

POTOMAC VALLEY SKIERS

TOOT 5/68

May meeting...

PVS's own summer home tour begins this month at Meg & E. P. Anderson's. May 21 at 8:00 p.m. Short meeting and long social time with beer, soft drinks and tid-bits. Directions: Beltway to Exit 5 (Braddock Road). West (away from Washington) two miles to Red Fox Drive. Right about two blocks to Falling Creek Court. Left to 8929 Falling Creek Court. Bring a skiing guest!

Election Results...

President, Larry Pease. Excom Max Bunnell, Aina Hertelis, and Hank Thomas (a second term). Bruce Harstad, Dick Harsh and Doris Hege are serving their second year.

Membership Requirements...

Brooke Armat is chairman of the By-laws committee which will come up with proposed changes to the Club's By-laws on membership requirements. Any recommendations or suggestions on the subject should be directed to Brooke. Get your oar in and SAY IT NOW.

Mark Your Calendar...

First, if there's anyone for tennis, you can check any Sunday morning. Max Bunnell has two courts available from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon each Sunday at Haines Point, \$1.00 per person. Unless the weather is really bad you'll be able to play. If you specifically want a singles court, call Max or call Haines Point (638-8092) for a reservation early in the week.

Check off these dates for our summer home tour:

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| May 21 | - at Meg & E. P. Anderson's |
| June 18 | - at Elke & Bill Stecher's |
| July 16 | - at Aina Hertelis' (swim party) |
| August 20 | - at Larry & Billy Pease' |

If you are interested in water skiing, Tuesday nite is PVS nite. Every Tuesday (except meeting nites) there will be water skiing at Whites Ferry (up the Potomac) with the boats provided by Bill Stecher, Charlie Gordon and Brooke Armat. Bill Stecher is organizing so check with him, or better still, come to the meeting to get the details. One good thing about water skiing is we don't need snow!

You are cordially invited to a Mai Fest
in honor of Dick King's homecoming
Saturday, May 25th, from 3:00 p.m. 'till...
at the home of Elke & Bill Stecher.
Dress is casual.

Tis the season for councils, federations, and conventions...

Blue Ridge Ski Council report from Hank Thomas. The newly established Southern Election District elected Bill Manson (SCWDC) and Fred Smitzel (S. C. Baltimore, Ltd.) to the USEASA Board of Directors. The new BRSC president is Bob Grasley. Bob also was awarded the Shawneeland Trophy.

The European Flight on January 31, 1969 to Munich (Zurs, Davos, & Kitzbuhel package) will be sponsored by Blue Ridge Ski Council under SCWDC auspices and conducted by Bob and Margaret Wycoff. The sponsorship will permit council members to participate in the flight from Dulles.

Pennsylvania Ski Federation report from Hank Thomas. The meeting proceeded smoothly until Bob Shaner's "Flight Policy" committee report when Robert's Rules fell apart. Hank would be pleased to relate details to interested ears.

Dave Scott is the contact man for July 26, seventeen-day flight to Portillo. Have details, will divulge for a price. Mike Holofcener plans two excursion flights. Vail/Aspen on January 4, and Jackson/Aspen on February 22nd.

John Newdorp (USSA) thanked members of PSF for the gracious contribution to the U. S. Ski Team. He suggested there may be future favorable race results spearheaded by Spyder Sabich and Jim Barrows with Eaton and Ferries as team coaches.

Larry Pease was named Associate Division Chairman for the National Ski Patrol. Three Basic Avalanche Courses were conducted by NSPS instructors last year. When did the last avalanche occur in the Southern Region? The owners and operators of Charnita contributed \$500 recently to the NSPS.

Last year Rolf Dessauer (Safety and Recreation) distributed some 500 Ski Trip Survey Cards to member clubs. Response from 19 clubs totaled 39 replies. The result was only an 8% sampling about areas, parking, lift lines, safety, lodges, etc. Rolf's committee presented PSF members an effective means of expressing their views. Unfortunately, the sampling was not representative of Federation strength. The apathy evidenced by this survey prevents any right to grievances.

Hank has the dope on USEASA "Free Style" Skiing. The competition consists of two parts. Four compulsory maneuvers and two free style runs. This may be worth pursuing by PVS next season.

United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association report from Larry Pease. Four PVS'ers attended convention, Larry Pease, E. P. Anderson, Jack Lilley, and Ron Fett at the Concord Hotel in New York. The socializing maintained its

usual rapid pace. The cuisine was overwhelming and the panels were enlightening. Reports from committees indicate much activity throughout the Eastern Division this past season. Several changes in Eastern's Constitution were passed by the convention.

One change affects PVS only indirectly. This change permits large clubs to be represented at the convention by one additional delegate for each 300 members in excess of the first 100, provided that representation shall not exceed 40% of the voting strength of the election district to which the club belongs.

The most controversial amendment concerned the proposed dues increase. After considerable discussion which generally recognized the need for a dues increase, the amendment was defeated and a modified proposal was adopted. It was approved by the delegates to raise Eastern dues from \$3.00 to \$4.00 for adults, and from \$1.00 to \$2.00 for spouse and from \$6.00 to \$8.00 for a family membership. Expenses are rising but the delegates have kept them out of orbit. A minor victory.

8th Interski by E. P. Anderson...

On April 20-27, the Congress of International Ski Instructors held their eighth international meeting at Aspen, Colorado. All the major Alpine and Nordic nations of the world were represented, with the exception of Russia.

As Co-Chairman of the USEASA Amateur Instruction Committee, I was privileged to attend as a delegate representing amateur ski instruction in the United States.

The basic plan of the Congress is to thoroughly demonstrate each country's national ski technique. In addition, meetings were scheduled each day to take up the general business of the Congress and for the presentation of technical papers on many phases of ski instruction.

Two nations, Norway and Sweden, presented demonstrations of Nordic or cross-country technique. Nine nations presented their Alpine teaching system: Austria, Italy, France, West Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Canada, Japan and the United States, or "Ooh-S-Ah" as it came across in the translation.

In watching the demonstrations, it became clearly evident that each country had spent a good deal of time preparing their demonstration team for this event. The U.S. team had practiced for four weeks at Aspen before INTERSKI began. The consensus seemed to be that the Japanese, Switzerland and Italy - perhaps in that order - put on the most precise, synchronized demonstration when the whole team was skiing together.

The demonstrations took place at Tourtelotte Park on the upper part of Ajax Mountain, the first mountain developed for skiing at Aspen. The demonstration slope was beautifully prepared, and the snow conditions were excellent.

Each country was permitted eight men for the team, except the host nation, the USA, which used eight men and six women. Our girls skied and looked beautiful. They wore silver colored one-piece stretch suits.

The technical highlight of the demonstrations was the Austrian team demonstrating their new teaching technique "Offener Schwung" or the "sloppy parallel" turn or as some put it, "the double-stem turn." The Austrian ski teaching genius, Professor Stephen Kruckenhauser, has again been at work, leading the field in evolving a new ski teaching technique. The new Austrian parallel system is not to be confused with the "Natur Technique" taught in some areas in this country. The emphasis is not on keeping the skis parallel and together from the start. Rather the emphasis is in doing "wide track" turns using a sideslip to get around the turn. (The Spring 1968 issue of Ski Magazine has an article on this new turn on page 70.) In my view, it is quite likely that this new turn will soon have a major influence on ski teaching methods.

The French demonstrated an interesting new short swing turn ala Jean Claude Killy. In this turn the feet are at least a foot apart, weight and seat are back, requiring tremendous strength in the upper leg muscles to power the turn and permit the skier to keep upright.

The U. S. demonstrated extremely well the American ski technique, but offered nothing new. Most people felt the Italians demonstrated almost a carbon copy of the American technique. In fact, all countries are skiing and teaching more and more alike.

On the last day of the demonstrations, for the last run down the hill, all nine teams gathered at the top, and then in beautiful precision 72 skiers came short swinging down toward the bottom. Some countries had switched sweaters, yet no one watching was aware of the switch until the skiers reached the bottom of the hill. It was a great tribute to Professor Kruckenhauser, the inventor of short swing. As Steve Knowlton said at the closing ceremonies, in introducing the Professor, "You have taught everyone in this audience how to ski better."

This and That...

Excom meeting will continue to be held the Wednesday night a week after the PVS meeting.

Dick King should be skiing about now at Cervinia, the Italian side of the Matterhorn.

Jack Lilley will continue to be refreshment procurement officer this summer.

The Pease' have bought a new house in Rockville for the August meeting.

Let's bring skiing guests to our summer meetings!