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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

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MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If you have not renewed your PVS membership, this is the last TOOT you will get. Quel dommage!

"If you don't get it, you don't get it" to quote the Washington Post's catchy phrase for those unfortunates who don't subscribe. It means, I think, that if you do not have access to the Post classified ads, for instance, you will miss out on the chance to buy a 20-year-old refrigerator, cheap, or whatever.

Now if you don't get TOOT you don't get a lot more important things than that. Because everyone knows that TOOT not only prints all the ski news that's fit to print, but some that isn't. (No TOOT columnist should take this personally!) So waste no more time. Re-up now and get first dibs on the fabulous ski trips planned for '99--trips you can read about only in TOOT. Remember--if you don't take it, you won't make it. Ski Heil!

Lu
Lu Beale, President

MONTHLY MEETING:



Tuesday, October 21, 1997, 7:30 p.m.
Home of Sally Finan and George Welti
11311 French Horn Lane, Reston, VA 22091
Tel: 703-716-9023

SPECIAL TREAT: Videos from PVS trips to Mount Sutton in 1989 and 1991 will be shown.

Directions to Finan/Welti home: From Beltway (I-495) exit onto Route 273 (Dulles Toll Road). Exit at Hunter Mill Road, turning left. Turn right onto Sunrise Valley Drive. At first traffic light, turn left onto South Lakes Drive. At first traffic light, turn left onto Twin Branches Road. After passing Lake Audubon, turn right onto Glade Drive. Go 0.9 of a mile to a left on Tumbletree Way and immediately go left onto French Horn Lane. The Finan/Welti home is at the end of the cul-de-sac.

COMING EVENTS

DINING OUT GROUP

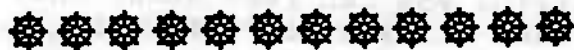
Join us for dinner on Tuesday, October 14, 1997 at UMBERTO'S, our favorite neighborhood cafe. UMBERTO'S has recently been enlarged so that we can now all fit. UMBERTO'S is in the Cabin John Shopping Center at the corner of Seven Locks Road and Tuckerman Lane in Potomac.

Directions: Coming South on RT. 270, get off at the Montrose Road exit and go West for 1/4 mile to Seven Locks Road. Turn left on Seven Locks Road and go south for 1-1/4 mile. The Cabin John Shopping Center is on the left.

Coming from Virginia, go East on the Beltway (Rt.. 495), start North on the Rt.. 270 spur and very soon get off on the Democracy Blvd. Exit West (This is at the Montgomery Shopping mall). Go West on Democracy Blvd. For 1 mile and turn right on Seven Locks Road and go 1-1/4 mile to the intersection of Tuckerman Lane. Cabin John Shopping Center is on the right side of the road.

UMBERTO'S is on the East side of the shopping center to the left of the MOTO PHOTO and the Crown Book store.

So that we may know how many to expect, please call Pat Tengel or John Smith at (301) 299-8376 by Sunday, October 12.



TOUR BROOKSIDE GARDENS OCT. 9, 10:30 A.M.

Brookside Gardens is a 50-acre garden. Tropical plants such as bananas and orchids are seen in the Conservatories. Outside gardens include Rose, Formal, Gude, Fragrance, Japanese and Trial.

We will meet in front of the Conservatories, and then tour the Gardens. Participants should bring their lunch for eating with the group at the Nature Center picnic area adjacent to Brookside Gardens. Food or drink is not permitted in the gardens. Interested PVSevs should call Rachel Abraham (301) 530-7612 to let her know you're coming.

Directions: Take the beltway to Georgia Avenue exit (Rt. 97). Go north on Georgia Avenue passing thru Wheaton to Randolph Road. Turn right on Randolph Road. Go two blocks and turn right at the second traffic light on Glenallen Ave. Follow Glenallen Ave. to Brookside Gardens at the bottom of the hill on the right side. Park in the paved lot in front of the Conservatories.

FALL STROLL/BIKE AND DINNER

Saturday, October 18, 1997, 3:00 p.m. at the Leonhardts' home, 606 Firehouse Lane in Gaithersburg. (Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 19.) Event is full but if interested call to ask about cancellations. (301-963-8111).

Directions: Take the Beltway to Rte. 270 to Exit, 6B, Rte 28, Darnestown Road. Go West. Follow Darnestown Road for 4.6 miles to signal at Kentlands entrance, Tschiffley Square Road. Turn right. At 3rd stop sign, turn right at Leeks Lot Way. Almost immediately, turn right at Firehouse Lane to #606. Carpooling is encouraged, since parking at the house is limited.



MID-WEEK BICYCLE RIDE Thursday October 23 11:00 am



Starting Place: Great Falls Park (Virginia) Visitor Center (West from Beltway on Virginia Rte 193 [Old Georgetown Pike] about three miles to sign for Park entrance on right. Proceed an additional 1/2 miles to Visitor Center. Remember to bring your Golden Age Passport for free entrance). This will be a short two hour excursion on unpaved traffic-free park roads (requiring mountain or hybrid bikes. Since this style of riding may be new to some participants, the pace will be relaxed. Bring snack. For further information and to let us know if you are coming, call Marvin Hass (703) 751-4737.



RENT at the National plus dinner afterwards at Les Halles Oct. 25. Event is full but call the McKinleys to check on a wait list. 703-527-7126.



NEWSEUM AND FREEDOM PARK TOUR - WEDNESDAY OCT. 29, 11 A.M.

Join other PVSers for a tour of the fabulous new museum featuring multi-media exhibits and hands-on fun as TV newscasters or reporter in the interactive newsroom, plus Freedom Park tour where you will find a section of the Berlin Wall and other historic exhibits.

We will meet at 11:00 A.M. at the museum entrance at 1101 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Va. Public parking is available. (Cross Key Bridge and proceed 4 lights to left on Wilson Blvd. Metro orange or blue line to Rosslyn.)

Bring lunch or get a snack from News Byte Cafe to eat in Freedom Park. Call Charles Huggins (301) 424-5725 to let him know you coming so we will wait for you, and to arrange carpooling to the Newseum.



DINNER AT THE ARTS CLUB

Already 40 PVsers have sent in their checks to attend this elegant evening in the historic home of President James Monroe. Since the event is limited to 50, if you would like to be a part of this traditional, optional black-tie soiree, mail Bill Anderson your check of \$55.00 per person, posthaste. Send to 4711 De Russey Parkway, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

The evening begins promptly at seven o'clock with cocktails in the second floor double drawing rooms.

The club is located at 2017 Eye Street, N.W., between 20th and 21st streets, at Pennsylvania Avenue.

Bill looks forward to seeing all in the latest fall formal attire on Saturday, November 15.

ANNUAL CHILI HIKE will take place on Saturday, Nov. 22. This is a limited event (for dinner--all are welcome for the hike) so call the McKinleys now--703-527-7126.

!! SKI TRIPS !!

◆◆◆◆◆ STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO. December 6 to 13, 1997. Full, with a wait list. Call the Flahertys (301-929-9664) with questions or to get a brochure on insurance.

◆◆◆◆◆ ZERMATT-ST. MORITZ. Jan. 30 to Feb. 15, 1998. Still a few spaces on this trip. Call John Smith, 301-299-8376. See Sept. TOOT for a full flyer.

◆◆◆◆◆ BIG SKY, MONTANA. Feb. 22 to Mar. 1, (or Mar. 4), 1998. Trip is full. Call Nancy or Ray re the wait list or to ask about insurance. 703-527-7126.

MONT TREMBLANT. CANCELLED because of lack of response.

ACTION BY PVS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

At the September meeting of the Executive Committee, the Ski Committee presented and the Executive Committee accepted a recommendation that non-sponsored ski trips organized by PVS members or sponsored by the Blue Ridge Ski Council may be listed in the TOOT with the following information: destination, dates, price, sponsor/agency, trip leader, and telephone, not to exceed one inch.

THE FOLLOWING TRIPS MAY THEREFORE BE OF INTEREST TO PVS MEMBERS

◆◆◆◆ SKI VAL d'ISERE, FRANCE, Jan. 19-17, 1998.
Club Any Mountain trip hosted by Ray and Nancy McKinley.
Cost is \$1349. Call Ray or Nancy for more information
at 703-527-7126.

◆◆◆◆ TELLURIDE, CO, Jan. 10-17, 1998.
Cost is \$1190, \$699 land only, \$170 less over 70. Call
Jack at Peoples Ski Adventures, 301-881-6220, or Don
Billon, Goshen Travel, 301-990-3792.

◆◆◆◆ BRSC WINTER CARNIVAL, Aspen, CO. Jan. 30-Feb. 7, 1998.
Complete cost \$1090. Call Jack Peoples, 301-881-6220.

◆◆◆◆ BRSC WINTERFEST, Sunday River, ME, Mar. 1-8, 1998.
Complete cost, \$755. Call Jack Peoples, 301-881-6220.

PAST EVENTS

OKTOBERFEST, SEPT. 20, 1997

The storm clouds gathered over Mary Ward and Jim Slack's farm the afternoon of the unteenth annual Oktoberfest, but fortunately they held off until partygoers were on their home. Meanwhile, people drank, snacked, and talked of ski trips past and future. About 35 people attended, including special guests the Marx brothers Eric and Brian with Brian's bride of several months. No lederhosen were to be seen, though several people including the McKinleys and Jack Ragen wore shorts with suspenders and knee socks (appropriate for Ray). The socks had feet in them though; not quite authentic! But what the heck, the main course of dinner was classic Oktoberfest with wurst, potato salad and sauerkraut and pflaumenkuchen for dessert. This year a new touch was introduced in the form of low-fat wurst for the cholesterol-conscious. As usual, it was a fun event, and thank Mary and Jim for an opportunity to enjoy an afternoon in the country.

Shirley Rettie

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The portents for a splendid PVS year were exceedingly positive at the first meeting of the year held at the home of Kathy and Don Dillon. Members arrived in the glow of a striking sunset and departed in the glow of a full moon.

In between came pleasure in admiring Kathy's flower beds (and Don's excellent mowing), in enjoying greeting one another on the spacious deck, in partaking of the delicious food, and in listening to the masterful meeting-conducting of our president over the new PVS sound system. How many positive portents could a club have? Business mostly concerned upcoming events and ski trips.

Many thanks to Kathy and Don for getting us off to such a good start. (W 'll even let them take credit for the sunset and full moon!)

....Jessma Blockwick

SKI TRIP- (Yes! in August!!)-Valle Nevado and Santiago, Chile

Penny Hanshaw

Summary: Great skiing and eating, no injuries; I'd go back in a heartbeat.

On Thursday, August 14, National Airport (old terminal) was the scene of 15 exuberant folks getting a leisurely start to Chile (our baggage flew to JFK at 10:30 am; we went in a Gulfstream 41 at 1:30 pm). We rendezvoused there with the N.H. contingent led (?) by Jim Arnold (there were 8 intrepid souls). We all were very sorry that the Elrods and Jacques Hadler had to bail out for medical reasons at the last moment.

It's a long, long way to Chile. A wee-hours stop in Lima, Peru showed an airport that was lively and PVS'ers who weren't. Arrival in Santiago, Chile was smooth but it was "Ascension Thursday" meaning that baggage managers get a holiday but handlers don't, so...so slow. But this baggage stuff was a mere bagatelle (sorry Ray)...THIS TRIP WAS GLORIOUS!

The Flake's son Robert (and Melissa) met us as scheduled; but, not as scheduled--they were married two days before. The drive to Valle Nevado was something else. Santiago is at 1500 feet elevation; Valle Nevado is at 10,000 feet and only 38 miles away. You got it--72 hairpin turns on a narrow two lane road--a few turns still had guard rails, others had twisted metal lying downslope. Our arrival at the Puerto del Sol Hotel at Valle Nevado was the signal for a massive snow dump--between 8-11 feet in 3 days. The road was closed for 2 days but the hotels (3) kept us amused with concerts, salsa dance lessons, fashion shows, aerobics and aquarobics, Batman and Robin (live) and many films, plus food and drink extraordinaire (choice of French, Italian, Swiss and Chilean everyday). An incredibly strong weather front galloped in on our third afternoon--with winds of 40 mph or more. Lifts were closed before any damage but several people had to be pulled off the chairs at the top because the head-on wind was holding them in. International ski teams (U.S., Canada, Germany, Slovenia, Italy, and others) livened up the slopes and hotels for a couple of days. The helpfulness of the staff was exemplified when Frank Shelburne lost a ski and the lift operator loaned him his. If some of this caring had gone into shoveling ice from walkways I wouldn't have landed on my derriere (magnitude 7.5 felt in Lima) by the pool--that "cured" my arthritis though. Our last day was one of the most exquisite ski days in my memory--bright sun, deep, deep blue sky and fabulous snow--and ski terrain that that just doesn't quit (40,000 acres). The neighboring area, La Parva, has the best cruising runs I've ever seen--perfectly groomed, with limitless powder between. Somehow the apres ski party got rowdy and raucous--could it be that everyone had a perfect ski day? We returned to Santiago in a more leisurely fashion than scheduled--the road was blocked for 2 hours by a vehicle which refused chains but lacked the grace to slide off the road. A uniquely Chilean thing is the "chain gang"--men along the road in uniform who remove or put on chains for \$7. Arrival at the Hotel Carrera showed us that, "Oh, Toto, we're not in Kansas anymore". Our dinner there was beyond elegant And language barriers did exist--some people were talking simultaneously about Verdi (opera) and verde (green salsa) and didn't realize it at first.

A city tour showed us a very cosmopolitan metropolis (5,000,000 people and a horrendous winter air pollution problem) with beautiful architecture, many flowers in bloom, many pedestrian walkways, and palm trees silhouetted against towering snow-covered mountains. The pre-Columbian Museum is entrancing. Lunch at the seafood market was great but marred by Bob Harmon's camera being deftly removed from his backpack (on his back). The seashore at Vina del Mar is a geologist's dream but disappointing to those seeking large beaches. Valparaiso is a clean port city (no industry) with a well protected harbor. Our "apres ski" party featured awards (a bottle of pisco sour, the national drink) for all, from the McKinleys. A wonderful dinner up on the steep San Cristobal hill, with panoramic views of the night lights ended a very busy day.

On Monday, a trip to the Concho y Toro winery put us in good moods to brave the long trip home. Somehow, at the check-in in Santiago most of our baggage was labeled "Wolcott" (Alice Swaim's niece, Linda) so I guess we're grand-nieces and -nephews of Alice (Alice, can you handle this?). Anyway, our baggage took a slower trip than the rest of us. But we weren't in any rush for our dirty laundry anyway.

Ray and Nancy, thanks for a fabulous trip--you two are the greatest!



**.....AINA AND JAN ARE ON A QUEST.....
We are going ~~histerical~~, opps,----historical.**

We are going to collect and compile 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 preity extraordinary adventures.

This collection will also be used by the membership as a reference for whatever questions surface. It can also be used to settle any bets wagered on this significant trivia. We will have a set of all of the TOOTs available.

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

Ski **TRIPS** include:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Winter Park | Snowmass |
| Park City | SteamBeaver |
| Heavenly Valley | Sun Valley |
| Val d'Iserre | St. Anton/St. Moritz |
| Valle Nevado, Chile | local trips |

Numerous **EVENTS**.

All contributions **MUST** be identified with:

- | | |
|-------|-------------------------------|
| Names | and....Be clear, good photos. |
| Date | Photos of people. |
| Place | |

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

**Mail or give items to us,
your presidentially appointed co-historians, Aina and Jan.**





THE KNEE

by
Ray McKinley

It's the rise of fall. And just in the nick of time as Summer was getting a bit old. October is, of course, a very scary month--not only for Halloween. For instance, have you noticed that as PVS ages we are doing more of the "E" (as in PVS&E) and less of the "S." Or that (as a result?) some of us look pretty scary in stretch pants. Even scarier, the Knee just turned 55. Now, that may not seem all that frightening to some of you--but it's older than I've ever been.

Only four days before we were to leave for Chile, three people had to cancel for health reasons. Jacques Hadler got an infection between the fifth and sixth vertebrae in his neck. It resulted in a fever, and swelling caused pressure on his nerves and considerable pain. Jack is better now.

Roy and Malda Elrod missed the trip when Malda was diagnosed with colon cancer. She had immediate surgery and had half of her large intestine removed. (Is what is left called the lar intes?) However, all of the post surgical tests and biopsy proved completely negative so there will be no chemo or radiation necessary. Roy and Malda hope to ski in Chile next year. Right on!

A week after we returned from Chile Frank Shelburne had previously-scheduled heart surgery to replace a weakening heart valve. Frank came through the surgery like a champ. But three weeks thereafter he's bothered he "isn't 100%."

And Ruth Schrider is back home doing super after her recent surgery. Gosh guys, (being politically correct I should say gypersons) it seems that this column is becoming a medical column. That's tough on me, I can't even say complex medical terms like Kneerosurgery.

Beating last year's record and making the *Guinness Book of Records* for the earliest ever pre-trip party are Jackie and Ned Flaherty. Their Steamboat pre-trip was 3 months before the trip!

Bob Marx has some kneet US Ski Team return address labels with a color photo of a skier.

Of course, his name is spelt inkorekt.

Everyone had a blast at the Brockmeyers' Annapolis party last month. While there, Marilyn Clark asked host Roland what kind of a sailboat was next to him? Answered Roland, "It's a goddamned nuisance."

Jack Peoples sent me a tube of medicine called Akne-mycin. It's touted to stop acknee.

Whilst at Jim Slack and Mary Ward's annual Oktoberfest, several PVSers had some beer (ahem). Serge Tria and Bob McNeill are pushing for mandatory PVS physical training from now to December. I practiced by raising my stein!

And Aina Thomas suggests that rather than a ski test, non-skiing spouses should be required to take an eating test. I could bite on that. Aina was wearing a great looking pendant made from a hexagonal crystal which was found in Gladie Youngblood's Colorado back yard. I dig it!

After 31 years on the waiting list, Sue Walsh finally received Redskin tickets this year. Ain't that just a kick?

Second to skiing, Suzanne Boisclair's favorite sport is windsurfing. She's been doing it for over ten years and is now a black belt.

Charles Huggins is considering horse trail riding as a midweek event. Nancy McKnee wants to know if the horse trails are groomed.

Chris Waln is now a retired Air Force Colonel. After an almost two-month vacation touring the US and boating with Janet, in early October Chris will start a new career at TASC.

Also back from boating are Myron and Fumiko Marquardt. Theirs was in Nova Scotia. Actually, it was along the coast of Nova Scotia. And Ron and Nancy Ewing are done barging in on Frenchmen. They've finished a French barge trip.

This column is almost twentknee years old. Toot Editor Jessma Blockwick is becoming computer literate. She's pleased that most applications come with a Tootorial. (The Knee knows pun-ishment, Jessma.) After putting out this Toot, Jessma is off to tour Warsaw, Budapest and Prague. She is certain Horace Greeley once said "Go east young women." Kneenuf.

CALENDAR

- Oct. 9 ... Tour of Brookside Gardens, p. 2
- Oct. 10 ... thru the 12th, Fall Foliage Weekend at Blue Knob
- Oct. 14 ... Dining Out Group, p. 2
- Oct. 18 ... Stroll/Bike/Dinner at the Leonhardts', p. 3
- Oct. 21 ... Monthly meeting at the Finan/Welti home, p. 1
- Oct. 23 ... Midweek bike ride, p. 3
- Oct. 25 ... "Rent" theater party and dinner
- Oct. 28 ... ExCom at Aina Thomas'
- Oct. 29 ... Newseum Tour, p. 3
- Nov. 6 ... Midweek hike on Black Hills Trail
- Nov. 7 ... thru the 9th, National Ski and Snowboard Show, Ballston
- Nov. 15 ... Arts Club Dinner, p. 4
- Nov. 18 ... Monthly meeting at Ruth Powers'
- Nov. 22 ... Annual Chili Hike, p. 4
- Nov. 25 ... ExCom at Bill Anderson's
- Dec. 16 ... Christmas Party at the Heithchues'
- Dec. 23 ... ExCom at the Clarks'

Jan 11

Bette Walker
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