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*Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.*

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The ski season is about half over, with half of the club trips out of the way already. It has been a good season except for unfortunate injuries with Carol Parmenter and Nancy McKinley sustaining knee injuries and Charlie Gordon doing a real job on his shoulder (pins were required to keep things in place) while skiing in Utah. I know I can speak for all PVS'ers in this item by wishing all these members a very speedy and healthy recovery. Charlie, I know Texans are tough, so we expect to see you back on the slopes ASAP. All this news should serve as a good reminder for all of us to stay focused while scooting down the slopes and be on the look out 110 percent of the time.

I should like to make note of the wonderful poem that Nancy McKinley wrote for the January TOOT describing the PVS Christmas party. This is an other example of the very talented members in our club; as I read it I was awed with the spirit of the season and how creative it was in describing the activity. Nancy, thanks for a great poem. It told a story, about the event's glory, and all of the cheer, at the end of the year. Hey folks that is the best I can do, with an engineering background!

I should like to thank Janet Marx for chairing the nominating committee, as we have an excellent set of candidates for the EXCOM and President for next year (candidates are presented in this TOOT).



MONTHLY MEETING - FEBRUARY 18, 1997, 8 p.m.

Home of George Hicho  
7404 Cliffborne Court  
Derwood, MD  
Phone: 301-963-1836

Directions: Take 270N to Exit 9, Route 370 heading toward the Metro. Go about 2 miles to Shady Grove East, then on Shady Grove Road. Go to the end which is about 6th traffic light. Turn left onto Muncaster Mill Road, take first left onto Miller Fall Road. Then left on Cliffborne Lane, and the first right is Cliffborne Court. 7404 is the second house on the left.

## COMING EVENTS

### MIDWEEK SKIING - SKI LIBERTY MONDAY FEB. 10th

Sue Walsh will lead our midweek skiing in February at Ski Liberty. Lift passes are \$29, and seniors 65+ ski for \$14.50. Four hour flex time is also available for \$25.

Interested skiers should contact Sue Walsh (301) 589-7159 as we will car pool from the parking lot of the Fairlanes Bowling Alley on Shady Grove Road departing promptly at 7:30 for Ski Liberty.



### Wine Tasting with Pat & Don Cope on 29 March 97

This season is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a blind wine tasting of French and California wines. The tasting was sponsored by a British wine shop in Paris and the tasters were eminent French personalities of the wine trade. Unbelievably, the California wines, both red and white, were judged superior to famous French counterparts.

Since that time American wines in general and California wines in particular have continued to make very significant improvements. So, at the tasting in March we will concentrate on the wines of California; both to celebrate that famous anniversary and to just enjoy these great wines.

Don't forget that due to space limitation, this event is limited to 20 people, so call the Cope's early to make reservations at 703 836 5436.

### CHERRY BLOSSOM MID-WEEK WALK - THURSDAY APRIL 3rd.

We Will meet at the top of the Smithsonian Metro Stop at 10:30 a.m. for a leisurely stroll around the Tidal Basin. If weather permits, we will picnic on the mall. Bring lunch or buy from the sidewalk vendors.

Interested PVSers should call Betty Byrne (202) 483-4048 or Marvin Hass (703) 751-4737.



Which means it's time for the annual spring dinner! Date is Saturday, April 19 at the Colonnade, 2801 New Mexico Ave., N.W., Washington.

This event is limited to 40, and you can call Marilyn Clark now at 703-978-9435 to make a reservation. Details later on what to bring.

Join Nancy and Ray McKinley in Valle Nevado, Chile from August 14-25, 1997. The Valle Nevado Ski Resort looks out at magnificent snow covered Andes on all sides. You can ski all day over the 4,000 vertical feet and 40,000 acres (Steamboat has 2,300 acres!) that comprise the Valle Nevado skifields. All the skiing is above tree line and very European, you can ski on or off-piste to your heart's content. There's also heliskiing (they have two helicopter pads) and dog sledding. But skiing isn't the only reason to go to Chile. There is much else. Thus, we are planning an 11 day trip (shorter and longer stays are possible). After a week of skiing and eating fine Chilean food, we'll travel to Santiago to the 5-Star Hotel Carrera, with its Chilean murals, commanding staircase, and huge windows looking out at the President's palace. We will tour in beautiful Santiago, along the splendid seacoast and at an 1840's winery nearby.

Despite this being a 1997 trip, there are only three hotels at Valle Nevado (and thus no liftlines), so early reservations are essential. We expect the 1997 trip will cost about \$2,400, with a \$70 to \$100 discount for seniors. This includes lift tickets, heavenly full breakfasts daily, all dinners at Valle Nevado, some in Santiago and all touring. Final prices will be available soon. Please call us at (703) 527-7126 if you have questions, we have lots more information. To assure a spot, please send your check for \$100 (fully refundable through February) to 2326 North Upton Street, Arlington, Virginia, 22207-4045, payable to Nancy McKinley.

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**JANUARY 11 - 18, 1997 - SKI SNOWMASS.** Dina Taylor - 301-663-6089.  
It has now become part of PVS' glorious history as a marvelous ski trip.  
Meanwhile, there is a lot of snow on the mountains calling all skiers to enjoy.  
Therefore, the post-trip party for the SNOWMASS trip has been scheduled for  
April 12, 4pm at Charles & Dina Taylor's home, 8403 Stonehouse Road, in  
Frederick, Maryland. We expect to see all who participated. RSVP requested.

\*\*\*\*\* \*\* -

While PVSers are still glowing and beaming over the 1996-97 ski trips, the ski trip committee, headed by Glade Flake has been busily thinking of the 1997-98 season. Here in brief is an outline of the exciting plans:

- \*Early December - Steamboat Springs, CO
- \*January - Europe. Three possibilities are being considered:
  - Cortina, with two days in Venice
  - St. Moritz, with two days in Milan
  - Zermatt, with two days in Zurich
- \*February - Big Sky, Montana
- \*March - Mont Tremblant, with some time in Quebec city.

START DREAMING NOW--AND SAVING THOSE PENNIES!.



## P A S T   E V E N T S

DEMO        After a hiatus of 33 years, my husband and I set out for WISP on January 15 and enjoyed a fun afternoon of skiing.

### SKIING

AT            Nancy and Ray Garrett hosted a welcoming get-together and by dinner 17 hearty PVS skiers had arrived. Unfortunately, evening brought light rain, then in the early hours

WISP        it turned to snow BUT it brought with it a 'wicked wind.' When we suited up and picked up our \$2.00 all day ticket, the manufacture reps for the "parabolic/superside cut" skis were waiting--some 12 vans strung out across the base of the hill and you could try as many different skis as you could get in by 3:30 p.m. I must admit I was a bit hesitant to clamp on a pair of skis 15 cms shorter than my own, but they were ever so easy to turn.

Nancy Garrett was totally sold on them; she said "anything that makes my skiing easier is great." Jan and Bob Marx outdid themselves trying 7 different models. Around 2:15 p.m., as we exited the lift for a run, a cold front literally moved through and it felt like the temperature dropped 15 degrees within a minute accompanied by 35 mph wind gusts. It left much to be desired and found many less hearty souls (including us) exiting the slopes.

It was good to see John Newdorp and Audrey Conner and Alexa and Charles McGrath at the apres-ski bash that Jan and Bob Marx hosted, and there was much talk about the demo skis plus the weather. Friday morning, we woke up to minus 5 degrees and a wind chill of minus 40. Needless to say, none of us ventured out on the slopes and reluctantly packed for home. June Kelsey had car battery trouble, but next time you see her ask about the 'cute fellow' in Accident who came to her rescue! Even with the adverse weather, all agreed the experience was well worth it. Thanks, Jan and Bob, for a delightful adventure. ...Ellen Burgess

### JANUARY MEETING

On Wednesday, January 15, Jan and Bob Marx shepherded 20 PVSers on the annual ski trip to WISP. When they returned, they cleared the stacks of paper off the dining room table, fluffed up the sofa pillows, cooked up a storm, and entertained 40 PVSers at the January 21st meeting.

In PVS speak, that's called "going with the flow" and is SOP.

The 40 guests munched on an assortment of goodies, including miniature quiches and various dips Chez Marx while socializing and trading tall tales of the phenomenal Western blizzards they had skied in this winter and survived.

Serge Triau conducted a somewhat contentious meeting after which there were cookies and coffee before departing. Many, many thanks to the Marxes--may they keep on flowing forever!

...Lu Beale

## SNOWMASS/ASPEN TRIP

Ruth Powers

Our January 11 trip to Snowmass/Aspen started out poorly, with bad weather delaying our flight into Aspen. For a while we thought we might have to spend Saturday night at the Denver airport, but we finally made it into Aspen, minus our luggage. It caught up with us the next day.

Snow and clouds produced poor visibility on Sunday, so only the stalwarts ventured out to ski. Some of the rest of us visited Aspen while waiting for the weather to improve and for our luggage to arrive. Jessma led a tour to the historic Hotel Jerome, the Art Museum, etc. We also visited a wonderful glass shop (Rachael Collection), where Bette Walker fell in love with a piece by Christofer Ries priced at \$18,000. That night all 32 of us enjoyed a delicious meal at Butch's Lobster Bar. This was the first of a series of excellent dinners and Apres Ski arranged for us by Dina.

On Monday the sun came out and we experienced the start of five wonderful days of skiing. There was plenty of snow and we had plenty of challenging and cruising slopes to choose from. Lorraine and Roland Brockmeyer took the Mountain Tour. All went well until they lost a member of the group and then lost their leader.

Tuesday was an inauspicious day for Carol Parmenter. After lunch with the group at Cafe Suzanne, she popped two ligaments in her knee on what was to be her last run for the day. Instead it was the last run for the trip. But Carol stuck with us for the rest of the trip, crutches and all.

Tuesday night we had another trip into Aspen to the Crystal Palace Dinner Theatre. The waiters and waitresses put on a very funny show after dinner. Earlier, several of us visited the Wheeler Opera House, and caught Dick Durrance and part of Aspen's 50 years of skiing celebration.

On Thursday some of us caught the Snowmass Ski Splash Competition involving 30 brave (or foolhardy) souls who ski-jumped into a swimming pool in various "costumes". Included were one woman in a bikini, a naked man, and several in drag. Charlotte Eddy got a picture of the naked man.

Our last night was a dinner at our hotel, the Stonebridge Inn, which provided us with deluxe continental breakfast each day. We hated to see the week end. Colorado's natural beauty, the weather, ski conditions, and a great trip leader joined forces to give us a vacation we'll remember for years to come.

## Nominating Committee Report

The committee submits the following slate for voting at the Annual Meeting in April:

President:  
(one year term)

Lu Beale

Excom:  
(2 year term)

Janet Wain  
Ron Ewing  
Suzanne Boisclair



# COOK'S CORNER



by  
Nancy Garrett

The following great recipes were sent to me by Genee Boykin.

However, at the January meeting, I found that the Rum Cake originated from Joan Flake. As the recipe was being discussed, I found that many PVSers have enjoyed it for years. If it isn't in your file, you need to add it. It is great!!!

## RUM CAKE

Preheat oven to 325\*. Grease and flour 10-inch bundt or tube pan. Sprinkle 1/2 cup pecans in bottom of pan.

- Mix together well:
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
  - 1 yellow cake mix
  - 1 package (3.5 oz.) instant vanilla pudding and pie mix
  - 4 eggs
  - 1/2 cup water
  - 1/2 cup dark or light rum

Beat for 2 minutes. Pour carefully into bundt pan. Bake 50-60 minutes (when tester comes out clean). Remove from oven. Prick holes in bottom of cake before removing from pan. Remember to loosen all sides (including around tube) before removing from pan. Prick LOTS of holes all over cake (sides, top, bottom). Pour hot rum glaze slowly over cake. This is a messy job; see tips below.

## RUM GLAZE

- In saucepan, melt:
- 1 stick butter
- Add and boil for 5 minutes:
- 1/4 cup water
  - 1 cup sugar
- Remove from heat and add:
- 1/2 cup rum

Pour over cake. USE ENTIRE AMOUNT ON CAKE. Use spoon and pastry brush to help put glaze on cake. (I place cake on wire rack sitting in cookie sheet. As the glaze falls to pan below, it can be scooped up and reapplied to cake.) After cake has absorbed all the glaze, transfer to clean serving platter.

## CHEESE CRUNCH "BISCUITS"

- Mix together:
- 2 sticks butter
  - 2 cups grated sharp Cheddar Cheese
  - 2 cups sifted flour
  - 2 cups Rice Krispies
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - Cayenne red pepper to taste
- Roll into balls the size of moth balls.

Place on cookie sheet. Press with fork to 1/4-inch thick. Sprinkle with more cayenne or paprika. Bake at 375\* for 8-10 minutes. Cool and store in tightly sealed containers.

BUTTER AND CHEESE SHOULD BE AT ROOM TEMPERATURE BEFORE MIXING.

## JALAPENO BITES

- 1 jar or can (7 oz.) whole jalapeno peppers (drain, rinse, remove seeds)
- 1/2 pound coarsely grated cheese

Cut peppers into thin, long strips and line bottom and sides of a greased 8- or 9-inch square baking dish. Press grated cheese over peppers. Use a layer of sharp cheddar followed by a layer of Monterey Jack.

- Beat together and pour over cheese:
- 4 eggs
  - Garlic powder, to taste
  - Salt, to taste or use garlic salt

Bake at 350\* for 25-30 minutes. Cut into bite size pieces. Serve with tortilla chips or as finger food.



# THE KNEE

by  
**Ray McKinley**

Here, at the beginning of February, it's the middle of one of the greatest ski seasons ever. Europe is encrusted with snow. And the fluffy white stuff is floating down light and plentifully all over the West. On Christmas day, Park City, Utah received its 200th inch of the season! And, as of January 25, Steamboat Springs had racked up 325 inches of Champagne Powder--its total in a normal season. Steamboat's record is 447 inches, which with three snow months remaining, is certain to be eclipsed. Right on.

Things have been quite tolerable locally this season, too. Janet and Bob Marx had reasonable conditions for the PVS Wisp trip. OK, so there was "a bit" of ice. On demo day, each Marx tried out 7 sets of skis. They loved the skis, but none did well on ice. OK, so there was more than "a bit" of ice.

Speaking of local skiing, Bob McNeill is "warming up" for the season at Ski Liberty (where their motto is "give me death or give me Liberty"). Bob is spending three months skiing in Colorado.

Not skiing this season are Don and Pat Cope. Instead they are building a vacation home at Virginia's Lake of the Woods. Their home will definitely have a wine cellar, with chardoknee.

Bette Walker was an hour late to the nominating committee meeting. After years of riding, and getting lost with mentor Bill Anderson, Bette came solo. She got lost.

The selfsame Bill Anderson quotes the New York Times saying the book is still out on the new shaped skis. They may cause more injuries. Ouch!

Perhaps you would like to try my idea for those who are afraid to stand up on skis. Kneeskis.

Semi-ubiquitous PVS: Several decades ago Audrey Conner spent a year in Minnesota. She lived next door to Jan Marx's childhood home.

Ask Nancy Ewing about her lapel pin with "CASA" on it. It stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate." Nancy represents the interests of children in court cases. Right on.

Bad news from the slopes. Skiing in Utah,

Charlie Gordon crushed his shoulder. He now has four pins holding things together. Mrs. Knee did no better. Skiing at Whistler, Nancy tore her medial cruciate ligament. She is in a brace and out for the season. She'll still go to Utah and hopefully be well for Chile. Like airplanes, PVS's third crash was Carol Parmenter who also damaged her knee on Dina Taylor's Snowmass trip. Ouch! Ouch! Ouch!

As this is being written, Ruth Schrider is to have major back surgery on February 3. Ruth will likely be in Sibley Hospital for about a week, and would love to hear from PVS.

The Knee isn't much of a movie fan. I could never watch "The Wizard of Oz" *in Toto*.

More ski area news: Interwest, the owner of, amongst others, Mont Tremblant, Snowshoe and Blackcomb, has just purchased adjacent Whistler Mountain. Watch for lots of new development at Whistler. Two days later, Interwest announced the purchase of Copper Mountain. Megaskiing.

From the *Vail Times*, as provided by Knox and Karen Felker, a couple entered the Visitor Center and inquired about the snow cat tours. The receptionist described ascending the mountain and enjoying the scenery from a warm cabin. No, countered the man. He wanted to see lynx, mountain lions and other snow cats. Right.

Pity poor Suzanne Boisclair. Her neighbor asked if she had plans for an end of January week. Suzanne said no (she likely said "non," but *le Knee* doesn't do French). Her neighbor asked if she could take their timeshare near Vail. So poor Suzanne was forced to spend a week at Vail. Pity.

Dot Mills believes that ski trip insurance is misdirected. It ought to cover the only difficult part of the trip--getting to the airport. Right on!

From my "Pre-Trip Parties Must be Fun Dept.:" To get to the Ski Utah's Best party, Betty Lawrence drove in from Blue Knob. Jack Hadler flew in from New York. Obviously party animals.

Finalknee, my Kneedle of the Month, this month subtitled "Smoking is Bad for Your Wealth," goes to Fred and Barbara Leonhardt. Changing flights in Minneapolis, Minnehaha, returning from Steamboat, Fred stepped outside for a smoke--and missed the return flight, and had extra expenses!

CALENDAR

- Feb. 10 ... Ski Liberty, p. 2
- Feb. 18 ... Monthly meeting at George Hicho's, p.1
- Feb. 25 ... ExCom at the Garretts'
- Mar. 18 ... Monthly meeting at Ruth Powers'
- Mar. 25 ... ExCom at Shirley Rettig's
- Mar. 29 ... Wine Tasting at the Copes', p. 2
- Apr. 3 ... Cherry Blossom Walk, p. 2
- Apr. 12 ... Post-SnowMass party at Dina Taylor's
- Apr. 15 ... Monthly meeting *with Jane Kelsen*
- Apr. 19 ... Annual Spring Dinner at the Colonnade
- Apr. 22 ... ExCom at the Triaus'
- Apr. 26 ... Hillwood Tour
- Apr. 26 ... Spring Fling to benefit handicapped skiers

*March 22  
post office*

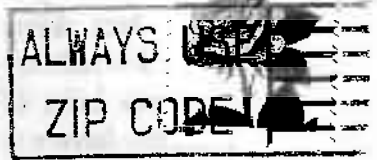
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*April 8  
DUG's*

**PLEASE NOTE:** Ray McKinley has a new office phone: 703-733-6220



Bette Walker  
#806  
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