cheeses, dips, meatballs, shrimp and Barb Leonhardt's liver pate.



The house was jumping with greetings among 41 friends. We were especially glad to see some of our seldom-seen members...the Flakes, Mahallatis, and Ruth Powers.

Cara ran a concise meeting of announcements and events; Rosemary talked about next year's trips and commented about the recent Ski and Travel show and spring BRSC meeting. We welcomed a guest, Ruth Healey, and adjourned for dessert and farewells.

MANY thanks go to Joslyn and Michel for opening their home to us.

Past Event

VISIT TO THE TEXTILE MUSEUM

On April 28, nine PVSers met at the Textile Museum for a tour led by our own Jannes Gibson. Jannes has been involved with the museum for many years and currently serves on its Advisory Board.

The tour included fine silks by the Tawaraya Workshop of Kyoto, Japan, which has been producing textile treasures for over 500 years. Another exhibit contained textiles, which depicted Dragons, Nagas, and other legendary creatures. Yet another exhibit featured contemporary artists whose works were inspired by textiles from the museum's collection.

One of the rooms in the museum dealt with the mechanics of looms and the various weaving patterns they can produce. Some asked if a textile, which was produced using a computer, could still be considered art. The consensus was that it indeed would be.

Thanks go to Jannes for arranging and leading our tour.



by David DeVilbiss

In Memoriam

compiled by Jan Marx

Sheldon Drews

October 11, 1930 - May 11, 2012



PVS is really going to miss long-time member, Sheldon Drews, who died peacefully in his easy chair on Friday, May 11, 2012. He has two daughters, Dena Drews of OR and Alexandra Sanderson of AZ. Dena relayed to Charlotte Eddy that Sheldon will be buried in Arlington Cemetery some time in mid-summer. PVS will send out an announcement when the club receives further information about the burial.

Sheldon was a Brooklyn native and first skied at Stowe. Sheldon's sponsor to PVS was Gorman Young in 1975. Margaret Wyckoff remembers meeting Sheldon on a SCWDC Kitzbuhl trip led by Gorman.

Sheldon's daughter, Dena, accompanied him on many ski trips and many of us remember her enthusiasm and skill. Noted in one of the past Toots, he declared that Vail was his favorite ski area. I suspect equal fondness was bestowed on Snowmass in recent years. Barb Leonhardt reported that at Snowmass in January 2011, Sheldon reached his goal of "skiing until I am 80." The trip leaders recognized his accomplishment on that trip. In the 37 years that Sheldon was a PVS member, he hosted many meetings in his party room, served as President 1985-1986; and as an ExCom Member in 1982, 1997, and 1999.



Sheldon accomplished his goal!

Sheldon was cheerful and always had a friendly greeting. If he wasn't talking about skiing, he was more than willing to discuss any current event. Other interests were hiking, racquetball and history.

Below is the article from the Arlington Funeral Home.

Commander Sheldon Drews passed away peacefully at home in Arlington, VA on May 11, 2012. He was 81. Commander Drews is survived by his children, Dena Drews and Alexandra Sanderson. Following graduation from the Naval Academy in 1952 and a tour of duty on a destroyer in the Korean War area, Sheldon completed Naval Flight Training and subsequent tours on the carriers Boxer, Hornet, and Intrepid in Douglas Skyraider squadrons, both the attack and airborne early warning versions. Having been the Aviation Safety Officer at the last squadron and at a naval air station, he spent four years as an Assistant professor at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey teaching the aeronautical engineering portion of the Aviation Safety Program curriculum. He then transferred to Aeronautical Engineering Duty for greater technical work, having earned Master's degrees in Aeronautics and Astronautics from MIT and in Management (Data Processing) from the Naval Postgraduate School. In this capacity, he spent the last years before retirement from the Navy in the Washington area at the Naval Air Systems Command, the Naval Material Command, and the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

After retirement from the Navy, he stayed in the Washington area and did engineering consulting work at firms Computer Sciences Corporation and Nichols Research Corporation, working in areas of a radar satellite system for the Navy Space Project Office and of various sensors for the Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars). A final retirement came and, after trying the Colorado ski areas full time for a year, he returned to Northern Virginia where he continued to enjoy skiing with the Potomac Valley Skiers and lunch with Academy classmates.



Sheldon with McKinleys in 2004

Memorial contributions may be made to: National Air and Space Museum Wall of Honor, Sheldon Drews Memorial, 600 Independence Ave SW, MRC 321 PO Box 37012, Washington, DC 20013-7012.

In Memoriam

JAMES T. KLINE, JR

1935 - 2012

Jim was a PVS member from 1995-2009 and Charlotte, already in the club, was his sponsor. They were very active in the club's events and ski trips. They hosted many meetings at their spacious Vienna home with its beautiful flower gardens. Especially memorable was the ALL-OUT Millennium Gala, where their house was decked out head to toe for the holidays. They and the committee kept 70 of us fed and "watered." After their retirement-move to Williamsburg, the Klines helped orchestrate two PVS outings, opening their home for the dessert course! (I suspect Jim especially liked helping with taste testing.) Jim may have been soft-spoken, but along with his computer and woodworking talent, he could figure out how to fix anything. And what a gentleman he was!

The following is an excerpt from the May 5, 2012 Washington Post:

James was a graduate of Villanova University, where he received his degree in Electrical Engineering. He retired from SAIC, where he served as a systems engineer for most of his career. He enjoyed camping, canoeing, woodworking and spending time with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his loving wife of 16 years, Charlotte R. Kline; sons, James T. Kline, III and Stephen J. Kline; daughters, Mary E. Rhodes (Guy B.) and Michelle Maroney (Thomas F.); six step-children, 14 grandchildren, and one great-grandson. He is also survived by his brothers and sister, Sister Mary Alice Kline, Donald P. Kline and Robert L. Kline.

Aase Anna Berling

1927 - 2011



Aase Anna Berling was a former member of Potomac Valley Skiers. She died peacefully on Christmas Eve, 2011, in Hilton Head, SC, at the age of 84.

Aase was born in Norway in 1927 and attended school above the Arctic Circle. As pointed out by Lu Beale, cross-country skis were “the preferred and often the quickest means of winter transportation.” Aase came to the United States after World War II and spent many years working in New York City for Irving Trust Company Bank. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree from Columbia University in 1965. In the late 1960s, she moved to the Washington DC area and spent the final 22 years of her working career as an analyst with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

In 1973, Aase joined the Potomac Valley Skiers. She served on ExCom in the early years and again in 1980. She skied frequently in Europe and, memorably, in Norway where, as Lu Beale tells it, “after ascending a very high mountain on cross country skis, she lost a ski and had to come all the way down on one ski.”

Aase moved to Hilton Head in 1991 after her retirement. There, she continued to be active by volunteering with the local Humane Association, the Sheriff’s Department, her church, and belonged to numerous clubs. A memorial service was held there on January 21, 2012.



SKI TALK
June 2012



We have an exciting ski season coming up in 2013. Colorado, Utah and France will be our ski destinations. See the fliers in this TOOT for **Steamboat, Chamonix and The Canyons**.

The Ski Travel Show took place May 4 at the Tysons Marriott. Eleven PVSers attended. At this show representatives of various ski areas showcase their resorts to generate interest by ski clubs in visiting those resorts. The vendors come with maps, brochures, pins, pens and other goodies to gain your attention. Over 40 vendors attended. It is an excellent opportunity to get information about the various resorts and to talk to people from other ski clubs about their experiences and future plans. Food was served this year throughout the evening and there was a cash bar. The show started at 6:00 pm and ended around 9:30. The evening ended with a drawing where some of us won goodies. Dick won one night's accommodation and two two-day lift passes at Seven Springs. We will definitely take advantage of this. Liz won a couple lift passes at Winter Park and Charlie Huggins won a jacket that does not fit!!!

The following day, the semi-annual BRSC meeting was held. David Lerner, Dick Comerford and I attended. A new BRSC president, Bill Schrodell from Columbia Ski Club, was voted into office. Representatives of each of the clubs discussed past trips, future trips and any problems the clubs may be having with vendors. Much discussion centered on the Andorra trip. Overall the trip went exceedingly well for most clubs except for problems with delayed and cancelled planes. Also discussed were the 2013 trips to Steamboat and Chamonix. Did you know that Chamonix is only one hour from Geneva, 90 minutes from Lausanne and 50 minutes from Annecy? The beautiful town lies in the shadow of Mont Blanc. The ski pass includes skiing in Verbier and Courmaier. Skiers and non-skiers should find plenty to do on this trip. If you have never skied in Europe, this is a good place to start.

Please see the initial fliers for our 2013 trips. You will note that costs may seem higher than past trips. We are trying to keep prices down, but air is much more expensive than it has been in the past. The trips are still a bargain compared to what you might be able to book individually. The BRSC trips offer many parties, dinners and other activities.

Rosemary Schwartzbard
rosemaryschw@gmail.com

2013 PVS Ski Trips

Steamboat, CO	February 2-9
Chamonix, France	February 23 - March 3
Canyons, UT	March 17-24



Steamboat Springs

Trip lead by John Lyon and John Holt

February 2 - 9, 2013

The [Potomac Valley Skiers](#) in conjunction with **BRSC** invite you to attend a week of skiing in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. [Steamboat Springs, Ski Town USA](#) has a base elevation of 6,900 feet, ideal for anyone who has difficulty adapting to high altitude (sleeping below 7,500 feet keeps the headaches away). Besides offering 2,965 acres of trails and glades with a large variety for all levels of downhill skiers, Steamboat has a wealth of other activities. These activities include cross-country skiing, snowshoe tours, snowmobile tours, ice skating, soaking in the natural mineral hot springs, winter fly fishing, the winter driving school center, hot air balloon rides, winter horseback riding, dinner sleigh rides, day spas and shopping in Steamboat Springs. In addition, this is the 100th anniversary of Steamboat Springs and there will be lots of additional festivities.

ACCOMMODATIONS: The **STEAMBOAT GRAND** is a premier hotel, a short 100-yard walk from the high-speed gondola with complimentary ski storage slope side. It has an outdoor heated pool and two hot tubs, sauna, full service spa and fitness center, in-room coffee makers and flat screen TVs, and wireless Internet. Restaurants/cafes in the hotel: The Cabin Restaurant and Bar specializes in organic, natural and local fare; Grand Café is a casual Western theme like country store for grabbing a snack or coffee; and Bistro Bar is open pool-side.

THE COST IS \$2,045 PER PERSON, based on double occupancy. The price includes:

Lodging at the Steamboat Grand for Seven Nights

Daily Breakfasts

BRSC Welcome Party

One PVS Group Dinner

BRSC Dinner Dance

Après Ski Parties Including One on Top of Mountain

Pre-trip Party

Five-day Lift Ticket

Round Trip Air from Reagan National to Hayden

Round Trip Ground Transfers and Tips

To reserve a place, please send a deposit of \$200 per person to: **John Lyon, 3730 Equinox Way, Dumfries, VA 22025**. For more information, contact John Lyon at jslhiker@verizon.net or 703-590-2913. John Holt will be based in Massachusetts from August 22 to December 22, but can be reached by cell phone: 703-915-6258.

Cancellation Policy: This trip requires a minimum group of 20. Deposits will be returned if the minimum group size is not met or if you cancel before September 1, 2012.



PVS & BRSC Eurofest 2013

Chamonix France

February 22 – March 2, 2013

Chamonix is the birthplace of modern winter sports, since it hosted the first Olympic Winter Games in 1924, and Mont Blanc is the tallest mountain in Europe west of the Urals.

Chamonix is simply one of Europe's premier ski and snowboard areas. On this trip size matters; please note the size of the Mont Blanc ski area – over 700 km of ski trails that surround our hotel, which is located right in the center of Chamonix.

Chamonix is a huge winter paradise surrounded by seven superb ski areas and the most complete and varied terrain we'll visit this ski season. We will ski at Mont Blanc, which has 24 cable cars and 175 lifts. These cover 300 km of blue runs, 300 km of red runs, and 100 km of black runs. There are more than 42 km of cross-country ski trails. Skiers can enjoy easier slopes of Le Tour and the varied slopes of La Flegere, Le Brevent and Argentiere. Particularly famous is the 20 km run down the Vallee Blanche glacier from the Aiguille du Midi (3,840 m) to Italy. This day-long ski run requires advance booking with a guide, but is an experience you'll never forget.

Chamonix is also a bustling town, which is full of atmosphere, with cobbled streets and squares, beautiful old buildings, a fast running river, and pavement cafes crowded with shoppers and tourists sipping drinks and staring at the glaciers above. Wander through the town and outlying villages and you will discover baroque churches and protestant chapels dating from several hundred years ago, hotels and palaces from the golden age, Art Deco facades, traditional farmhouses, colossal villas and chalets contrasting with modern constructions. It is this architectural diversity that contributes to Chamonix's unique and indefinable charm. If you like your snow and scenery on the wild side, give Chamonix a try.



- **Price: \$2,375 double occupancy.**
- **Transportation – Very Simple:**
 - **Airfare: Round trip airfare to Geneva from Dulles Airport on United.**
 - **Ground: Round trip charter bus from Geneva airport to hotel in Chamonix (1 hour).**
- **Lodging: Seven nights lodging, double occupancy, at the centrally located (3 star) Hotel Alpina.**
- **Food: Full buffet breakfast and dinner included daily.**
- **Insurance: Emergency medical and repatriation insurance provided at no extra cost.**
- **Sightseeing Day Trip Options:**
 - **Anney (50 min.) 14th century medieval town is the “Venice of the Savoie.”**
 - **Lausanne CH (90 min.) Old town on Lake Geneva.**
 - **Geneva (1 Hr) Former Roman marketplace with many old town attractions**
- **Pre and Post trip extensions are available.**
- **3 Blue Ridge parties with 6 drink coupons. Friday night party includes DJ for dancing.**
- **2 Wine and cheese gatherings with the PVS trip leader, plus ski tips from Mount Liberty.**
- **Optional day trip via charter bus to ski the prestigious Swiss ski area of Verbier, the playground of the “Rich and Famous.” (Lift ticket included as part of the 6-day Chamonix ski pass.)**
- **Send \$200 (refundable) to reserve a spot on the trip:**
- **Dick Comerford 307 Lounsbury Ct Leesburg, VA 20176 703-777-9374**

The Canyons

Sunday to Sunday, March 17-24, 2013

Trip leaders: Liz Warren-Boulton and Reg Heitchue

We will stay at the elegant Canyons Grand Summit Hotel (<http://www.canyonsresort.com/grandhome.html>) with ski-in and ski-out access located in the center of the Canyons Resort in Utah. The hotel's condominium suites provide complete kitchen and living room amenities with two bedrooms which accommodate two people in each.

Package price of \$1,980 (based on a group size of 20 to 24 people) includes:

Roundtrip air from Dulles on United Airlines (subject to change)
Roundtrip group charter bus Salt Lake City to the hotel
7 nights lodging in double occupancy bedroom suites
Welcome party provided by the hotel; private mountain tour on Monday
Pre- and post-trip parties; après ski parties
Wireless Internet access in all guest and public rooms
Heated swimming pool, hot tub, sauna, fitness center
(Land package only \$1,388; single supplement \$1,259)



Discounted group lift tickets are additional and will be available at great prices.

The Canyons Ski Resort

The Canyons (40 minutes from the Salt Lake Airport) has recently been described as “the new big kid in Park City.” Since 1997 the Canyons has developed and expanded into Utah’s largest ski and snowboard resort and the 5th largest resort in the United States. The resort encompasses eight separate peaks over a span of 3.5 miles and provides a 3,190 foot vertical drop; peak altitude of 9,990 feet; and base altitude of 6,800 feet.

Because of its size, there is plenty of superb skiing for everyone at all levels – from miles of groomed runs, to amazing tree skiing, and pristine bowls. Start the day on the Orange Bubble Express, a high-speed quad with enclosed cabins and heated seats – what a treat. In addition, we will plan a ski day in fabulous Deer Valley (7 miles away) and another in Park City (4 miles).

A few paces from the hotel are fun après ski venues as well as a group of fine restaurants including award winning “The Farm.” There are several great on-mountain lunch cafeterias and restaurants.

For those who don’t ski (and those who do) the Canyons Spa and Health Club, located in our hotel, offers a wide range of rejuvenating therapies. The historic and charming mountain town of Park City is a short complimentary bus or van ride away, where many beautiful art galleries, boutiques, and fine cafes and restaurants await your attention.

Contact Liz at elizawb@gmail.com or Reg at heitchu@yahoo.com.

See next TOOT to sign up!

Members' Corner



By J. David Warthen, Jr.

dwarthen@verizon.net

Getting to Know You:

-Kaldun **Nossuli** (New Applicant Individual)

To me, skiing is living on the edges, literally and figuratively.

Literally: Skiing with sharp edges gives me the control of the slide and makes this scrunchy noise of compacting the snow under the skis (or I can hear the scrunch of popcorn eaten at the movies...). On the slopes, I am the master of my moves: understanding the quadriceps muscles tensing, the knees holding, and the ankle at the right angle is like choreography. I achieve the speed of light.

Figuratively: skiing is living the instant. My work worries disappear from my horizon, the problems around me vanish, my past is gone, and my future does not exist because I am too concentrated on sheer survival. I live my whole existence in this moment. I embody life in this second. I become the instinct of life.

Skiing is literally clinging to earth's gravity, but also plunging into its beauty. To see the immense white mountains, and to plow through virgin powder give me the experience of the first human being on earth. I am at its birth, just a second after the big bang. So I relish my limited life in this infinity, in time and space, and as a physician of forty years, none of my deceased patients came back to tell me that heaven is more beautiful than earth. So I stay put on earth and ski.

-Joy & Steve **Huffines** (New Applicant Couple)

It was a lovely sunny, brisk day when we met our friends, Rosemary and Dick Schwartzbard, at one of Annapolis' waterfront watering holes for lunch. We've known them before they were Schwartzbards.....actually, before they had met one another, and have been travelling around the world with them ever since. We have heard about PVS ski trips for years, but prior commitments usually kept us from joining. When the Schwartzbards said, "We're going to Andorra.....why don't you join us?" We said, "Yes!" almost immediately, because neither of us had ever been, and what a trip it was! But you already know that.

Joy grew up skiing in the Poconos and Alleghenies of PA, and the various resorts of NY, VT, NH and Canada. When she lived in Frankfurt, she continued skiing in Austria, Switzerland and Germany. Steven was introduced to the sport while he was stationed in Bavaria. We met in the resort town of Berchtesgaden. However, it was summer, so golf, swimming, and visiting salt mines were more in season. We kept in touch. When we returned to the U.S., Steven ended up at NSA, which was near where Joy lived. We eventually married! Skiing was our chief, winter recreation, particularly when it involved travelling. We enjoyed like-minded

friends who belonged to a private travel club with their own large aircraft. Long weekend trips to Quebec became possible by zipping down to Page Terminal at Dulles for a 6 PM takeoff on Friday night, arriving at the Manoir St. Castin by about 9 PM just in time to have a glass of "moose juice" and hop on a ski-do for a quick twirl around the frozen Lac-Beauport. Two days of wonderful skiing, gourmet food, and after dinner on Sunday, a quick bus ride to our plane in Quebec and back in DC by 11 PM, all ready to tackle the world on Monday morning. What a way to go! We managed to do this for longer trips to Sun Valley, Vail, Aspen, and Jackson Hole, where we used to announce our arrival to the owners of our hotel, by circling the valley and revving the engines of the plane. They always rewarded us by running out into the snowy front area of the hotel and waving towels to let us know the buses were on the way to pick us up at the (then) tiny little shack that passed for the arrival and departure lounge at the Jackson Hole Airport.

Skiing has been a big part of our lives. Joy's former employment with Head Ski certainly assured that we all had the very best and latest gear! Our three grown children learned to ski in Davos as children, and have continued to join us every year wherever there's any snow. Now, we also have the pleasure of a granddaughter who will probably be in the Olympics when she grows up! She didn't start until she was 6, but she's absolutely fearless and a speed demon, leaving most of us in her tracks. We've managed to have a couple, delightful, ski houses over the years, which added to the pleasure. One was in Jackson and the other at Hidden Valley, the latter of which was a wonderful suggestion by the Schwartzbards, who invited us to their house for the weekend. We went home with a new mortgage and a house across the mountain. Between us, we had both sides of the mountain covered, so we were always within range of a toilet and a warm drink! Our son joins Steven on a "guys only" trip at Keystone every year, but I sometimes tag along. Some ruptured vertebrae have kept me off the slopes lately, but I'm not giving up hope.

We presently reside on the banks of Chase Creek, off the Severn in Annapolis, where Steven can always be found with a fly or fishing rod in his hand before he leaves for the office. We both like to mess about in boats, and the creek is perfect for kayak-fishing, or the motor boat can get us to Ego Alley in 10 minutes, if we want to shop or have dinner in town. Other interests include gardening (a huge vegetable plot which feeds our family, our children's families, and neighbors), reading the latest novels at our beach house in Bethany, golf, tennis, bridge, keeping active in our community association, cooking with friends, and a weekly yoga class for Joy, which may help to get her back on skis. Did I mention travelling? We're still active in the travel club and although we no longer operate our own aircraft, we've discovered the delights of cruising! If you've got a couple minutes, ask us about it next time we meet! We look forward to enjoying more skiing with PVS this coming season, and will try to join the group for other functions when we are able.

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THE KNEE

by Ray
McKinley
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Early in May the **Knee** was preparing for summer. I tried to close out last ski season by including more information on who skied last and who skied the most days. I also threw out last year's SKI Magazine Buyers Guide (it's really handy in the middle of January when you need to buy a new left ski binding), and put away parkas. With disgustingly hot weather in May, the **Knee** was just about ready for summer.

Now we have the June TOOT. And inside it's chock-a-block filled with information on not one, but three ski trips for 2013. Gads, the **Knee** is still writing 2011 on many checks! As a recovering ski trip leader, I know the deadlines are stringent. It's tough. Everyone wants everything early. But my mittens haven't even dried! The **Knee** simply isn't ready for 2013 skiing. I can't cope!

By August or early September I'll be ready. We'll have had our great summer events. It will be oppressively hot, hazy and humid and it will be time to think about the cooling joys of skiing and next year's trips.

Then the **Knee** will get out the flyers, carefully review dates and locations of the various trips and make a decision. Then I'll call the trip leaders. And you know what? The trips will be filled! Ah me, but that's the way the ol' ski cookie crumbles.

John Holt recently noted that he was "out of the country." He was visiting his daughter in Massachusetts.

Maybe this column should be called the FOOT: Whilst on holiday in Italy, the **Knee** and Nancy took a ferry to the Isle of Capri. I slipped on one of the stairs and landed on the side of my right foot resulting in a fractured metatarsal. I'm out of a cast and in a "walking boot." The orthopedist expects the **Knee** to live.

Two of you asked if I could explain a fairly weird pun, which was in last month's **Knee**. Of course I can.

Some things the **Knee** doesn't make up. My gmail account is free, but based on content of the text, they add advertisements at the margins. I finally clicked on an ad titled "Rent a **Knee** Walker." This is legit. *In lieu* of crutches,

you can rent this 4-wheeled contraption with handlebars and a pad to set your **Knee** on. You can then scoot along. **Kneet**. Sadly it won't work on fractured metatarsals.

Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until they speak!

Another retiree: Jim Wingrove bit the bullet and is now in a new home in Maryland. Congrats are in order for Jim who has just completed his 43rd season as a ski patroller at Pennsylvania's Liberty Mountain. (Or is that Charnita?) Total years are easier at Liberty than at most ski areas; their seasons are short. In 43 years, Jim has patrolled a total of 51 days!

Perennially youthful Brian Eardley, from the Ski Center, is now 60 years old. Yoiks!

This was a wretched month for PVS. We became aware of the loss of three of our long-time members. Jim Kline was a grill-master and host *par excellence*. Jim and his wife, Charlotte had moved to the Williamsburg area a few years ago. Norway-born Aase Berling had moved from DC to Hilton Head, SC in 1991. She was a banker and later worked for the Securities and Exchange Commission. Aase loved to ski and skied throughout the world. Most recently, we lost Sheldon Drews. He was retired from the Navy and civil service, and he loved to talk and argue politics. Sheldon was a past president of PVS and served several years on ExCom. He last skied, as was his wish, at age 80 at Snowmass in 2011, and got to come down on a snowmobile. All were great contributors to PVS and we will miss them.

The latest converts to the Road Scholar program (formerly Eider Hostel) are Liz and Serge Triau. They have been on two trips to Gettysburg, and more recently to Richmond. Said Serge "Their tours are exceptional and I'm glad they changed their name. They aren't hostile at all!"

Congrats to Charles and Genee Boykin. They have finally completed the redo of all five of their bathrooms. Not only are bathrooms a place to flush down s---, they are also a place to flush down dollars.

Looking for a treatment for arthritis? Margaret Wyckoff got one—from Dr. Oz. Each day she eats nine (not ten or eight) golden raisins soaked in gin. Yup, Margaret says it works like a charm. And if it doesn't help, you can't feel the pain ank**nee**way. I would try the cure quite gin-gerly.

Here is a little known fact. You don't **kneed** a parachute to sky dive. You **kneed** a parachute to sky dive twice. It's true!

2012 PVS Calendar

Jun 02	Sat	The Music Man, Arena Stage; 2:00 PM (Laeser, DC)
Jun 13	Wed	Lunch Out Group (LOGs); 1:00 PM (John Smith, Alexandria, VA)
Jun 19	Tue	June General Meeting; 7:30 PM (Mahallati, Herndon, VA)
Jun 22	Fri	Bike to Natl Harbor; 9 AM or 9:45 (Schwartzbard, VA to MD)
Jun 26	Tue	ExCom Meeting; 7:30 PM (TBA)
Jul 15	Sun	Summerfest: 2 - 5 PM (Jablon, DC)



Capital Golden Skiers

(PVS and CGS have enjoyed participating in several of each others' events. This is a list of CGS upcoming events. They are a fun group. More information is available at capitalgoldenskiers.com.

June 05	(Tuesday)	Exploring Space Lecture at the National Air and Space Museum (DC)
June 10	(Sunday)	Dance at the Elks Lodge (VA)
June 12	(Tuesday)	An Evening of Bridge (VA)
June 14	(Thursday)	Catoctin Mountain Hike (MD)
June 15	(Friday)	Dance Night at Hollin Hall (VA)
June 30	(Saturday)	<i>All the King's Women</i> at the Little Theatre of Alexandria (VA)

Roster Changes: (notify dwarthen@verizon.net)

Keep up to date with the latest quarterly PVS Roster to be informed about **new members**, **new addresses**, **new phone numbers**, and **new e-mail addresses**. Discard old rosters!

Thanks to:

- TOOT Content/Proof Editor – E. Thayer
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--D. Warthen E-distribution

Useful Ski "Links"

Potomac Valley Skiers	potomacvalleyskiers.org
Capital Golden Skiers	capitalgoldenskiers.com
BRSC Sanctioned Trips	skicouncil.com/tripsbydate.htm
DC Ski Online News	dcski.com

PVS Board - 2012-2013

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