

VOLUME XXXIV

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

JANUARY 1999

NUMBER 1

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

PRESIDENT'S It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.

SITZMARK

It was January 1979.

The Shah of Iran stepped down. Nelson Rockefeller met an untimely death in the arms of a young female aide.

And the KNEE was born.

Originally the column was attributed to BIG FOOT. But, after a year, the author could bear anonymity no longer and, to absolutely no one's surprise, revealed BIG FOOT to be the one and only Ray McKinley, often affectionately referred to as Mr. PVS himself.

For 20 years Ray's column has beguiled and astonished us. He has never missed a deadline and only 3 times in all those years did he call upon a guest columnist to substitute.

Twenty years! That's almost as long as the PELOPONESIAN WAR! Or does it only seem that way? Knashing our teeth while perfecting our kneejerk reaction to Kneepuns, we have somehow survived the onslaught.

A master of word play, Ray laces his column with the kneeologisms his public bemoans and admires. Scientists believe the punster's BRAIN has unique twists and synapses and Ray, master kneeologist of our time, has graciously consented to donate his brain to the Smithsonian for research purposes.

But kneecroscopy is far off. For now, for better or worse, the KNEE belongs to us alone, and we look forward to 20 (can we stand it?) more years of funning and punning a la Mr. McKinley.

So carry on, Ray. The ball's in your kourt.

Lu
Lu Beale, President



SCHUSSING INTO THE NEW YEAR

Monthly Meeting - January 19, 1999, 7:30 p.m.

Home of George Hicho
7404 Cliffbourne Court
Derwood, Md.
Phone: 301-963-1836

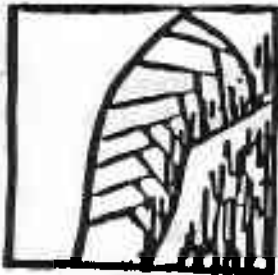
Directions: Take 270N to Exit 9, Route 370 heading toward the Metro. Go about 2 miles to Shady Grove East, then on Shady Grove Road. Go to the end which is about 6th traffic light. Turn left onto Muncaster Mill Road, take first left onto Miller Fall Road. Then left on Cliffbourne Lane, and the first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

No longer

WHITETAIL, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1999

Myron Marquardt will lead the final midweek skiing of the season on Thursday Feb. 11th. Lift passes are \$35., seniors 65-69 \$24., 70+ free.

Interested skiers should contact Myron (301 460-3269) as we will car pool from the parking lot of the AMF (Formerly Fairlanes) bowling alley on Shady Grove Road, departing promptly at 7:30 a.m. for Whitetail.



CELEBRATE 20 YEARS of The Knee!

Join us as we toast bad puns and eat maknee goodies in celebration of The Knee's 20 Years of journalism.

There are still a few places left. Contact Lu Beale at 202-363-3521 to sign up and bring your favorite Kneepun and \$5 or an appetizer.

Saturday, January 23, 1999 at 6:30pm
2326 North Upton Street, Arlington VA
home of The and Mrs. Knee

From 495 take 66 East. From 66 East, take Exit 69 which is the exit for Lee Highway (Route 29). At the top of the ramp of the exit, turn left onto Lee Highway (Route 29). Go exactly 2 1/2 miles (past Geo. Mason Dr. and Glebe Rd) and turn left onto Upton Street. 2326 is 10 houses along on the left. (Light at Lorcom Lane is 1/2 block too far.) (Call for details.)

WISP-----MID-WEEK-----99

January 13 - 15

CALL WISP NOW- to reserve your room.

Ask for the Ski Chalet Demo Day rates.

Cost

Room per night (single or double)
Voucher for Thursday's lift ticket
Apres ski supplies

\$40 (approximately)
\$ 2.00 per person, under age 70
\$ 2.00 per person (approximately)

ARRANGEMENTS

- ** Let us know if you are going, so we can plan for Apres Ski on Thursday and buy your vouchers from Ski Chalet. Also we will try to match you with a roommate if you need one.
- ** Room paid individually. For each room, call **Wisp Hotel** to reserve the room and pay a deposit for one night with a credit card or mail them a check. **1-800-462-9477.**
- ** Lift tickets are obtained individually at area: picture ID needed for voucher.
- ** Meals paid individually. Bring lunch or breakfast stuff if desired; refrigerator in the rooms.

Call Bob or Jan Marx

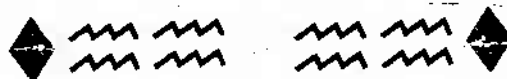
Phone: 703-451-9158

Annual gourmet wine tasting at the Copes'
Saturday, February 27, 1999, 8 p.m.

Don's great wine
Pat's great cooking

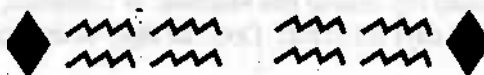


Don has some very special white wines this year in addition to his normal excellent reds. This is another great PVS event. Attendance is limited so call Don or Pat at 703-836-5436



WEEKEND AT BETHANY BEACH WITH THE DILLONS

March 19-21, 1999. This event is full, with a waiting list. If you'd like to be on that or have questions, call the Dillons at 301-330-5371.



DON'T WORRY ABOUT COMPUTER GLITCHES, ARMAGEDDON, CHAMPAGNE ALREADY SOLD OUT, WHATEVER! JUST RELAX AND PLAN TO MOVE INTO THE NEW MILLENNIUM WITH PVS. AN ELEGANT PARTY AT THE KLINES WILL TAKE US THERE, REJOICING!

SCHEDULED TRIPS FOR THE 1999-2000 SEASONS

<u>DATES</u>	<u>LOCATIONS</u>	<u>TRIP LEADERS</u>
Jan. 9 to 16, 1999	Telluride, CO.	Don & Kathy Dillon
Jan. 30 to Feb. 6, 1999	Sun Valley, ID.	Dina Taylor & Sheldon Drews
Feb. 19 to Mar. 2, 1999	Cortina, Italy	John Smith & Pat Tengel
Feb. 20 to Feb 27, 1999 BRSC Trip	Mt. Tremblant, Canada	John & Ramona Matthews
Mar. 27 to Apr. 3, 1999	Vail, CO	Ray & Nancy McKinley
Dec. 26, 99 to Jan. 2, 2000 BRSC Trip	Steamboat, CO.	Betty Lawrence

If a member is interested in a particular trip, please indicate to the above stated Trip Leader at this time to put your name on the list and make the deposit requested by the Trip Leader. Remember the trips fill-up quickly and there is a limit to the number of people on each trip.

SKI SUN VALLEY, IDAHO

January 30 thru February 6, 1999

Coordinated by Dina Taylor (301-663-6089) & Sheldon Drews (703-521-5167)

The Pre-Trip Party will be on January 9, 4 p.m. at Dina Taylor's house, 8403 Stonehouse Road, Frederick, Md, 21702.

The group leaves January 30th on United Airlines from Dulles Airport.

Any questions? Call Dina at 301-663-6089.

M O N T T R E M B L A N T

PVS joins in the Blue Ridge Ski Council's "Winterfest 1999" - February 20 to 27, 1999



Walk-to-the-slopes lodging is located at the foot of the mountain adjacent to the Village. Studio units accommodate two with a kitchen alcove, a queen bed and sofa bed. \$800 package includes: Pre-trip party; BRSC welcome party; Round-trip from Dulles to Montreal via Toronto.; Group race; inter-club challenge; Round trip charter bus Montreal to Tremblant; BRSC farewell dinner-dance; 7 nights lodging, 5 out of 6 days lift tickets; Optional sight-seeing trip to Montreal; Post-trip party.

Land only - deduct \$200; Adjustment for seniors, single supplement and non-skiers to be determined. **Payment Schedule:** A deposit of \$100 is payable with your application; make payable and mail to John Matthews, 9214 Midwood Road, Silver Spring MD 20910. But first, give John a call at 301-589-7612 to learn about space availability. A second payment of \$75 is due on December 5 and the final payment falls due on January 5, 1999.

We must have your application ASAP in order to hold seats with the airline.

♥♥♥♥ ***** ♥♥♥♥ *
March 27 to April 3, 1999 join Ray McKinley and

Hurry-Only Two Spaces Left

SKI VAIL

The Premier VS Ski Destination!

of skiing the largest, highest rated ski area in the US--and doing it with your PVS friends. The Vail mega-resort was scratch to encompass the best ski terrain in Colorado. Vail's skiing and unrivaled natural beauty make it a place to go back to again. Vail is massive with 4,644 skiable acres and the largest network of high-speed quads in North America. At the top, VAIL is 7 miles wide!! And March and April are Vail's snowiest months, so we are guaranteed great powder skiing! Vail has added practice parks for slow to moderately paced skiing so you can relax and enjoy. Special signs are posted at the top of each recently-groomed slope to eliminate guess work. Snow conditions and grooming information are always available on our in-room cable TV. Vail is truly for everyone! Join us and ski Vail! And we fly from close-in Reagan National Airport to Eagle Vail on a great schedule on United Airlines.

♥♥♥♥ We'll stay slopeside at the newly appointed, Lift House. Each spacious unit has a fireplace, queen size bed, queen size sleep sofa, full kitchen, and private balcony. Prices are per person and based on only two people per unit. Single supplement is \$550. And best of all our units are only 100 steps from the new high-speed, leather upholstered, heated Lionshead Gondola. The Lift House has two restaurants, a Jacuzzi, bank, two ski shops and is in the heart of Lionshead Village. VAIL. You'll love it!

♥♥♥♥ All the goodies you expect on a McKinley-run trip: 5 of 6 day lift passes good at Vail, Beaver Creek, Arrowhead, Keystone & Breckenridge--almost 11,000 acres!! Airfare, transfers baggage handling and gratuities. We've included three special multi course group dinners at prime Vail dining establishments, apres ski every night, and gala pre and post trip parties.

**Incredible VAIL Value: 8 Days, 7 Nights Only \$1,348, \$1,188 70+
Land Only package: \$1,009, \$849 70+**

For information call Nancy or Ray at (703) 527-7126. To sign up fill out the form in our lavender flyer (or call us) and send it with your check for \$800 (pay to Ray McKinley) to McKinleys, 2326 North Upton St., Arlington, VA 22207-4045. You'll absolutely ♥ VAIL

♥♥♥♥ ***** ♥♥♥♥ ***** ♥♥♥♥ ***** ♥♥♥♥ *****

^^^^PAST EVENTS^^^^

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Thursday, December 17, some sixty PVS Eaters gathered at the handsome Heitchue residence in Reston to get in the mood for the Christmas season. It was too chilly to enjoy the pleasures of the lake, but there were other pleasures available - of special interest were the many varieties of hors d'oeuvre prepared by members of the club, all delicious and some even non-caloric!

The dominant color of the evening was red, a lot of it, but probably the most festive attire was Bill Anderson's beautiful red Santa Claus tie which played a jazzy "Jingle Bells."

Pres. Beale held a brief meeting (which, happily, didn't disturb the eaters as the table was in the same room), and Kirk Burns led the caroling.

Thank you, Jean and Reggie for your gracious hospitality - for the seventh year!

Steamboat '98 *WHAT A GREAT TRIP!* Trip Leaders Ned and Jackie Flaherty put together an excellent package and kept it and us together throughout our travels and travails. Getting out of Dulles was an exercise in brinkmanship as Ned and the airline went nose to nose over a ticketing issue, and when the United agent unctuously asked how Ned expected to get home, the riposte was "Delta." Frank, our bus driver out of Denver to Steamboat, dispelled the lingering tension with a smooth, accommodating ride and personality—tho' falling snow and road conditions were, uh, challenging. The Sheraton was undergoing the last stages of a makeover as we arrived, but the service was truly western—open, friendly, and sincere—the well-chilled bottle of champagne for each room was a warmer as well. Temps were near perfect for making snow, for nature had not been overly generous to the Rockies this season. Steamboat's very early (Nov 16) opening was a feint by the snow gods who lost out to the warm winds from the south. Steamboat returnees were a mite disappointed, but those of us experiencing the place for the first time found it far better than the East Coast's very best offerings in any early December on record (basically their ice is better than our ice—it doesn't cover the entire slope!). It helped that the mountain was almost vacant—the longest lift line experienced (when there were any at all) was 1-2 minutes. The Snow Boarding convention which descended on us presented a challenge of it's own. Skiing among *Boarders* is a lot like skiing in the midst of a landslide—a few more PVSers added helmets to their kit as a result. The weather was crystalline and bright every day but the 12th when high clouds (flat light) herded many of us into town to ensure those merchants and restaurateurs were as well served as the ones slopeside—tho' there was a small, almost daily PVS contingent on the free bus into town. Those of us in town on the 12th and before were treated World Cup Ski Jumping off Howelson Hill right behind the *mercantile* district. Socially, this trip was superb! The hotel wine and cheese was a welcome unwind from the 7+ hr trip. The next night, Nancy Lewis and Gladdy Youngblood hosted a long-to-be-remembered apres-ski in their spacious condo just a few minutes slip and slide (excuse me, "walk") from the Sheraton. Ned and Jackie and their suite-mates opened their doors to us three separate nights for munchies and for high quality door prizes donated locally and by our good club friend Brian Eardley. Afterwards, we dispersed for dinners on our own at several of the delicious, reasonably priced, and well-served choices around the Resort. Of course, the group dinners at Mattie Silk's, La Montana, and Sevens (in the Sheraton) cannot go without mention for their close camaraderie (excuse me, I think your elbow is on my fork); excellent cuisine (loved the elk fajitas!); and relaxed atmosphere (will you all be quiet so we can make an announcement!). This year accidents, incidents, etc were held to a minimum, and Steamboat is reconsidering its prior decision to name a wing of the new hospital for PVS. "Ken" drove us out to Denver on a beautiful day and offered a commentary on the surroundings that added to the ride. Flying home was as good as it gets in coach class. We arrived at Dulles early and went our many ways. Thanks Ned, Jackie, et al for making this a great start to the Holiday Season.

Dear PVS: I would like to express my sincere thanks to the many PVSers who sent me cards of sympathy regarding the death of my father. I especially thank Lu Beale, Bill Anderson and Aina Thomas for attending my dad's funeral and wake. Somehow, I think he knew they were there. He loved PVS and the many wonderful times he had on and off the slopes! I hope to see you all on some of the trips in the future.

Wayne Yessler

The Knee Turns Twenty

by
Big Foot



Twenty years ago when this column was first written, I was a kneephyte. Now, most would agree (all right, some would agree) the style is kneeclassical (OK, at least one other person might agree). Over the years, whilst recognizing that we are a family publication, I have oft tried to be a tad titillating. Now after 20 years, in Roman Numerals, I am Double "X" rated! Kneet.

A bit of Historknee. In late 1978, the club kneeded a light, airy gossip column. New member and super writer Lu Beale was asked to take on the task. She declined claiming she was too new. After insufficient consideration, the outgoing president (me) decided to do the column.

Why call it "the Knee?" Simple. The then Washington Star (whose motto was "A little of the news that's fit, we print") had a gossip column called "the Ear." It was likely this effort would be at a level below the ear. Further, while skiing in Aspen, the future Knee had injured a knee.

I drive a Japaknees car--a Kneesan.

The Knee first appeared in January 1979. It was under the pseudonym "Big Foot", starting with these mortal words. "the Knee creaks, and knows all, and tells all--or at least 73%." OK, It wasn't an auspicious beginning. That first column ended with, "The Kneedle of the month goes to Bob Marx. (In order to preserve Bob's anonymity we'll only use his initials.) Well...in October, BM volunteered to do the major task of putting TOOT together starting in Nov. But in Nov., BM was on a business trip, so B's lovely wife Jan (or J) did TOOT. For the Dec. TOOT B was also on a trip. And guess where B was in Jan? Right--on a trip. Way to volunteer Bob er BM." And thus it began.

The next month, came the first bandaged Knee logo. This was after others' suggestions that the logo be a Heiknee or Baloknee. In May, we started to underline members' names in the Knee to attract attention. Indeed, some years later Janet Waln mentioned she only read the Knee when she

saw her underlined name! Thus, thereafter, I included sentences such as "Janet Waln did not attend this event." It worked. Indeed, I bet Janet Waln is reading this column.

Often of course, I've done matrimoknee.

The biggest story of the Knee's first year was on assassination. It seems that Reg Heitchue tried to drown Pres. Marilyn Clark by turning over his catamaran whilst at Jacques Hadler's. It failed.

After a year the "Big Foot" cover weakened. So, I provided my pen name--Mont Blanc! (In a more pedestrian column, my pen name would have been Parker--or even Bic). Later I provided my pseudonym. It was Mary Pseudo (not Janet Waln).

In March, being more than a little reticent (I was a big reticent,) the Knee's true self was revealed. I came in from the cold. Perhaps in ski parlance, better would be, I went out into the cold.

The following year, Pres. Marilyn Clark created the Knee's fan club called CoreKnee. The club faded later with Marilyn as the only member.

And so it has continued. In twenty years, we've had two guest columns, written by ex-member Mort Kuff and by Dick Clark. But they were definitely not down to my standard. There was also a special "HistorKnee" in our 25th Ankneeverarknee Issue (in which the true name of PVS was revealed: Poor Vater Skiers) and the "LuKnee" for Lu's 80th Birthday (in which it was revealed that in college Lu wasn't an English Major--she was only a Zambian Lieutenant). All told 240 Knees. That's more Knees than on 2 NFL Teams.

To honor my XXth, the Chikneese declared 1999 to be "The Year of the Knee?" Yes, it's true. Would I ever mislead you (except for Janet Waln)?

My favorite Presidents were Kenkneedy, Kneexon, and certainly Ronknee. I loved Ronknee's program "for the truly kneedy."

Some of you have told me you actually read this column. The reason is simple. It's about you, your foibles and the funknee things you do. And, if you don't do funny things, I make them up. That's in the tradition of the Washington Post. In Latin it's *ex post facto*, or after it's in the Post it's a fact.

After 20 years, the Knee forgets. I kneed more kneemonics, or could it be amkneesia?

CALENDAR

- Jan. 2 ... Christmas at the Old Bull and Bush
- Jan. 9 ... Pre-Sun- Valley-Trip party
- Jan. 13 ... to 15th, Midweek skiing at WISP, p. 3
- Jan. 19 ... Monthly meeting at George Hicho's, p. 2
- Jan. 23 ... Celebration of the KNEE, p. 2
- Jan. 26 ... ExCom at Lu Beale's
- Feb. 7 ... Pre-Cortina-Trip party
- Feb. 11 ... MidWeek skiing at Whitetail, p. 2
- Feb. 16 ... Monthly meeting at the Marxes'
- Feb. 23 ... ExCom at the Huggins'
- Feb. 27 ... Wine tasting at the Copes', p. 3
- Mar. 16 ... Monthly meeting at Pat Summers' & Al Richman's
- Mar. 18 ... Bike Ride, Glen Echo to Georgetown
- Mar. 19 ... Weekend with the Dillons at Bethany, p 3
- Apr. 22 ... Bike Ride, Bell Haven to Mt. Vernon and return



April 10
M. Hennon

NOTE: RAY MCKINLEY'S NEW OFFICE NUMBER IS 703-918-9822.

Bette Walker
#806
2801 New Mexico Ave., N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20007

