



# T O O T



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*Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc*

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WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

[www.potomacvalleyskiers.org](http://www.potomacvalleyskiers.org)

[info@potomacvalleyskiers.org](mailto:info@potomacvalleyskiers.org)

## President's Message

What an experience was had by some forty of us attending our traditional All-Trips Party at the lovely country home of gracious hosts Kerry and Marianne Hines. With a spectacular view in all directions, a sumptuous buffet, and the long cherished camaraderie of PVS members, we were treated to seven, yes seven presentations, each more attractive and exciting than the next one. Along the venues for these trips, many of the special attractions such as the 'see' components on some of the trips, in addition to world-class skiing, is guaranteed to make the upcoming season the one to top all others. There's much to thank our devoted trip leaders for; they have worked hard to offer members, applicants, and in some cases also guests, a variety of choices which can stand the test of time, the challenges of larger clubs' offerings and the real prospect to satisfy the diverse tastes and preferences of our members.

Clearly, now it's up to all of us to get our deposits mailed in, to make sure we get the spaces we want and confirm that skiing remains our number one recreational passion.

While at this most enjoyable meeting we took another poll to ascertain members' preference for monthly meetings' starting time. The conclusion is that about as many prefer the customary 8 o'clock sit-down time as those who like a little more socializing time, to 8:15 or even 8:30. So we'll go with the true-and-tried compromise. While keeping our advertised meeting time for 7:30, we wouldn't call: "let's have a meeting" until about 8:15. Hopefully, that'll meet every ones' needs if not all preferences.

In recent monthly messages I mentioned our turning increased attention to non-skiing activities. Thanks to the initiatives of Veep Mike Strand, and the

## Review of All Trips Party Saturday July 15, 2006



The 2½ year old Virginia country home near Delaplane (VA) designed by our host, Kerry Hines, provided a unique location for the July All Trips party. It is surrounded by hayfields with the Blue Ridge mountains in the background. The warm weather provided an inducement for the 37 participants to hear about the forthcoming PVS ventures into snow country.



(continued on page 2)

## Presidents' Message/All Trips Review (continued)

### **(All Trips Party Review: continued from page 1)**

This event started with appetizers on the rear terrace (see photo) provided both a delight for the eyes and the stomach. This was followed by the trip leader's presentations inside and then dinner and dessert. Those who were present could not conceive of a more delightful way to starting thinking about schussing down the slopes.

Our creative trip leaders presented us this season with a cornucopia of trips starting with Steamboat in December followed by Snowmass in January, Big Sky and Sun Peaks in February, Austria (Athens/Vienna options) and Snowbird/Alta in March, and Argentina [Rio option] in August. Furthermore, they demonstrated their creativity by unashamedly subjecting us to their version of the tango [as a means of illustrating the joys of Argentina] and props [Snowbird inflatable tram cab].



One would like to assume such the ingenuity of our intrepid trip leaders will also be demonstrated when they encounter unexpected problems during travel.

In conclusion, the participants owe a bushel of thanks to our hosts, Kerry and Marianne for making their Shangri-La available and coordinating this year's event.



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### **(Presidents message: continued from page 1)**

response of some volunteers, we're on the verge of some new or revived activities. Truth is though that we could still use some more enthusiastic souls to take on the championship for an outing, a cultural activity, a mid-week Dining-Out-Gang event, and more. Give Mike a call if you can spare a few clicks. It doesn't take all that much time, and it's great fun when you see your friends smile.

Lastly, I'm sorry to note the upcoming relocation to Florida of our members Ray and Judy Jones. Ray has been our Treasurer for several years; he has given this important office a new stature with budget

projections, and identification of cost saving opportunities. He has attended to a number of related matters including serving as our Virginia corporate representative. Both will become absentee members, and will continue to ski with the club. Still, we'll surely miss them. Happily, ExComer and former JPL manager Dick Laeser has agreed to succeed Ray as our Treasurer. We are grateful for his acquiescence and wish him smooth sailing in his service to the club..

Stay cool. *David*

## Future Local Events



### **ANNAPOLIS BAY PICNIC at HEITCHUE'S** Sat August 12, 2006 3:30 PM

Event is limited to 25 people. Must call Reg or Jean to reserve a spot. Currently wait list only.

From the beltway take Route 50 East. Exit Route 50 at # 22(Aris T. Allen Blvd.). Continue on. You will be on Forest Drive. Continue. Forest Drive becomes Bay Ridge Ave. Continue. At the entrance to Bay Ridge, you will now be on Farragut Road. The speed limit in Bay Ridge is 25mph and they mean it! Continue to the stop sign and go left. You are now on Bay Drive. We are at 77 Bay Drive, second house from the stop sign. Once at the house you may be directed to park at the marina parking lot (0.3-mi. away).

#### **Maps on page 10.**

Call with questions; 703-861-9190 (weekends);  
703-437-7611 (weekdays)

FYI, Quiet Waters Park is 5-10 minutes from our house. They offer kayaking in a very nice setting. If you like, go visit the park and kayak before the party. For info call 410-267-8742 or [AMPHIBIUS@aol.com](mailto:AMPHIBIUS@aol.com). If there is sufficient interest, we could do a group thing. Let Reg know or get a group together yourself.

Don't forget your appetizer, salad or desert!!



### **BICYCLING GOURMET**

#### **Four Mile Run Valley** □

**Thursday Aug 17, 2006 10:30 AM**

**Starting Point:** Sailing Marina just south of Reagan National Airport. Take

Mt. Vernon Highway to Daingerfield Island Exit (Sailing Marina-Potomack Landing Restaurant). On entering area, veer to the right to the overflow parking area where leader will issue parking permits.

**Route:** Primarily on bikepaths in the Four Mile Run valley passing through Shirlington, visiting the Long Branch Nature Center and the Bon Air Rose Garden. Lunch on return leg at Aladdin's restaurant in Shirlington (healthy Mediterranean cuisine). Mostly flat with one hill.

**Leader:** Marvin Hass [[mhass@mailaps.org](mailto:mhass@mailaps.org)]  
(703) 751-4737.

Note: Starting time listed above is when cyclists actually depart; please arrive earlier to allow sufficient time to set up your equipment. Latecomers: Leader will leave map on rear window wiper of Chrysler minivan.

**Previous Ride Review:** Weather in the mid-90's didn't really bother us on this tree-shaded C&O towpath route, but we did encounter a flock of Canadian geese blocking the towpath and hissing at any cyclists coming too close.



### **CRABFEST** Saturday Sept 2, 4:00PM *Rain or Shine*

This popular event will now take place at Betty Lawrence's home in Vienna for the second year. Traditionally, Betty orders bushels of crabs. And the rest of us bring salads or desserts. If you wish, you can also bring "uncrabby" food that can be grilled (grill provided).

#### **RSVP Betty by Tues Aug. 29**

(703) 319-1860 or [lizl@verizon.net](mailto:lizl@verizon.net)  
(Small fee for beverages, etc. and market price of crabs)

**Parking:** Street parking available (**SAFETY NOTE:** **Please** have every person get out of the car on the street side due to deep culverts, no sidewalks, and no shoulders OR drop off any passengers in circular driveway in front of house.)

**Directions:** *Easiest (\$1.00 toll):* Take Dulles Toll Rd (Rte 267) 5.5 miles west from Beltway to Hunter Mill Rd. exit 14; left (south) onto Hunter Mill Rd. (Rte 674) and follow it (you will have to make left turn after 1/3 mile to remain on Hunter Mill Rd. at T) 3.4 miles to Vale Rd.(Rte 672). Turn left on Vale Rd and proceed 1/5 mile to Trott Ave and turn left and then take next right (one block) onto Woodrow St. Proceed one block to corner of Woodrow St. and Gerken Ave. Betty's house is on the corner. NOTE safety concerns above.

**Alternative:** Take Rte. I-66 to Nutley St North Exit and proceed 1.1 miles (crossing Rte.123-Maple Ave) until it ends at Malcolm Rd. Turn left on Malcolm Rd (Rte 672) and remain on it when it changes name to Vale Rd (remains Rte. 672). After proceeding about one mile, turn right onto Trott Ave and then take next right (one block) onto Woodrow St. Proceed one block to corner of Woodrow St. and Gerken Ave. Betty's house is on the corner.

NOTE safety concerns above.  
10,000 Woodrow St., Vienna, Virginia  
Telephone: 703-319-1860

Future Local Events



**GOLF OUTING**

Friday Sept 29, 2006  
 Where: AT NORTHWEST PARK GOLF COURSE, ON LAYHILL RD. MD.

Cost: 18 HOLES WITH CART 47.00 / 60 YRS. + 43.00  
 9 HOLES WITH CART 28.00/ 60 YRS. + 26.00  
 9 HOLE PLAYERS COULD START 2 HRS. LATER & ALL FINISH AT THE SAME TIME FOR OPTIONAL LUNCH.  
 CONTACT, BURR SCHULER - 703 878 7074 OR  
 E-MAIL [oburr2byoung@yahoo.com](mailto:oburr2byoung@yahoo.com)  
 or MYRON MARQUARDT 301 460 3269 OR  
 E-MAIL [mdm3269@webtv.net](mailto:mdm3269@webtv.net)



**BLUE KNOB**

**Ninth Annual Fall Foliage Weekend**  
 Fri-Sun Oct 6-9, 2006

**WHERE:** Betty Lawrence's lodge at Blue Knob, PA  
**LOTS TO DO:** Hiking, flea markets, RR museum, spa, antiquing, serious eating and some partying.  
**COST:** approximately \$15/person/night, two-night minimum.  
 Accommodations limited  
**CONTACT:** Betty Lawrence 703-319-1860  
[lizl@verizon.net](mailto:lizl@verizon.net)

Note ticket message below concerning current availability



**A FEAST FOR THE EYES and EARS, PERHAPS THE PALATE TOO**

**A BLOCKBUSTER CONCERT BY NATIONAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, and a GUIDED TOUR OF THE REGION'S MOST BEAUTIFUL CONCERT HALL**  
**Saturday September 16 7:00: PM (Some tickets are still available)**



The date is September 16, and the venue is the just one year old Music Center at Strathmore in Bethesda. On that date National Philharmonic Orchestra, under its renowned Music Director and Conductor Piotr Gajewski (an immensely talented and insightful conductor, *Washington Post*) inaugurates its second season at the spectacular Strathmore concert hall with a program to please any and all music lovers: Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No.2, and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5, with the local piano virtuoso Brian Ganz (last night's recital offered strong evidence that he's a great one, *Washington Post*) at the keyboard. We have arranged for a private guided tour of this incredible facility with its nearly 2,000 comfortable seats, an elaborate teaching and rehearsal annex, and a spectacular setting in the midst of a bustling city, yet giving the impression of and the feel for an island all its own.

We will have reserved seats in the Promenade section, and we'll be treated to a brief private reception with refreshments before and during the intermission of the concert. Our negotiated deal for all these goodies is a per person price of \$47.-. A meeting to begin the guided tour on that Saturday evening at 7pm is planned, with the concert beginning at 8pm.

**Some tickets are still available.** However, due to terms of the box office, we need to close this offer at the earlier of either a sell-out or by August 20. It would be appreciated if members and their family and friends intending to participate would send in their checks sooner rather than later. Tickets will be mailed in late August.. Make it payable to David G. Abraham, and mail it to him at 6201 Hollins Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817-2348.  
 (For sake of full disclosure, David, who has arranged for this event, is an officer and director of National Philharmonic).



**STRATHMORE FREE SUMMER MUSIC**

Nearly every Wednesday summer evening at 7:00 PM, Strathmore offers free concerts. Bring a blanket or short collapsible chair, your own food and drinks, or buy from available sandwiches, sodas, wine and beer.  
[www.strathmore.com](http://www.strathmore.com) August 2: The Whitworth Brass\*—classical and opera favorites

: August 9: Chopteeth Afrofunk Big Band\* August 23: Tribute to Neil Young

\* Indicates concerts Mike and Eloise Strand plan to attend...they usually arrive early: 6:00PM or so.

2007 Ski Trips (Note: Steamboat Dec 2006 Trip Flyer on last two pages)

January 2007



Reminder: Second payment of \$750 due August 15

PVS is again heading to and the Snowmass Mountain Chalet, January 18 through 25, 2007. Join us for this perennial favorite, for its excellent skiing, and for its many other activities in the Aspen environs. Choose among four entire mountains that share one interchangeable lift ticket with more than 5,000 acres of skiing, and free bus service to Aspen Highlands, Ajax Mountain, and Buttermilk ski areas. Enjoy the convenience of slopeside lodging with direct access to the extensive Snowmass trail system from the Snowmass Mountain Chalet. A stay at this charming Chalet includes a daily family-style breakfast and daily soup lunch, greatly appreciated by trip participants and other guests, many of whom return year after year.

Trip will include group dinners, après-ski parties, and other events. This year we are planning an optional excursion to the mountain village of Redstone for lunch and other activities.

Come join us! Complete trip cost \$1890. Air is arranged with United Airlines.

For more information:

Contact trip leaders Carolyn Maurer and David DeVilbiss at 703-370-4865 or by e-mail at [carolyn.maurer@verizon.net](mailto:carolyn.maurer@verizon.net).

To reserve:

- Send deposit of \$250 per person to:
- Reminder: Second deposit of \$750 is due August 15. Carolyn Maurer, 4508 Peacock Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304
- Note "PVS-Snowmass 2007" on the memo line.



PVS + Blue Ridge Ski Council Presents

WESTERN CARNIVAL & BIG SKY

February 3-10, 2007

**Big Sky** Montana, its Euro-style tram, & **NO WAITING AROUND**. The terrain on the 3 mountains ranges from the tame wide slopes of *Southern Comfort, y'all!* to the steep chutes and wide-open powder fields of Lone Peak. **OH! YES!** There is plenty of blue terrain. **NO WAITING AROUND** because 18 lifts and a spectacular tram transport skiers to 3,600 skiable acres. *Backcountry skiing at top of tram.*

Average snowfall – 400 inches. Lone peak – 11,166 ft

**Beginner – 17% Intermediate – 25% Advanced – 37% Expert – 21%.**

\*Opened in December 2003, Moonlight Basin sits on the northern and western edge of Lone Peak. The area has a mix of green, blue and black trails with long, groomed runs. Also, the *Headwaters hike-to-ski area*.

The two ski areas are connected. A 6<sup>th</sup> day ticket (used any day) for \$26 will get you a one ride ticket from Big Sky chair lift to Moonlight Basin. You can ski back to Big Sky. Or take the shuttle bus either direction.

**the famous Chet Huntley Lodge**

Lodge elevation – 7,500 ft

SKI-IN, SKI-OUT

Daily breakfast buffet included.

Recently remodeled, the Huntley Lodge offers a fine dining room, ski storage, lounge, coffee cart, concierge, shops, and the Solace Spa. All rooms feature a wet bar, coffee maker, refrigerator, hair dryer, Internet access (surcharge), TV, seating area. Outdoor pool, 2 Jacuzzis,

**Included:**   ↔ Round trip airfare (Washington to Bozeman)   ↔ Round trip transport (Bozeman to lodging)   ↔ Seven nights lodging (double occupancy)   ↔ All taxes   ↔ Baggage handling in & out of hotel   ↔ Five out of six-day lift tickets at Big Sky   ↔ Welcome Party   ↔ Après Ski Beer Blast -   ↔ Nastar Race – at

**In addition our PVS group will have:**

- ↔ Pre-trip party.
- ↔ Two apres ski gatherings.
- ↔ One group dinner.
- ↔ Pot-luck post-trip party.

Moonlight Basin   ↔ Farewell Dinner Dance   **Approximately \$1,490.**   Many other activities available – see flyer.

Contact Marty Rine: 703-978-0179 or [mrine@cox.net](mailto:mrine@cox.net) OR Jan Marx. [Jebbmarx@aol.com](mailto:Jebbmarx@aol.com)

Land only = Less \$400.   Single supplement = Add \$301.   Non-skier = Less \$140..

Send \$250 deposit payable to PVS Big Sky 2007, to: Marty Rine, 5256 Lonsdale Dr, Springfield, VA 22151

[www.bigskyresort.com](http://www.bigskyresort.com)

[www.moonlightbasin.com](http://www.moonlightbasin.com)

## 2007 Ski Trips

**February 17-25, 2007, join Nancy and Ray McKinley to Ski**



The Potomac Valley Skiers are returning to a true gem of a resort, Sun Peaks. We went in 2005, and EVERYONE wanted to go back, so we're doing it! Sun Peaks is Canada's newest, brightest destination resort. It's a skier's paradise. And, unlike the Coastal British Columbia resorts, Sun Peaks Resort is known for its sun. Yes, the sun shines at Sun Peaks. And shines. And shines. And shines--more sunny hours than any other resort in North America!

The BC ski resort logs an average of 2,000 hours of sunshine per year. That sun, combined with 220 inches of annual snowfall and an average mid-winter temperature of 20 to 25 °F, helps make Sun Peaks a favorite for fair weather ski holidays.

Sun Peaks has some other claims to fame, such as the best grooming in Western Canada and the best weather for skiing in all of Canada. It has 3,678 acres, a vertical of 2,891 feet, 91 runs and a charming, Tyrolean-style car-free village that twinkles under the alpine starlight. Sun Peaks skis like Whistler. But, unlike Whistler, it has no coastal rain or fog! For info, e-mail us [sunpeaks2007@potomacvalleyskiers.org](mailto:sunpeaks2007@potomacvalleyskiers.org)



**Our 9 day 8 night Trip Includes: 7 Nights at ski-in ski-out at Olympic Gold Medalist Nancy Green's Cahilly Lodge featuring spacious rooms and superbly appointed suites. It has a restaurant, hot tub, bar, and fitness facilities, radios, in-room coffee machines, and more. For only \$31 pp additional you can upgrade to a studio with kitchen and additional amenities including fireplaces or balconies. We have a final night at the 5 Star Fairmont Hotel Vancouver.**

**We feature two people per hotel room. 5 of 6 Day lift passes good at all three mountains. 3 great group dinners, incl. a snowshoe, on-mountain fondue dinner. Welcome wine & cheese, happy hours, pre & post trip parties. Airfare, hotel baggage handling and tips, bus gratuities.**

**GREAT PRICES - \$1,896; 65+ \$1,844; Nonskiers \$1,687**

Land Only \$1,446 (Based on \$1.11 CAN per \$1.00 US) Upgrade to Studio add \$31, Breakfast Package add \$108

This trip sold out early last year so act soon. Please call us for more information or to get a copy of our full flyer at 703 527-7126.

**Too sign up send your check for \$250 per person payable to Ray McKinley, 2326 N. Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207**

### **SKIING IN SCHLADMING, AUSTRIA**

#### **TOURING IN ATHENS, GREECE AND IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

**ATHENS, GREECE – Monday, February 26, 2007 to Saturday March 3, 2007**

**SCHLADMING, Austria - Saturday, March 3, 2007 to Saturday March 10, 2007**

**VIENNA, Austria – Saturday, March 10, 2007 to Tuesday, March 13, 2007**

**ATHENS, GREECE: Four nights at the Divani Palace Acropolis a five star deluxe hotel near the Acropolis**

**SCHLADMING, AUSTRIA: Seven nights at the Sporthotel Royer a four star hotel.**

**VIENNA, AUSTRIA: Three days at Hotel Regina a four star historic hotel, located in the center of the city.**

**THE SKIING: The region of Schladming-Dachstein-Taussersern is one of the largest ski areas in Austria with a four inter connected mountains. Snowmaking on 100% of the ski slopes. There are 90 ski lifts and, 167 kilometers of downhill runs. Glacier skiing on the Dachstein Glacier. Ski runs as long as 5 miles.**

**Maximum elevation 6,600 feet Vertical drop 3,700 feet; Ski Terrain: Beginner: 30% Intermediate 60% Expert: 10%**  
**Cross country skiing -- 60 Km of cross country ski trails. Lift tickets: The five day regular lift ticket in 2006 was \$168 and \$150 for seniors**

#### **TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS:**

Fly from Washington Dulles Airport to Munich on United Airlines and then to Athens, Greece.

Fly from Athens to Munich on Lufthansa airlines. Motor coach to our hotel in Schladming, Austria.

Transfer by motor coach from Schladming, Austria to our hotel in Vienna.

Fly from Vienna on Lufthansa airlines to Munich and then to Washington Dulles airport on United Airlines.

**INCLUDED IN PRICE: Total Price \$2,900 (double occupancy) includes all of the above plus transfers, buses, and trip insurance. (Price based on Euro price of 1.24 to a dollar). Pre Trip Party, Portage of All Baggage, Post Trip Party.**

**Includes Medical Insurance and Trip Cancellation / Interruption Insurance.**

**NOT INCLUDED: Lunches, Lift Tickets, Diners in Athens and Vienna.**

**TOTAL PACKAGE PRICE -- ATHENS+SCHLADMING+VIENNA \$ 2900 (DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)**

**Single supplement and Skiing in Schladming (only) – Available on request – price to be determined**

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE: DEPOSIT NOW: \$ 200 ; Aug.1 \$500; Oct.1 \$500; Dec.1 \$500; Jan. 1 \$700**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING US OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS:**

**Contact: Glade Flake ([gladeflake@aol.com](mailto:gladeflake@aol.com)) 301-762-6890 OR John Smith ([johnhsmith@juno.com](mailto:johnhsmith@juno.com)) 301-299-8376**

**TO RESERVE: Send the trip application form and a deposit check for \$ 200 payable to Glade Flake**

**TO: Glade Flake, at P.O. Box 60347, Potomac, MD. 20859**

## 2007 Ski Trips

### Snowbird/Alta 2007

Utah: March 17-24

We depart Washington/Dulles at 3:44 PM **direct** to Salt Lake City...then a **29-mile bus ride** to Cliff Lodge at Snowbird. We will be ski out/ski in with a **SIX-day** lift pass to both Snowbird and Alta slopes. With Alta and Snowbird, we have lots of ski terrain for every level of expertise. At Cliff House we have deluxe accommodations, restaurant selections, and a view of the mountains **from your shower!** Even the ski locker room set-up is elegant. Two **gourmet** group dinners, three après ski parties, and pre and post trip parties are included. Cliff House has a heated pool and 3 hot tubs (plus another rooftop pool and hot tub in the Cliff Spa). Return direct flight on March 24 arriving back to Washington/Dulles at 2:42 PM. All this for **\$1,895** (per person double occupancy) including transfers and baggage tips. Possible minor price adjustment based on airline fuel surcharges. (Land only = **\$1,496**; Single Supplement add \$649; no lift ticket package subtract \$250.)

An elective afternoon/evening trip to Salt Lake City on March 22 is possible. You may visit Historic Temple Square, see the city, have dinner at the famous Lamb's Grill Cafe, and observe a rehearsal of the **Mormon Tabernacle Choir**. Estimated transportation costs are under \$35.00 per person.

**Snowbird/Alta** have an average seasonal snowfall of 500 inches (In '06 and '05 they exceeded 600 inches).  
Statistics: Vertical = 3,240'/**2,020'**; Skiable acres = 2,500+/**2,200**; Snowboarding = yes/**NO!**

A newly constructed Peruvian Express high-speed detachable quad lift will take you from the Snowbird base, up the mountain, **through a 540' ski tunnel**, to Mineral Basin (their back bowl) and green-run connections to Alta. Alternatively, a 5 minute shuttle bus from our hotel goes to Alta.

To reserve send a deposit (refundable until 8/11/06) of \$250 per person to Michael Strand at 10728 Lady Slipper Terrace, Rockville, MD 20852 (note "PVS Snowbird/Alta 2007"). First payment of **\$895** (including \$250 deposit) "due" (must be received) by **August 31<sup>st</sup>**; balance due October 5.

For more information contact Mike or Eloise Strand at 301/468-1535 or 301/881-0812 or [HRDYNA@AOL.COM](mailto:HRDYNA@AOL.COM).

### NEXT SUMMER--August 9-25, 2007, join Nancy and Ray McKinley to See & Ski in Argentina, Brazil

**The grandeur of Argentina's Andes, the Old World beauty and tango passion of Buenos Aires, and to top it all off – a 3 day add-on to magical Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. 8 days and 7 nights in Argentina's world-class 40,000 acre, 4,100 ft vertical ski resort, Las Leñas, and 5 days, 4 nights in America's most cosmopolitan city, the Paris of the W. Hemisphere, Buenos Aires. And there's an option for a 3 day add on to Brazil's Carnival town—Rio de Janeiro.** Join us and enjoy.

While North America suffers summer, enter Argentina's Las Leñas, the largest lift-serviced skiing area in the entire Western Hemisphere. *This South American resort stretches across 40,000 acres of the Andes and is outfitted with 13 lifts, 40 miles of trails, and 4,100-foot vertical drop from its 11,253-foot summit. By comparison, Las Lenas is seven times the size of Vail. There's oodles of skiing for everyone.*



Las Leñas' single huge mountain is divided into two main areas. The lower section's nine lifts connect a variety of groomed trails, which are ideal for beginners and intermediates. Experts seeking the off-piste perfection that has made Las Leñas world-famous continue above the tree line – huge bowls, steep chutes, and fresh powder await. *There are also a significant number of blue pistes above the tree line.* In keeping with its European roots, the village at the mountain's base has a multitude of fine shops, restaurants, bars and discos. With copious snow, and superb skiing for all levels, Las Leñas is a truly great place to ski in August!

*We'll include all lodging in 4 or 5 Star hotels, daily breakfasts, and all Dinners at Las Leñas 2 dinners in Buenos Aires, all transfers, happy hours, airfare from Washington DC, pre and post trip parties, and eye-opening tours in Buenos Aires including a trip to one of the gaucho Estancias (ranches) outside of town. This will include a parillada featuring all the finest of cuisine and entertainment. Our stay in Buenos Aires also offers a not-to-be missed, first-class tango show and dinner.*

*We have a spectacular 3-day add-on. This will include round trip air to Rio, 4 Or 5 star lodging near Copacabana and Ipanema Beaches. We'll tour the city, visit Rio's signature Sugarloaf Mountain, the statue of the Christ, and much more. Rio is the only city in the world with a tropical rainforest within the city limits. We highly recommend this unique city and the add-on.*

**Schedule:** *We leave from DC Thurs eve, Aug 9, 2007, arriving in Buenos Aires Fri morning. And surprise, there's no jet lag; they are in our time zone. We spend Fri in Buenos Aires, and leave Sat for Las Leñas. The next 7 days we enjoy in Las Leñas. On Aug 18 we return to Buenos Aires for 4 days of sightseeing and gustatory delights. On Aug 21 those continuing fly to Rio, Brazil's wonderland. Enjoy the beaches, and the sightseeing. On Aug 24 We fly back to DC overnight arriving on Sat morning, Aug 25, 2007.*

**Cost:** *We don't yet have a firm cost. However, since the Argentine peso is very weak, we expect the cost for the 14 day trip to be about \$2,700-\$2,900. To add 3 nights in Rio, Brazil should be, including airfare, \$700-\$900. Our See and Ski trip is for everyone. Space is limited for this trip of a lifetime. To hold a space, send a check for \$100 per person, to Ray McKinley. Mail it to 2326 North Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207-4045. This deposit is refundable until October 2006 when we will finalize costs our trip. Call us at 703-527-7126 for more information. Or you can e-mail us [Argentina2007@potomacvalleyskiers.org](mailto:Argentina2007@potomacvalleyskiers.org)*



# THE KNEE

By Ray McKinley

In response to countless requests from new members (assuming that 3 is countless), the Knee will answer some questions about the column. In today's jargon, these are FAQs. "Just what is the Knee?" Now that's a silly question. It's the joint between the thigh and the calf. It's also between the hip and the ankle, and between the head and the toes. "How was the name The Knee selected?" There was a gossip column in the old Washington Star called the Ear. And we figured that this would be at a lower level. Besides, can you imagine trying to make tibia puns?

"What is the purpose of the Knee?" It is to keep the TOOT editor off the street for an hour each month attempting to correct my grammar and puns. [Ed note: Actually, half a day or so!] "How long has the Knee been around?" The Knee has never been around. I've always been a square. The Knee started when the A make up stamps started in January 1979—so I'm old! "What is the Knee's philosophy?" Never look back; and never reread your own columns.

We all had a great time at the All Trips Party at Kerry and Marianne Hines' lovely new home nestled in the Shenandoah Mountains. There was superb PVS food and great information on lots (and lots) of upcoming ski trips. Thanks to the Hines for hosting us!

Many of us witnessed a new type of violent crime at the event. Eloise Strand was attacking people with a gondola. It's true. Strands brought along a 4 foot rubber blow-up model of the Snowbird Gondola. And Eloise was bashing people with it.

Dottie Villers was in a soft foot cast due to a stress fracture. Dottie, you have just got to cut out the stress!

Bob McNeill announced that Glade Flake had had successful knee replacement surgery. But thereafter, complications set in. Glade could barely bend his knee. A second procedure, at the end of July has helped considerably. According to John Smith, Glade can now walk and do stairs and bend the knee 90°. Physical therapy should help improve that considerably. Kneedless to say, Glade, we're all pullin' for you.

Kirk Burns was showing no signs of his recent, partial knee replacement surgery. He was off of even a cane after two weeks and is now rarin' to go skiing. Sorry Kirk, skiing requires more than recuperation. It takes snow!

Similarly, Dick Comerford is back from a June visit to Steamboat. He also found no snow and no skiing. But that clearly won't be the case when Dick leads a PVS trip there in December.

Looking for a ski home? Marvin Hass and the Aspen Times report that Saudi Arabia's Prince Bandar's Aspen compound is now on the market. The 95 acre, 56,000 sq ft mansion includes 16 Baths, 15 bedrooms, stables, an indoor pool and a snowmelt driveway. It can be yours for a mere \$135 Million—the most expensive home ever listed in the US.

Need something cheaper? You can own a 1/20<sup>th</sup> share of a 912 sq ft studio in the Hyatt Grand Aspen for a mere \$900,000. Such a deal!

Bad news for PVS. Our Treasurer, Ray Jones has resigned. No, he hasn't absconded with the treasury. It wouldn't be worth it. Rather Ray and Judy plan to move to Sarasota, Florida. Sarasota is one of the few places in the US where the skiing is worse than at Liberty. Ray plans to open a new office for an engineering consultant firm. The Joneses will be missed.

PVSers keep finding new places to visit. And here's another new one. Ruth Powers and Carolyn Maurer are going to Mongolia to go trekking in the Gobi desert. And that's not a "just dessert." It will Gobi yond that

Don and Pat Cope are still raving about last year's gourmet trip to Italy. They are still using many of the cooking tidbits they learned.

Vail held a series of wine tastings, all at 10,000 feet. They had over 50 winemakers with Vail's restaurants supplying delectables. Kneet.

After having a shortness of breath, Marianne Cook was in the hospital for a few days. She is now fine and is back home.

Bummer: Several months ago I reported that Betty Lawrence's car was stolen and then found unharmed. It was then demolished in a parking lot whilst Betty was in a hospital. Yuck.

And finalknee, a few defikneetions:

Finkneeish	from Finland
Knee-monic	What the Knee uses to recall this column's name
An knee body	Who I'll ski with
Ray Knee	Not my favorite type of weather

Calendar/PVS Club Info

Local Event Calendar	Ski Trip Calendar (Western, Euro, South America)
Aug 12 Sat Annapolis Bay Picnic at Heitchue's	Dec 8-15, 06 Steamboat (Dick Comerford)
Aug 17 Thurs Bicycling Gourmet	Jan 18-25, 07 Snowmass (C.Maurer/D.DeVilbiss)
Aug 22 Tue ExCom at Schwartzbard's	Feb 3-10 07 Big Sky (PVS/BRSC-M.Rine/J.Marx)
Sept 2 Sat Crab Fest at Betty Lawrence's	Feb 17-25 07 Sun Peaks (Ray/Nancy McKinley)
Sept 16 Sat Strathmore Concert, Reception, Tour	Mar 3-10 07 Schladming (BRSC G.Flake/J.Smith)
Sept 19 Tues Monthly Meeting at Waddicks'	(Athens Feb 26 – Mar 3; Vienna Mar 11-13)
Sept 26 Tues ExCom Meeting	Mar 17-24 07 Snowbird/Alta (Mike Strand)
Sept 28 Fri Golf at Northwest Park	Aug 9-25 07 Argentina (Ray/Nancy McKinley)

**September TOOT:** Jan Marx will resume as editor for the September issue of TOOT. Copy can be submitted to [toot@potomacvalleyskiers.org](mailto:toot@potomacvalleyskiers.org) and it will be forwarded to the editor of the month. This August issue was edited by Marvin Hass

**Web Site:** [www.potomacvalleyskiers.org](http://www.potomacvalleyskiers.org) Updated trip flyers can be found by going to the PVS web site. Also photos of previous PVS Ski Trips, Club documents, and an updated home page oriented toward potential members.

<p><b>Change of postal or e-mail address:</b>          Call Pat Vagonis at (301) 838-5545          or send e-mail message to  <a href="mailto:pvagonis@comcast.net">pvagonis@comcast.net</a></p>	<p><b>E-mail Notice</b>          If you want to start receiving Toot electronically, or change the e-format you receive, please let me know.          Thanks, Jan = <a href="mailto:jebbmarx@aol.com">jebbmarx@aol.com</a>.</p>
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**PVS Roster Changes**

Last Name, First Name	Item to be changed	Status
Hensley, Howard and Jean	Home telephone number (703) 533-7985	Active
Hensley, Howard and Jean	Home address:: 3904 North Glebe Road	Active
Heitchue, Reg and Jean	Email address: <a href="mailto:heitchu@yahoo.com">heitchu@yahoo.com</a>	Active

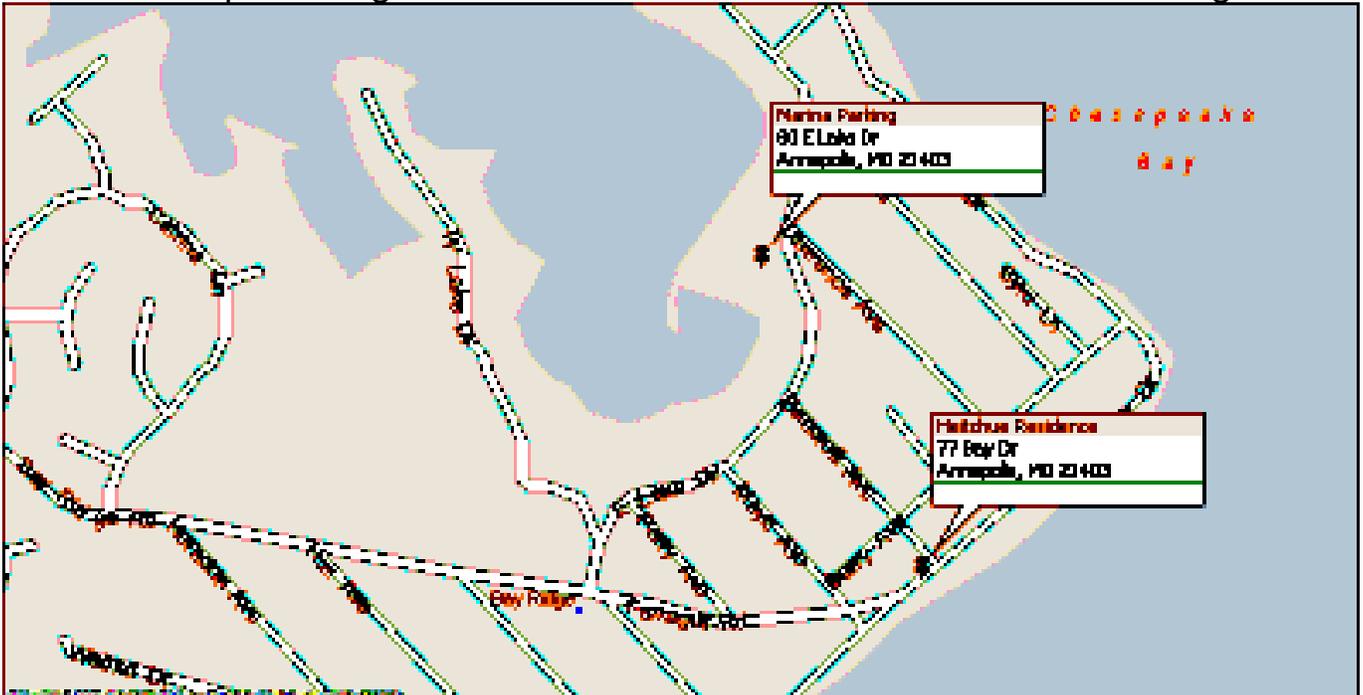
**PVS BOARD MEMBERS, OFFICERS, and CHAIRPERSONS - 2006-2007**

President - <i>David Abraham</i>	Webmaster -	<u>First Term:</u>
Vice President - <i>Mike Strand</i>	Ski Trip Cmte Chair - <i>Bob Marx</i>	<i>Bob Knopes</i>
Secretary - <i>Mary Beale</i>	TOOT Editor - <i>Jan Marx</i>	<i>Dick Laeser</i>
Treasurer - <i>Ray Jones</i>	TOOT Proofreader - <i>Bob Marx</i>	<i>David Lerner</i>
Membership - <i>Pat Vagonis</i>	TOOT Mailer -	<u>Second Term:</u>
Events - <i>Ray McKinley</i>	Meeting Records - <i>Sara Huggins</i>	<i>Charlotte Eddy</i>
Non-skiing Activities - <i>Mike Strand</i>	Historian - <i>Jan Marx</i>	<i>Burr Schuler</i>
		<i>Dick Schwartzbard</i>

Map to Heitchue Annapolis residence



Detail Map showing location of Heitchue residence and Marina Parking Lot





# Steamboat Springs

**Wedel Week Reunion** December 8 – 15 2006

The Potomac Valley Ski Club invites you to attend a Wedel Week in Steamboat Springs, Colorado with Dick & Betty Comerford as your host and hostess. Steamboat Springs, Ski Town USA, has a base elevation of 6900 feet, ideal for anyone who has difficulty adapting to high altitude (sleeping below 7500 feet keeps the head aches away).

The purpose of Wedel Week is to get in shape for the coming ski season, both by working hard on ski technique and practicing apres-ski activities in the evening. For the skiing end of it, Steamboat, rated as one of the top 5 areas in the nation, offers terrain for all levels of skiers and routinely has some of the best powder in the Rockies. On the lighter side, apres-ski activities will be based around our luxury ski-in/ski-out Sheraton Hotel. The package includes all breakfasts, 3 good group dinners, nightly apres-ski gatherings, a special awards ceremony and a post-trip party. We should be able to ski with Billy Kidd, but if he is not available, we will have a special guest lead us in a warm-up run.

- \* 7 Nights Lodging
- \* 25 Yards to Gondola
- \* Rooms Have 2 Queen Size Beds
- \* Starbucks Coffee in Each Room
- \* 4 Restaurants & 3 Lounges
- \* Heated Outdoor Pool
- \* 7 Hot Tubs, Steamrooms & Saunas
- \* 4 High Speed Quad Chairs
- \* Average Snowfall > 27 Feet
- \* 3668 Vertical Feet - 2nd Highest in CO
- \* 164 Ski Trails
- \* 25 Lifts (1 Gondola)
- \* 13% Beg, 56% Int, 31% Adv
- \* Lots of local activities
- \* Convenient to Restaurants & Shops
- \* Full Service Luxury Hotel

7 Nights Lodging, Daily Breakfast, 3 Dinners, Apres-ski -----	\$790
Air and Ground Transportation-----	\$490
<b>Total-----</b>	<b>\$1280</b>

Space is limited to 25. To sign up fill out the form below and send it with a check for **\$200 Payable to Dick Comerford at 307 Lounsbury Ct, Leesburg, VA 20176-2335**. Deposits are fully refundable until September 2005. [email: [dick.comerford@adelphia.net](mailto:dick.comerford@adelphia.net)]

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Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the PVS disclosure statement: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of each person listed on this form is required)

Check appropriate spaces:  
Total Package \_\_\_ or Land Only \_\_\_; Room-mate (if not listed above) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments:  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Steamboat Springs Dec 2006 Trip Flyer

**Prices & Payments:** Full price **\$1,280**, Land only **\$790** Single Supplement Addition: \$200  
Payment Date: September 1, 2006.

### **Current Airline Schedule:**

Dec 8 United 443 Check in at Dulles @ 10:20am. Depart Dulles @ 12:18pm. Arrive Denver @2:00pm.  
United 7047 Depart Denver @ 3:05pm. Arrive Hayden @ 4:09pm.  
Dec 15 United 7057 Check in at Hayden @ 9:00am. Depart Hayden @ 10:35am. Arrive Denver@11:38am.  
United 316 Depart Denver @ 12:25pm. Arrive Dulles @ 5:37pm.

**ACTIVITIES:** The Sheraton Steamboat is located just steps from the Silver Bullet Gondola, making us the closest lodging facility of any Colorado Ski Resort. From there you will enjoy:

- ❖ One of the largest skiing mountains in the country.
- ❖ Besides world class skiing, Steamboat offers a wealth of recreational winter activities:
- ❖ Snowmobiling in Colorado's top locations and on private terrain.
- ❖ Tubing right outside our door.
- ❖ 20 kilometers of groomed cross-country trails at our Nordic-touring center.
- ❖ Snow cat powder tours, sleigh rides, snowmobiling and ice-skating.
- ❖ Dog sled adventures and winter horseback riding, Dinner Sleigh Rides
- ❖ Soak in our natural mineral hot-springs
- ❖ Hot air balloon rides, glider rides and indoor tennis
- ❖ Ice climbing and Ice driving school



### **Cancellation Policy:**

If it becomes necessary to cancel your trip, the trip leader will make every effort to minimize your loss. There will be NO loss if the cancellation is prior to September 1, 2006, after that date varying penalties will apply based on the airline, hotels and tour operator agreements.

Inquiries and comments are welcome. Tel: (703) 777-9374 [dick.comerford@adelphia.net](mailto:dick.comerford@adelphia.net)

### PVS STANDARD DISCLOSURE

Partial or full payment for a reservation on this Val Gardena trip shall constitute consent to all provisions stated herein. PVS, its officers, its representatives, its agents or its members shall not be responsible for personal injuries, property damage, or loss, delay, or the change of itinerary to any person or trip participant which arises out of the action of any air carrier, hotel, or other persons rendering any services, accommodations and transportation arrangements being offered, or by reason of any circumstance. PVS designated Trip Leaders, should circumstances demand, have the right to substitute hotels of similar or better category and to change transportation schedules. In the event of such changes, no refund or credit will be provided if accommodations, services, and transportation arrangements are of comparable or better quality or standards to those which were to be provided and are during the same approximate period. Any such change shall not modify the cancellation provisions of the Trip Agreement. No credit will be allowed or refund given for any service included as part of the trip and not used by individual participants unless agreed to by the Trip Leaders in advance. If the trip is cancelled for any reason whatsoever, PVS shall only be responsible to make a maximum effort to obtain the refund of all payments previously made for the trip from the person to whom the payment was made and there shall not be any further obligation on the part of PVS, its officers, its representatives, its agents or its members. Trip participants on this PVS sanctioned trip shall ski at their own risk and therefore PVS, its officers, its Board of Directors or its members shall not be responsible for any personal injury, property damage or injuries to others by a participant on a PVS sanctioned trip.