

VOLUME LX
NUMBER 4

III *Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.* D
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

APRIL 2005

Fellow PVSers:

Mark your calendars... PVS's Annual Meeting and election of officers will take place on April 19th at the home of Pat Vagonis (thank you Pat). Please plan to attend to recognize PVS's incoming slate of officers. Two other reasons to be there are first, to cast your vote for two By-laws amendments, and second, to vote on and to welcome new club members.

PVS has had another outstanding ski season. Each of our trips was hugely successful thanks to the efforts of the Ski Trip Committee and this year's trip leaders: Gene and Wilma Sharer, Ray and Nancy McKinley, and Marty Rine and Jan Marx. Local trips included Demo Day at WISP led by Charles Huggins, and several impromptu mid-week days.

As I take my leave after 2 1/2 years as your president, I want to acknowledge the fantastic job that club officers have performed on your behalf. These are the people that organize the activities, manage the finances, keep you informed, and who perform the entire myriad of functions that keep this club running smoothly. You, the PVS membership at large, know who they are, but just to refresh your memory, turn to the inside page. I am hugely grateful to the efforts of each and everyone listed there. They have done their jobs exceedingly well, and together we have accomplished a great deal. It has been a pleasure to have worked with each and every officer and I will truly (truly!) miss our spirited Executive Committee meetings.

I want especially to thank your Vice President, David Abraham, who has served so ably, and who has provided such huge support to me. On those many occasions when I called on David to do my job or to take on a special assignment, he consistently responded and did so without the slightest hesitation. David has been a great sounding board whose instincts and wisdom I frequently sought for advice and counsel.

It has been my honor and my privilege to have served this great club, and for that I thank you.

See you at the Annual Meeting,

Reg

ANNUAL MEETING



at
Vagonis'
11925 Ledger Rock Ct.
in
Potomac, MD

April 19, 2005
7:30 PM

301-838-5545



Directions to Vagonis'

From Virginia - From 495 N, take River Road exit towards Potomac. Proceed 3 miles, turn **right** at light onto Falls Road. Go another 2.3 miles and turn **left** onto (*see almost there...*)

From Silver Spring - From 495 N, bear **right** towards 270 N. Take 1st exit and turn **right** onto Old Georgetown Road. Turn **left** at next light onto Tuckerman Lane, proceed 3.7 miles. Turn **left** at light onto Falls road, proceed 0.3 mi, turn **right** onto (*see almost there...*)

From Gaithersburg - From 270 S, take Falls Road exit towards Potomac. Proceed 2.3 miles and turn **right** onto (*see almost there...*)

...Almost there: Glen Road (**not** S.Glen Rd), go another 0.7 mi. and turn **right** onto Gregerscroft. Make 3rd **right** onto Ledgerrock Ct. We're towards the end of the court on the **right**.

11925 Ledgerrock Court

301-838-5545

SLATE OF OFFICERS, as presented by the Nomination Committee

<u>President</u>	David Abraham
<u>Vice President</u>	Mike Strand
<u>Ex Com</u>	Charlotte Eddy
	Burr Schuler
	Dick Schwartzbard

CURRENT PVS BOARD & OFFICERS - 2004-05

EXCOM:

President – *Reg Heitchue*
 Vice President – *David Abraham*
 Secretary- *Dottie Villers*
 Treasurer – *Ray Jones*
 Membership- *Wilma Sharer*
 Program Cmte Chair –
 David Abraham
 Events – *Ray McKinley*
 Mid-week Events: *Dave DeVilbiss*

Theater Czar – *Margaret Wyckoff*
 40th Anniversary Chair – *Rachel Abraham*
 Ski Trip Cmte Chair – *Bob Marx*
 TOOT Editor – *Jan Marx*
 TOOT Proofreader – *Bob Marx*
 TOOT Mailer – *Marilyn Clark*
 Meeting Records – *Sara Huggins*
 Historian – *Jan Marx*
 Webmaster - *Marvin Hass*

First Term:
Marilyn Clark
Dave DeVilbiss
Mike Strand

Second Term:
John Brunelli
Ray McKinley
Dottie Villers

BY-LAWS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Following are two By-Laws amendments recommended by ExCom. These amendments will be discussed and voted upon at the Annual Meeting next month on April 19th. If you cannot attend this meeting you may send your comments to Mike Strand (hrdyna@aol.com) or any other ExCom member.

AMENDMENT #1: The purpose of this By-Laws amendment is to better define the Absentee Member status. Right now, the only clear "rules" on Absentee Member are:

- they cannot vote like an Active Member. (see SECTION III-B)
- they currently have a different dues schedule. (\$20 vs. \$40 for Active Members)

This Amendment defines eligibility for Absentee Member by location of their primary residence, allows them to elect this status voluntarily, and allows them to change back to Active Member at their discretion. The move of the Junior Member definition to this section places all membership definitions under one section.

SECTION I - MEMBERSHIP

- I. **Absentee Member:** Active Members may change their status to Absentee Member upon written notification to the Membership Chair so long as their primary residence is greater than 75 miles from Washington, DC. Absentee Members may not vote or hold elective office. Absentee Members may elect to change their status back to Active (Regular) Member upon written notification and payment of any difference in dues to the Membership Chair.
- J. [*Delete from FINANCE section and add to MEMBERSHIP section...no change in language*] **A junior member is one who shall not have attained the age of 18 years by the end of the current fiscal period.**

AMENDMENT #2: The purpose of this By-Laws amendment is to create a new membership category: Associate Member. This category would facilitate the relationship with individuals who participate in and support our ski trips (and possibly other PVS trips) but do not have the opportunity to join as an Active Member because they live distant from the Washington, DC metropolitan area. We consistently rely on non-members to supplement our ski trip events. These individuals would receive direct communication of PVS events through the TOOT. The proposed Associate Member criteria are very similar to that for Active Members including the vote of the members at the annual meeting. This is an opportunity to bring these PVS supporters closer to our fold.

SECTION I - MEMBERSHIP

- K. **Associate Member:** Individuals or couples who's primary residence is greater than 75 miles from Washington, DC may be sponsored by an Active or Absentee Member for Associate Member status. An applicant for Associate Member must:
 - 1. Be invited and sponsored by an Active or Absentee Member in good standing.
 - 2. Submit a written application for Associate Membership together with dues.
 - 3. Attend at least one PVS event (such as a ski trip, monthly meeting, hike, etc.).
 - 4. Be approved by vote of the members at the annual meeting, provided, however, that five or more negative votes shall be sufficient to bar an applicant from the club.**Associate Members may not vote or hold elective office.**
- E. Membership, **excluding Associate Members**, shall not exceed two hundred dues-paying persons.

SECTION II - FINANCE

- B. ...The membership categories are: individual, couple, absentee member, junior member, **associate member**, applicant - individual, and applicant - couple.

ANNUAL MEETING MEMBER NOMINATIONS

At the Annual Meeting on April 19, four Applicant Members (*who have met the requirements for full membership*) will be voted on:

Applicant

Ilse Keel
David Leonard
Ellie Thayer
Jack Chapman

Sponsor

Patricia Vagonis
Sharon Mulholland
Richard and Rosemary Schwartzbard
Richard and Rosemary Schwartzbard



If the proposed By-Laws change to Section I – Membership (creating a new membership category of Associate Member) is approved, two Applicant Members (*who have met the requirements for Associate Member*) will be voted on:

Applicant

David Payne
Susan Payne

Sponsor

Ray and Nancy McKinley
Ray and Nancy McKinley



Wilma Sharer
Membership Chair

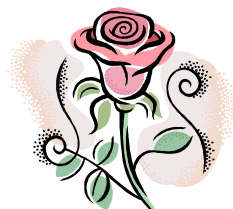


OBITUARY

Emmi Plowman

EMMA (EMMI) PLOWMAN, our friend and member, passed away unexpectedly, peacefully in her sleep, on March 14.

Emmi was born in Linz, Austria on March 6, 1925. She met her husband Bob when he was stationed in Europe while in the U.S. military. They both enjoyed skiing, ice skating, and hiking. They had three daughters (who live several hours away) and now have several grandchildren. Bob passed away about 10 years ago. That is when Emmi got into PVS and started taking major ski trips. Her favorite part of being a member of PVS was the camaraderie. She lived alone and really looked forward to seeing all of her club friends.



She also appreciated opera and classical music. She would drive to Baltimore by herself and go to performances.

Her daughters just recently had a big 80th birthday party for Emmi in Virginia and she got to see her whole family and had a wonderful time. Ironically, and luckily, they all got to visit and enjoy themselves just before her sudden passing.

Funeral services will be held on April 26, 10:45 am at the Fort Myer Chapel, followed by internment at Arlington National Cemetery.



Photos for PVS 40th Anniversary Celebration

It is planned to create a short slide show for presentation at the PVS 40th anniversary celebration. Here the photo images will be saved in a computer file, edited, captions added, and displayed via a digital projector at the Bolger Center.

Contributions are sought from members for this 40th anniversary celebration and also for a 40th anniversary web page that will reside on the PVS web site. An attempt will be made to display all submissions on the PVS web site (within reason). A limited number will be selected for the slide show with emphasis going toward those having special historical, aesthetic, or unusual significance relating to PVS activities.

Contributions will be accepted in any of the following formats:

1) *Slides or photos.* give directly to Marvin Hass or mail to

Marvin Hass
309 Yoakum Pkwy #605
Alexandria, VA 22304-3923
(703) 751-4737 info@potomacvalleyskiers.org

Please include a caption and the names of the individuals in the photo/slide.

Marvin will scan them into his computer and return slides/photos back to you promptly.

2) *Digital computer files:* No need to send if they have already been submitted previously to Marvin or Jan for inclusion in TOOT or the web site.

Deadlines: Slide show: September 15, 2005 for consideration for the slide show. Late submissions might be accepted, but no promises.

Web page: no specific deadline for inclusion on the PVS web site. However, it is hoped to place the web site in operation not later than Nov. 1. Only those submissions received by September 15 can be guaranteed to be placed on the web site by Nov. 1.



	<p><i>BICYCLING GOURMET</i> Alexandria and South (and return) Thursday, April 21, 2005 10:30 AM</p>	
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Starting Point: Sailing Marina [Just south of National Airport via GW Parkway and just north of Alexandria. Exit sign: Daingerfield Island/Sailing Marina/Potomack Landing.] On entering the Marina, veer to the right toward the overflow parking area. Signs are posted limiting parking to 3 hours on weekdays. However, leader will distribute permits allowing parking from 10am-3pm.

Route: Ride will proceed south via bike path from Sailing Marina through Old Town and continue south on the Mt. Vernon Bike Path with both long and short options (12-24 miles). Lunch on return leg near end of ride in Alexandria at Sizzling Express.

Leader: Shirley Rettig (703) 836-0147 assisted by Marvin Hass (703) 751-4737. Note: Starting time listed is for when we depart. Please arrive earlier to set up your bicycle, visit rest room, etc. If you arrive late, just head south on the marked bike path/route toward Mt. Vernon.

Previous Ride Review: Thurs Apr 21. Participants were fortunate to get a rain-free day flanked by two rainy days. Visited World War II Memorial following by lunch at Tony and Joe's at Washington Harbour on Georgetown waterfront.

Next ride: Thursday May 26 — Calvert County Riviera

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PVS Finger Lakes Wine Tour

August 25-29, 2005

New York vineyard owners and PVS applicants David and Susan Payne have set up a super, one-time event for PVS. It's a New York State Vineyard and Finger Lakes high point tour.

Here's the tentative plan of events:

August 25, Thursday Drive to Finger Lakes. Lodging (4 nights) at the lakefront Glenora Winery and Inn

August 26, Friday Charter bus takes us to the Payne's Vineyard for a tour. Then it's on to their Winery for a visit. Lunch is across the lake at the Bully Hill Vineyard. Thereafter, we visit 2 Keuka Lake vineyards and end the afternoon with a Twilight Cruise on Keuka Lake on Viking. This includes cruise, wine tasting and appetizers. Dinner is at the world famous Esperanta Mansion. Then our bus returns us to the Inn.

August 27, Saturday Take charter bus to hike the Gorge at Watkins Glen State Park. Followed by a brief tour of Watkins Glen International Racetrack and an optional pace car ride on the race track. Lunch at Seneca Harbor at the foot of Seneca Lake. Afternoon: Tastings at 3 - 5 Seneca Lake wineries. Dinner likely at Bellhurst Castle. Bus returns us to the Inn.

August 28 Sunday Bus to tour Corning Glass Museum or (optional) the Soaring Museum and Glider ride. Lunch at London Underground Restaurant followed by tour of Historic Market Street. Afternoon: Tastings at 3 - 4 wineries. Possible sailing ride on 72' Malibar X on Lake Seneca. Dinner possibly at Red Newt Wine Cellars and Bistro.

August 29, Monday Return to Washington, DC

Package is approximately \$650 per person, double occupancy. It includes 4 nights lodging, 3 day's tour bus, two gourmet dinners, one lunch, wine tastings at 10 wineries, cruise on Viking Cruise Line (wine tasting and appetizers), Corning Glass Museum admission, Watkins Glen Racetrack admission, 2 vineyard tours, lots more.

Limited Space! More details next month. To reserve your space, send a check for \$100 per person (fully refundable through May 15), payable to David Payne.

Mail to Susan & David Payne, 5598 Dutch Street, Dundee, NY 14837, phone (607) 292 3701.

Locally call Nancy or Ray McKinley at 703-527-7126.

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March Meeting

by Mary Beale

Fred and Barbara Leonhardt were the gracious hosts of the March meeting. Their spacious home accommodated the steady arrival of enthusiastic PVSers. While swapping stories from recent trips and acknowledging the approach of spring, members refueled on creamy deviled eggs, tasty Swedish meatballs, and a highly popular cheese and sausage cracker spread. There were 52 in attendance including five applicants.

Once the meeting began, Reg asked Karin Webb to share information about Emmi Plowman. Karin told us that she had become increasingly concerned one day when she could not reach Emmi by phone and when Emmi did not attend the St. Moritz post-trip party. Through Karin's efforts, Emmi's home was entered and it was found that she had passed away. Funeral plans had not been finalized.

The five applicants for membership in PVS were asked to say a few words about their skiing. I confided that after three all day lessons in Vail, I felt there had been a slight improvement. Cherie Stallman shared some humor from her ski lessons. She and husband, Dave Bertagnoli, had been on the Sun Peaks trip. Ellie Thayer and Jack Chapman told of Ellie's bad fall while skiing in Beaver Creek where Ellie suffered a pelvic fracture. The injury kept them from accompanying the group to Sun Peaks. Fortunately Ellie is well on the mend.

Eloise Strand reported that the Ski Trip Committee has completed its Guidelines for conducting ski trips. The revised and expanded recommendations have gone out to ExCom members and trip leaders for review and comment.

Announcements were made about upcoming events. Dave DeVilbiss and Pat Vagonis hope to organize a mid-week trip to the Inner Harbor in Baltimore to view items salvaged from the Titanic. Marilyn Clark reminded everyone of the two day trip to Brandywine Valley scheduled for June 4th and 5th. Visits to Longwood Gardens and the Hagley Museum are planned as well as wonderful dining opportunities. Please let Marilyn know soon if you're going to be able to go. Finally Ray McKinley strongly hinted at the possibility for an overnight trip to see vineyards in New York during the month of August. Club members David and Susan Payne who now reside in Dundee, New York, would participate since David is a vintner.

The meeting closed with expressions of gratitude and a round of applause for
Barbara and Fred.

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Bob McNeill writes:

I had a melanoma on my nose that was excised in early February by a plastic surgeon who specializes in cancer cases. Fortunately, the pathologist found that the cancer had not spread after examining lymph nodes that had been removed from both sides of my neck. While skiing, I had to keep the nose out of the sun; thus, the nose cover. As you probably know, I have two replacement knees and two fairly new replacement hips. My orthopedist says I can ski all that I want, just don't fall! And my nose doctor says I can ski so long as I don't fall on my nose! Such is life.
Best regards, Bob

SNOWMASS 2006

PVS is again heading to SNOWMASS and the Mountain Chalet January 19 through 26, 2006. Join us for this perennial favorite. The trip will feature slope-side lodging with access to the extensive Snowmass trail system, and free bus service to Aspen Highlands, Ajax Mountain, and Buttermilk ski areas with interchangeable lift tickets.

A stay at the charming Mountain Chalet includes a daily family-style breakfast and lunch. Plans are being arranged that will include group dinners, après ski parties, air fare, lift tickets, and more. Contact trip leaders Carolyn Maurer and David DeVilbiss for more information at

703-370-4865 or carolyn.maurer@verizon.net.



February 17-March 5, 2006, join Nancy and Ray McKinley to Ski

Visit Scandinavia and Ski Lillehammer

Join us on a 17-day, 4 or 5 Country Scandinavian see and ski tour. An 11-day package will accommodate those wishing to join the BRSC Val Gardena trip. This trip will be suitable for skiers and nonskiers. Fly from Dulles to Oslo with touring in and around Oslo including a visit to the Viking Ship's Museum with 3 preserved Viking long ships from the 9th to 13th Centuries. We'll also visit the Edvard Munch museum and see his paintings—including "The Scream," and many of Oslo's other sights.

Then it's off to the home of the 1994 Winter Olympics, picturesque, charming Lillehammer, Norway. We'll stay in the quaint downtown area, on the *Storget*, the pedestrian mall. Skiing will be at *Hafjells*, location of the Olympics ski events. *Hafjells* has over 15 miles of runs, high mountain slopes and sheltered forest terrain, powder runs and packed slopes for all levels. It has 9 lifts and over a 2,800 foot vertical. Nonskiers will visit Lillehammer's museums including the Olympic Museum and the "*Volksmuseum*" where some 200 buildings, some from the 15th Century, have been brought, completely furnished, and assembled into "villages."

Then we're off to Scandinavia's 14th Century capitol, Stockholm, built on 14 islands, centered on the fortress *Gamla Stan*, now a warren of narrow, cobbled streets, lined with shops and boutiques. The 11 days depart, while we remain and tour Stockholm's attractions including the restored 16th Century warship, Gustav Vasa.

From Stockholm, we are still considering options. We will certainly take an overnight cruise across the Baltic Sea either to Tallinn, the capital of Estonia; Helsinki, or Copenhagen. Tallinn is a beautifully preserved medieval city including 29 12th Century watchtowers, topped by pointy red roofs. In Copenhagen, Hans Christian Anderson's city, we will visit the Dutch Renaissance Rosenbourg Castle and the Carlsberg Museum and Brewery. Helsinki, Finland is the newest of the Scandinavian capitals, founded in 1550, and completely rebuilt in 1812.

INTERESTED? Call us (703-527-7126) to say which cities/countries you would like to visit.

We expect the 17 day trip will cost around \$3,000. Prices and details of which countries we visit will be finalized after our visit, in early June. **Due to the logistics of this trip, we have only 30 spaces.** . To reserve, send your check for \$350 per person payable to Ray McKinley (refundable through Aug 1) and send it to McKinley's, 2326 N Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207.

Please call us for more information at (703) 527-7126.





THE KNEE

By Ray McKinley

Without a doubt the most difficult thing about writing this column on a regular basis is April. Ski season is winding down. And gossipy events haven't really started. The Knee could tell you about the ski areas that are still open, but that's been done in previous years. (Just don't forget, April is not a good month for Liberty!) I could discuss Iraq, but this is a ski column. (So I could discuss Poland!) Typically, if I can get through the first paragraph, a column becomes easier... Eureka!

From the Knee's Big Ski Corporation Does Something Right Department: [And this is the first entry in that department.] Whilst at Snowmass, David Abraham, Reg Heitchue and Dave Lerner took the bus to Aspen to ski Ajax. They took their skis from the bus's ski rack and took the gondola to the top. There, Dave Lerner couldn't get into his bindings. He had the correct brand of skis, but the wrong pair.

The three took the gondola back down and went to the Ski Patrol. After explaining, Dave asked, what do I do now? That's easy, we get you a pair of complimentary rentals, he was told. Dave had a great day of skiing. At 4:00 pm he returned to the Ski Patrol shop carrying his rentals and again asked, what do I do now? The Patroller went to a locker, and pulled out Dave's skis, which had been turned in, and returned them to him. The Patroller then took the rental skis and said, "I'll turn these back in for you." Dave Lerner had a great day with a great ending. Thanks from all of PVS to the Aspen Ski Corporation!

One evening, while staying at their Vail timeshare, Barbara and Fred Leonhardt wanted to be entertained. They went to Vail's local live theatre to see none other than DC's Capital Steps. It's the long way to see a part of DC!

April is spring skiing time. Great corn snow in the afternoon, but it can really be icy in the morning. The solution: you have to re-edge-ucate yourself.

Karen and Knox Felker will miss our April meeting. They will be in Denmark, where they hope to see at least one performance of the Danish Ballet. This ballet is about old folks. And it's called the Prune Danish.

On returning to DC, Karen and Knox will start culling and packing their accumulated "stuff." This fall, they are moving to a large apartment in the Charleston, SC area. They are only 7 mi. from the Atlantic and have lots of friends there. Kneat! But we'll all miss you.

Sadly, our club has been in the national news of late. Do you know the abbreviation for Persistent Vegetative State?

From the Knee's Knew Needlepointless Department: On the plane returning from a ski trip, Mary Ward was doing needlepoint. It was a beautiful pattern called the Christmas Angel, and was two thirds complete. "I only work on it on airplanes," noted Mary. How long had she been working on this piece? "About 11 years."

On the same trip, awaiting our bus, Adele Waggaman was knitting. Compared to Mary Ward, Adele was a real speedster. She will finish this year. Knit one, Pearl Bailey.

Applicant member, Dave Bertagnoli, is practicing to regain his gold medals. After recovering from knee problems, Dave will run in the 200, 400 and the 800m in the Virginia Senior Games. He's certainly getting the run around!

Washington DC stopover: Bill Hager passed through recently enroute to another of his scenic vacation spots—Afghanistan. He'll be there for several months. So we can expect another of Bill's great travelogues soon.

Vail of secrecy lifted: Lots of PVS goings on out there. Dick and Rosemary Schwartzbard and applicants Dave and Susan Payne are back from a super week.

Applicant Mary Beale went there for her first western ski trip and had a ball. She stayed with Barbara at the Leonhardt's timeshare. It was also Mary's first airline trip in some 20 years—she's now moved out of the no-fly zone

And Penny Hanshaw was back on skis for the first time since breaking her ankle. Penny skied Vail just dandy. They tried hiding these items from the Knee—to no a-Vail.

CALENDAR

April 10 Sun Post Trip Party - Sun Peaks at McKinley's; 4:00 PM
April 17 Sun Post Trip Party - Mammoth at Finan's; 4-6 PM
April 19 Tue Monthly and Annual Meeting at Vagonis', 7:30 PM
April 21 Thur Bicycle Gourmet = Mt. Vernon Bike Path
April 26 Tue Ex Com at Abraham's; 7:30 PM
May 17 Tue Monthly Meeting at Liz Warren-Boulton and Joe Jevck's; 7:30 PM
May 24 Tue Ex Com at TBD; 7:30 PM
May 26 Thur Bicycling Gourmet = Calvert County Riviera
June 4-5 Brandywine Valley Trip
June 21 Tue Monthly Meeting at TBD; 7:30 PM
June 28 Tue ExCom at TBD; 7:30 PM
Aug 25-29 Finger Lakes Wine Tour
Nov 5 Sat 40th Anniversary Party at The Bolger Center

Change of postal or email address:

Call Wilma at (301) 975-9411
or send email message to
wilma@sharerassociates.com

E-mail Notice

If you want to start receiving Toot electronically, please let me know.
Thanks, Jan = jebbmarx@aol.com.

POTOMAC VALLEY SKIERS web site ~~~~~ www.potomacvalleyskiers.org

Marilyn Clark
8953 Falling Creek Ct.
Annandale, VA 22003