

VOLUME XXXII

*Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.*

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MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A funny thing happened on the way to a recent PVS event in Virginia. I was in a car with three other hens--i.e. very old chickens--plus the driver (whose initials are B.A.) who had left his compass at home. He said, "Don't fret. I know the way perfectly."

Well, we didn't fret exactly, but we were puzzled because it seems that many years ago, B.A.'s father told him to avoid circles and left turns at all costs. Now Washington is made up of circles and there are left turns all over the place. So it took a very long time to get to the event and the hens saw a lot of interesting Washington landmarks including Peace Cross in Bladensburg--a far piece from Virginia.

When we finally arrived at our destination, we felt we'd had a very pleasant and educational long cut, and it had all been worth it even though we had to sort of scrounge for the leftovers at the event.

What does all this have to do with skiing? More than you might think, because the moral is that there is more than one way to get from here to there, and the long scenic trail down a mountain is often more fun than the black diamond.

So look for me on the miles-long "Me too!" trail at Steamboat and similar trails at other areas. Like B.A.'s long cut, they are refreshing and memorable and allow time to smell the pines. A kind of Peace Cross, you might say. Try it. It's not a bad way to go.

*Lu*

Lu Beale, President



MONTHLY MEETING, NOVEMBER 18, 1997, 7:30 p.m.  
Home of Ruth Powers, 7580 Potomac Fall Road,  
McLean, VA 22102. Tel: 703-821-2431

SPECIAL GUEST: Annual appearance of Brian Eardley of the Washington Ski Center to tell us about the latest ski gear.

Directions on next page.

COMING EVENTS

Directions to Ruth Powers': From Beltway, take Exit 13 (Georgetown Pike, Rte. 198). Go west on Georgetown Pike for one mile and turn right on Potomac River Road (brick wall says Potomac Overlook Subdivision). Go to end of Potomac River Road (about 1/2 mile) and turn right on Potomac Fall Road. No. 7580 is first house on the left after turn. Driveway goes down hill to the house.



MIDWEEK HIKE, BLACK HILL REGIONAL PARK, THURSDAY, NOV. 6th

Myron Marquardt will lead the six-mile hike starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Visitors' Center. The hike will be easy as 3/4 of the trail is paved, and only 1/4 will involve a dirt trail down a small hill to the lake. Little Seneca Lake (500 acres) was created as an emergency water supply for the Washington area.

Many migratory birds now make Little Seneca Lake their winter home. Hikers may wish to come a little early and tour the Visitors' Center. Bring your lunch for eating in a covered shelter at completion of the hike.

Please contact Myron Marquardt (301-460-3269) to let him know you are coming.

DIRECTIONS: Take I-270 North to Exit 16, Route 27, Father Hurley Boulevard Damascus. Follow Father Hurley Blvd. to Route 355 and turn north on 355. Travel 0.9 mile north on 355 and then turn left on West Old Baltimore Road for 1.5 miles. Immediately after passing under I-270 is the entrance road to the park on the left. Follow the road to the large parking lot on the right in front of the Visitors' Center.

ARTS CLUB DINNER, Nov. 15, 1997, 7 p.m. Club is at 2017 Eye Street, N.W. Event is full, and has a wait list, but call Bill Anderson to check, 301-654-4711.

MID-WEEK BICYCLE RIDE Thursday November 20 10:30 am



*Starting Place:* Glen Echo/Clara Barton Parking Lot (off MacArthur Blvd. just west of Goldsboro Road intersection). The ride will proceed west via bikepaths to Potomac for lunch at the Village Deli (17 miles round trip). For further information and to let us know if you are coming, call Marvin Hass (703) 751-4737.



SKI TRIP ROUNDUP

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO, December 6 to 13, 1997. Full, with wait list. Call the Flahertys, 301-929-9664.

ZERMATT-ST. MORITZ, Jan. 30 to Feb. 15, 1998. Still a few spaces on this trip, but call John Smith ASAP. 301-299-8376.

Feb 22-March 1 or March 4, 1998

# SKI BIG SKY MONTANA

The trip is full with a wait list. For more info. call Nancy or Ray at (703) 527-7126.

Trip participants: We will have letter out to you in mid November providing options for trips into Yellowstone and a cookout dinner. We will also tell you of insurance the amount of your final payment which is due December 6, 1997

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CORRECTIONS TO LAST MONTH'S LISTINGS: Dates for trip to Val d'Isere are Jan. 9 to 17, 1997. Call McKinleys, 703-527-7126. Price for Telluride trip (Don Dillon, 301-990-3792) is \$1129.

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## WISP-----MID-WEEK-----98

**January 14-16**

Arrive on Wednesday to be ready for DEMO day on Thursday--great bargain, great fun trying new equipment. Then, purchase your own lift ticket on Friday. Note that when you make a reservation, a deposit of \$42.12 per room will be charged. Written cancellation must be made by Jan. 3rd.

### Cost

<b>Room</b> per night (single or double)		\$42.12	tax included
Voucher for Thursday's lift ticket		\$ 2.00	per person
Après ski supplies		\$ 3.00	per person
Friday's lift ticket, per person--	-up to 65 years old	\$32.00	tax included
	- 65-69 years old	\$16.00	tax included
	-over 70 years old	\$ FREE	

### ARRANGEMENTS

- \*\* Let us know you want to go and we will try to match you with a roommate when one is requested, and so we can plan for Apres Ski, etc.
- \*\* Room paid individually. For each room, call **Wisp Hotel** to reserve the room and pay a deposit of \$42.12 for one night with a credit card or mail them a check. **1-800-462-9477.**
- \*\* Lift tickets obtained individually at area: picture ID needed for voucher.
- \*\* Meals paid individually. Bring lunch or breakfast stuff if desired; refrigerator in the rooms.
- \*\* Send a check to us for vouchers and Apres Ski costs.

Make check payable to: **Robert Marx**  
Mail to: 8312 Oakford Dr.  
Springfield, VA 22152

(Memo note: "PVS-WISP Mid-week")  
Phone: 703-451-9158

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## ....AINA AND JAN ARE still ON the QUEST....

Four people have given us some pictures and a video already! Thanks !!!  
We are collecting and compiling photos and other significant memorabilia in  
scrapbooks for PVS. These will be a way of preserving all the fun we have had while  
going on some pretty extraordinary adventures.

So... we are calling for material covering November 1995 to the present.

Ski TRIPS include:

Winter Park  
Park City  
Heavenly Valley  
Val d'Isere  
Valle Nevado, Chile

Snowmass  
SteamBeaver  
Sun Valley  
St. Anton/St. Moritz  
local trips

Numerous EVENTS.

All contributions MUST be identified with:

Names  
Date  
Place

and....Be clear, good photos.  
Photos of people.

So....clean out and get organized, everyone.

**Mail or give items to Aina and Jan.**

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## **PAST EVENTS**

### Annual PVS Crab Feast

On the next to the last day of summer, fifty of the very best  
skiers in the Washington area gathered at Betty Lawrence's gracious home  
in Great Falls, Va., for the annual PVS crab feast. A great time was  
had by all, particularly by those who arrived in the early afternoon for  
swimming and lounging around Betty's swimming pool.

There were both denials and bragging rights as to who devoured  
the most crabs. Good authority has it that Ron Ewing was among the two  
or three who hit the 20 crab mark. Both the crabbers and those who  
brought their own hamburgers, hot dogs and other delights enjoyed a  
bounty of wonderful appetizers, salads and desserts.

The McKinleys whetted the collective PVS appetite for the  
upcoming ski season with their comments on the recent Chile trip, which  
was blessed with several feet of fresh powder, great slopes and super  
accommodations. There were also informal discussions about the several  
scheduled PVS ski trips out West, to Europe and to Mt. Tremblant in  
Canada. Think snow and the trips will soon be here.

To the hostess with the mostest, thank you Betty for another  
great PVS event. We are grateful to you!

Bob McNeill

## FALL FOLIAGE WEEKEND RECIPE

by Sue Walsh

Take a three day weekend, add picture perfect weather with autumn colors, and one unflappable and gracious hostess. Mix together thirteen fun loving PVSers, wonderful food, great hiking, lots of laughter, fun and games and you have "another boring PVS event" (sic).

So much to tell, and such little space in which to do it. In addition to eating, hiking occupied much of our time. On Saturday after everyone had arrived, we hiked to a recreation area. There we took turns practicing our balancing skills by traversing an unsteady tree limb which crossed a ravine. Then came rousing games of Dodge Ball and Gray Duck. With just enough energy left to finish the hike, we retired to Betty's chalet to eat and drink. The highlight of the evening was a game which involved telling some truths and one lie about yourself. Not only did we learn interesting facts about each other, but after a thrilling tiebreaker "lie-off," Ray McKinley distinguished himself as the best liar in the group.

Sunday the intrepid hikers studied the trail maps and went on their way to explore the depths of Blue Knob. Five of us decided to take a more leisurely hike around the golf course. Marilyn Clark and George Hicho were our eagle eyes and between them they managed to find nineteen golf balls which unfortunate golfers had lost. This activity produced much laughter and it was a real toss up which group had the best hike.

The above ingredients produced a fantastic weekend and we thank Betty for once again hosting a great PVS event.



### October Meeting

*The rain held off and PVS and E'ers gathered without the need of umbrellas at the lovely home of Sally Finan and George Welti. According to Sara Huggin's book, 51 members came to enjoy PVS comradery and partake of the delicious ham, salads, chips, dips and condiments. Lively conversation was buzzing, mostly around the dining room table.*

*It was good to talk with seldom seen Wayne Yessler and not quite as seldom seen Gail and Lary Pease and many others. The subject was, of course, primarily about ski trips past and future.*

*Our president Lu held the business meeting with PVS's new PA system. The treasurer was not present but is well and PVS is solvent. Marilyn Clark reported 170 members to be recorded as paid up. Ski Trip Com. Chairman Glade Flake reported the PVS trips for 1998 are doing well. Plans for 1999 are ongoing for Jan. 30-Feb. 06: Winter Carnival, Sun Valley, Idaho. Ray McKinley and Charlie Huggins presented their respective lists of future events. Also, some interesting ideas were brought up for the millenium 1999/2000..... Stay tuned to PVS! More socializing, and very tasty desserts as well as Star-buck coffe!*

*Thank you, Sally and George, for your gracious hospitality ---a wonderful evening.*

*Dina Taylor*



Hiking and Biking and Feasting with the Leonhardts Dot Mills

Fred rode a bicycle, but everybody else - 25 of us - walked. He covered a lot more territory than we, I'm sure. He was constantly announcing his arrival from behind with a ringing bell, then disappearing ahead of us. Barbara says he bought the bike to get the bell!

It was really a fun walk - through Kentlands with its beautiful Victorian houses and gardens, and nearby fields, and lakes surrounded by marvellous cattails. The weather cooperated just in time - Friday's rain disappeared. No sun, but the temperature was perfect. A really perfect hiking day.

Then on to the gourmet feast prepared by Barbara - a marvellous assortment of appetizers, followed by delicious, beautiful pineapple-topped baked ham, pureed acorn squash, baked beans - too many goodies to remember. Then on to a great assortment of desserts. We were absolutely sated!

Many, many thanks Barbara and Fred for a very special and memorable day..



**PVSers ENJOY "RENT" AND DINNER**

Sixteen members of PVS gathered at The National Theater on Oct. 25th to enjoy the play RENT. While the first act found some of us struggling to follow the story line, and others struggling with their hearing, (this was really a Rock Opera!), the second act brought everything together and ended with a rousing standing ovation for the cast.

After the play, we all walked a short block to LES HALLES restaurant and enjoyed a wonderful meal, along with warm and friendly conversation.

Our thanks to Nancy and Ray McKinley for organizing such a great event. It was enjoyed by all.

Kathy Dillon



**BIKE TO LAKE NEEDWOOD - Thursday, September 18, 1997**

The September midweek bike ride involved ten PVSers and guests. The skies cleared after an early morning shower and the sun appeared in time for the start of our ride northward along the rolling Rock Creek bike path in upper Montgomery County. Despite the wet pavement and early deposit of fallen leaves, we are pleased to report no casualties. After a brief stop at the Lake (10 miles out) we headed back down the path in time for our 1:00 pm lunch reservation at the Garrett Park Cafe at the commuter RR station. We were joined for lunch by a contingent of PVSers arriving by auto, including President Lu Beale and seven others, including a surprise visit by former President Mary Jane McCarthy and her daughter Claire. The bikers departed after lunch to negotiate the remaining three miles to the place of beginning.

- John Matthews

BRSC FALL MEETING

The semi-annual meeting of the Blue Ridge Ski Council was held on September 28 at the Officers' Club of Andrews Air Force Base. PVS was represented by President Lu Beale, Ski Trip Committee Chairman Glade Flake, and Dina Taylor.

It was an interesting and productive meeting and resulted in securing information which is essential for PVS as well as other ski clubs when planning future ski trips.

Of special interest to PVS was the BRSC Winter Carnival to be held at Sun Valley, Idaho from January 30 to February 6, 1999 and the Winterfest (formerly Ski-O-Ree) at an eastern ski area from Feb. 20-27, 1999.

...Dina Taylor

(Ed's note: PVS expects to participate in one or both events.)

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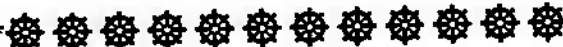
A TOUR OF BROOKSIDE GARDENS

The poet, James Russell Lowell wrote:

And What is so Rare as a Day in June ?

Then, if ever, Come Perfect days;

For 17 PVS, the perfect day came on Thursday, October 9 when Rachel Abraham led us to Brookside Gardens located in Wheaton, Maryland. This 50 acre "Edentonian" splendor of eleven speciality gardens, including lakes, ponds and waterfalls were showing their Fall colors, and late summer blossoms. The gardens were spectacular in spite of the severe Deer damage. The rose garden had been gnawed to the roots. Our volunteer guide, Gwen Luttell, a Master Gardener, was also a geologist. Gwen and Penny Hanshaw quickly renewed old times as they had worked together for the U. S. Geological Survey. Also, Sue Walsh remembered that Gwen's children had gone to school with her children. It was a real joy to have Margaret Wyckoff join the group. After the tour we lunched in the adjoining Nature Center, under azure blue skies and towering Oaks. Rachel provided Italian cookies and apricots for dessert. Thanks, Rachel, for a great day.



PVS T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE!

Short sleeved, size small only. Great Christmas gift for grandchildren--or a small adult. Only \$3!  
See Charlie Huggins, 301-424-5725.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The PVS Nominating Committee will meet in early November to select a slate of three ExCom members and a president to be voted upon at the April meeting. If you have any suggestions, please contact any committee member immediately: Marilyn Clark, chairperson, Dick Clark, Ned Flaherty, Nancy Garrett, Jan Marx, Aina Thomas.





# THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

Daylight Savings Time is now a thing of the past. Steamboat had 18" of

snow on October 13. Keystone and Killington are now open, and the Denver area has already had its first blizzard--over 48" in places, with major Interstate Highways closed. (Isn't it strange, by the way that Hawaii has "interstate" highways?) With all that winter weather about, can the opening of Ski Liberty be far behind? Well...yes.

PVSers, as usual, have early season ski plans. Sally Finan and George Welti will be in Vail in early December. So will Ron Fett. He'll be out for the first of his 2 months as a Vail ski instructor. Some of us will spend early December at Redskins Park. Last month the Knee mentioned that Sue Walsh got season tickets after 30 years on the waiting list. So did Don and Pat Cope--but they only had to wait 25 years! Also, after seeing their seat location, long time ticket holders Bill and Susan Brown sold their tickets. Instead, they are going to Vail. Right on.

You shoulda been at the last Excom meeting at Suzanne Boisclair's. We all enjoyed Suzanne's handmade (it's much better than the footmade stuff) stained glass. However, the kneet thing was the miniature, operating gondola in her bedroom. Clearly the Knee has no comment.

Here's some news I thought would never happen. Bill Anderson, who now admits he had a graying beard years ago, has finally sold the last of our 35th Ankniversary champagne flutes. Bill is now truly fluteless.

While he was hirsute, Bill had to describe himself on a form. "Medium height and a graying beard." The next question was "Male or female?"

Some words of Poetknee to ponder, a bit.

*Fruit flies like a banana,  
Time flies like an arrow.*

We all had a ball at Betty Lawrence's alternate abode at Blue Knob, including one of the most outrageous dinner parties in club historknee.

Whilst out hiking, President Beale was proceeding slowly. "I'm pondering the hereafter," she philosophized. "What am I here after?"

*Deja vu* again. Bob and Jan Marx left Blue Knob ten minutes after Dick and Marilyn Clark, and took a different route. Yet 150 miles later, turning off the Beltway, their cars were behind each other! Marilyn believes that when the Pope skied he was good with his Poles. Blame Marilyn.

Several years ago, on a Wyckoff trip to Austria (all right already, it was a bit more than several years ago), Mary Ward and Penny Hanshaw went horseback riding. It was on the second floor of a barn! They obviously enjoyed it as both came back and bought horses. Both are now accomplished horsepersons. I was one too, after last winter's sore throat.

Yup, Dick Comerford is back from scuba diving in the Cayman Islands. Dick was certified as a diver in Centreville, Virginia--in a quarry. Really. His second sport is certainly all wet.

After a lengthy absence, it was great to see Wayne Yessler at our meeting at Finan/Welti's. Wayne had been gone so long that he had to renew his PVS membership before he could eat.

Son of a PVSer. Gail Pease's son, Greg, is about to start his third year on the Mt. Hood, Oregon Ski Patrol. Right on. Larry and Gail Pease will both be patrolling at Wisp this year. Larry is in his 42nd year--Gail isn't even that old.

Grandson of a PVSer--or two. A tip of the ol' Knee cap to Don and Pat Cope and Betty Byrne. They are all new grandparents.

Also, congrats to John and Ramona Matthews. They have a roof over their new addition--finally. Ramona says the addition is into its second five year plan. Whoops.

A bit shaken, but back from Italy is Ruth Powers. She was in the Basilica of Assisi a day before the earthquake destroyed most of it, including irreplaceable frescoes.

John Newdorp and Audrey Conner were in Paris the day after Princess Diana died. Later they hot air ballooned (to coin a verb) over Versailles. The Knee could certainly do hot air. Hmmm.

CALENDAR

- Nov. 6 ... Black Hill Regional Park hike, p. 2
- Nov. 7 ... 8 & 9, National Ski Expo, p. 3
- Nov. 15 ... Arts Club Dinner, p. 2
- Nov. 18 ... Monthly Meeting at Ruth Powers', p. 1
- Nov. 20 ... Midweek Bike ride, p. 2
- Nov. 22 ... Annual Chili Hike, p. 3
- Nov. 25 ... ExCom at Bill Anderson's, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 16 ... Christmas party at the Heitchues'
- Dec. 19 ... ExCom at the Clarks'. NOTE DATE CHANGE.
- Jan. ? ... Millenium Party
- Jan. 11 ... Klezmer party, p. 3. *Albany*
- Jan. 14 ... 15 & 16, Ski at WISP, p. 4.

*Dy) Dec 8 PM to 5:15  
etc*



*March 28 Copy*

*Henry  
style*

Bette Walker  
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