

VOLUME XXXX
NUMBER 12

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

DECEMBER 2004

Dear Fellow PVSers

Seems that the holiday season is upon us, and that also means that the beginning of the skiing season has or is about to arrive. This is the time when all of us, our families, and friends, importantly engage in the retrospective, the mental review of the months past, and hopefully we all find much reason to rejoice and feel grateful for the blessings which came our way.

I wish to make a special point of my personal gratitude for the hard work, the care and concern of our many volunteers thanks to whom we have enjoyed another year of a multitude of highly successful activities both on and off the slopes. Just looking at the monthly-published calendar provides clear evidence of what I speak. From theater and concert outings to hikes and tastings, we do it all in the company of good friends, folks who share values, are eager to support each other, and just know how to make the most of good-time opportunities.

It's also true that these myriad activities are brought about by a rather small number of dedicated members. We simply need more of them if we are to sustain our eclectic suite of activities. Some prior appeals for increased and renewed volunteerism have not yielded hoped for results. This is no joke or idle rejoinder. It's quite true; we do need activists to follow in the footsteps of those who have given of their time and energies for so long. A call to any of our program planning champions will surely result in a grateful response. I wish to urge you, if you can and are willing to, please make that first step, and call.

My wishes for each of you and yours include those for great skiing adventures, good tidings, and your enthusiastic participation in our club's varied activities.

My best to you and yours,

Reg
David (Program Planning Chairman)



**Bring
your
favorite
Snack or
Sweet
to share.
Drinks are provided.**

*Annual Holiday
Meeting*
7:30 P.M.
Tuesday, December 21
Macaluso's
2011 Rosemont Ave
Mount Pleasant in
Washington D.C.



Adventures in
Heliskiing

Directions to Vince and Judy Macaluso's –sp



Traveling North on Connecticut Avenue, turn right onto Porter Street.
Traveling South on Connecticut Avenue, turn left onto Porter Street.

NOTE: Porter Street changes its name (invisibly) to Kingle Road about 1/4 mile after you turn onto Porter.

Once on Porter Street, the first light comes up immediately. Go through that light.
The second light is about 1/2 mile down the hill, at Adams Mill Road.
About 30 feet past that light, on the left, is Rosemount Avenue.
Turn left onto Rosemount Avenue.

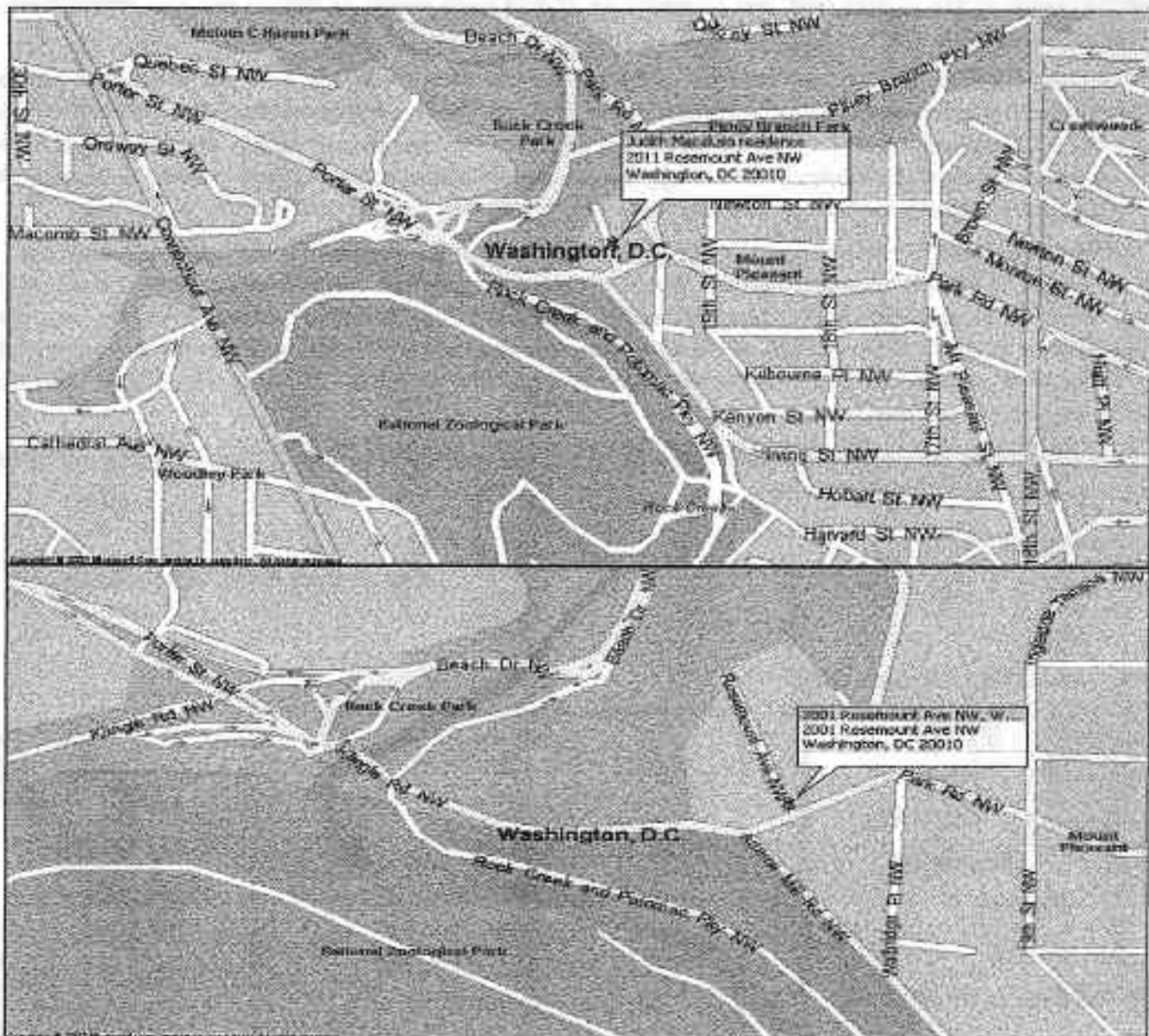
CAR POOL if you can.

2011 Rosemount Avenue is the first row house on the right.

You can **park** on the street or in the Rosemount Center parking lot directly across from our house.

Express link to map

<http://www.homestead.com/pvskiers/files/macalusomap.gif>



Matthews concerts

For those of you who have enjoyed these small but intriguing concerts before, or who had wanted to partake but couldn't, Ramona and her daughter Valerie will perform in two separate concerts.

Thursday, December 2, 11 a.m., Strathmore Hall Turina: Trio No. 2.
Ramona Matthews, violin; Jan Timbers, cello;
Enoch Gordis, piano.

Thursday, January 6, 11 a.m., Strathmore Hall. Cello/piano sonata
to be determined
Valerie Matthews, cello; Han-Yin Chen, piano.
Strathmore Hall, 10701 Rockville Pike, N. Bethesda, MD (Metro: Grosvenor).



PVS is going to the Hexagon Show Again Wednesday evening, March 16th, at 8:00 PM

Each year, the Hexagon Club puts on a hilarious show of political satire and musical numbers, similar to that by the "Capitol Steps". [They certainly will get material from the recent election.] All of the show's participants are volunteers and proceeds are donated to a charity. We are again going on the most popular night – Congressional night since it was great fun last year. The show is in the Duke Ellington School for the Performing Arts in Georgetown. We have just 20 tickets and each is \$20; we expect to sell out soon. We are planning to have dinner before the show at a nearby restaurant, probably Old Europe, but dinner is optional. If you are interested in attending this show, please send a check for \$20 per ticket to Barbara Leonhardt (made payable to her). In case of cancellation, a refund will ONLY be issued if a substitute is found. For questions, call Barbara at 301-963-8111.



Baseball in Washington--Tickets

I have reserved 6 season tickets to the Washington Nationals baseball games. There are 81 home games in the season. I've received commitments from 6 others for a part of a season: 20 games (1/4 of a season) or 10 games (1/8 of a season)...2 seats per game...\$30 per seat.

The plan is to get reasonable good seats (Infield Terrace Box), 6 seats together with folks we know (or would like to know), so we could more easily switch off tickets.

I have at least 5 slots (2 seats/20 games or 2 seats/10 games) available. No deposit is required right now, but they may be requesting full payment early in December. If you would like to participate, please contact me right away.

Mike Strand, hrdyna@aol.com or 301-881-0812



2005 Ski Trips

SNOWMASS/BEAVER CREEK 2005

[Snowmass full, but check with leaders for last minute possibilities. Might be room for a single man.]



Join the Potomac Valley Skiers' year after year favorite trip. Ski Snowmass for up to six days and go on to Beaver Creek for an additional three days skiing. We leave from Dulles on January 20 and fly into Aspen airport. Return on January 27 from Aspen to Dulles. For those going on to Beaver Creek, we motor coach to Beaver Creek from Snowmass on January 27 and return to Dulles on January 31 from Eagle Airport., Aspen Highlands, and Buttermilk in addition to the Snowmass area. Ski Vail in addition to Beaver Creek. All inclusive this year are: pre and post trip parties, après ski parties, group dinners, air fare lift tickets, breakfast and lunch at Snowmass, slope side access from hotels, arrangement for ski rental [which can be dropped at Beaver Creek], great camaraderie and more. Equipment rental and insurance available but not included.

At Snowmass, we again are staying at the Mountain Chalet (shown in photo at left) which has become the Club favorite and at Beaver Creek we stay at the Beaver Creek Lodge

All of the above for \$1,911 for the Snowmass portion and \$2,995 for both Snowmass and Beaver Creek. Land only, deduct \$499; non skiers deduct \$220.

Add the sixth ski day at Snowmass for \$38. Your trip leaders again this year are Gene and Wilma Sharer. Contact Wilma at 301-975-9411 or at wilma@sharerassociates.com

NOTE: The snow base is already at 27 inches & snowing. We have 44 going to Snowmass & 12 going on to Beaver Creek.

February 12-19, 2005, join Nancy and Ray McKinley to Ski



We continue to look for new areas that PVS will love. We've found a true gem in Sun Peaks, Canada's newest destination resort. "Big" describes Sun Peaks--big fun, hospitality, mountain, terrain and vertical and a charming, Tyrolean, car-free village. The Resort logs an average of 2,000 hours of sunshine. Combined with 220" of dry snow and an average mid-winter temp. of 20 to 25 degrees F, make Sun Peaks a favorite ski holiday

Access is a piece of cake! We fly from Reagan National on Alaska Air non-stop to Seattle, leaving at a civilized 9 am. A brief layover to switch flights gets us to Kamloops, and then to the resort, by 2:30 pm. Wow!

Hurry, Only 2 Spaces Left!



Sun Peaks has 3678 vertical feet of runs, 10 lifts including 3 high speed lifts. For non-skiers, we have a variety of activities, including snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling. We're at Olympic Gold Medalist Nancy Greene's Canilty Lodge. It includes heated tile floors in the bathrooms and kitchens, convenient ski in/ski out location. There is a hot tub and a work-out room. We have full, hot Canadian Breakfasts daily. We selected Studios featuring 1 or 2 queen beds, TV, VCR, kitchen, most with fireplace, and bath. We also offer Hotel rooms.

Aside from air, lodging and 5 of 6 day lifts Our trip also includes 3 dinners, happy hours, pre & post trip parties, bus & bellman tips, etc.

GREAT PRICES - \$1,732; 65+ \$1,685; LAND ONLY \$1,173, \$36 less in Hotel Room

This year due to air schedules we have only 30 spaces. To reserve, send your check for \$250 per person payable to Ray McKinley and send it to McKinley's, 2326 N Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207-4045. Please call us for a copy of our flyer and lots more information at (703) 527-7126.



Come along to SEE and SKI the
MAMMOTH

<http://www.mammothmountain.com>

see the WEB CAM = www.mammoth-mtn.com/cams/index.cfm?cam=main
The mountain has a snow base of 4 to 6 feet for Thanksgiving skiing.

Saturday, March 19 to Saturday, March 26

ONLY ONE SPACE LEFT.

We have 28 happy skiers .

- > Seniors 65 and over = \$1,313
- > Land only = \$1,020
- > Single supplement is \$480

LOTS of skiing for all levels on 3,500 acres
15% expert, 20% advanced,
40% intermediate, 25% beginner

THE TRIP INCLUDES:

~ Round trip United Air Lines from Dulles to Reno

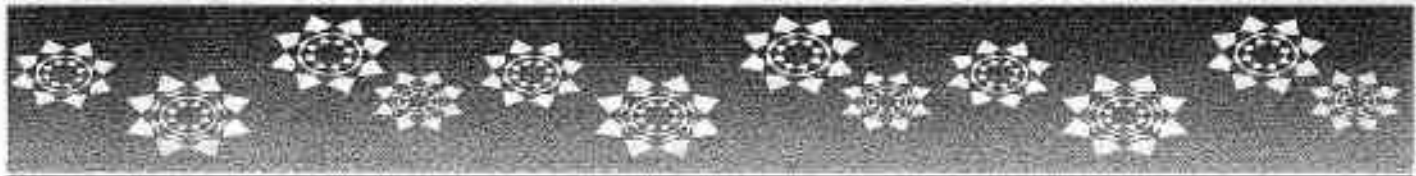
- ~ Round trip bus from Reno to Mammoth Lakes
- ~ 6 nights at the Shilo Inn on Main St in Mammoth Lakes (breakfasts included)
- ~ 1 night at the Sands in Reno (Maybe you can win and pay for the trip!)
- ~ 5 day lift tickets, - *option for the 6th day.*
- ~ Welcome wine and cheese party
- ~ 2 group dinners; 3 Après ski parties
- ~ Baggage handling, transfers, and hotel gratuities

<<<<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>

Marty Rine, 5256 Lonsdale Dr, Springfield, VA 22151

Marty Rine = martyski@erols.com 703-978-0179
Jan Marx = jebbmarx@aol.com 703-451-9158

SKI MAMMOTH



Please add to your roster

These new applicant members are
friends of John and Poli Brunelli:

Dave and Cherie Bertagnoli
5827 Colfax Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22311
Home: 702-933-1067
Office: 202-712-7088
stallbert@cox.net

Changes

Jim and Charlotte Kline
205 Chorley
Williamsburg, VA 23188
(757) 259 - 0174
email address is the same

Carol Parmenter =
clparmenter@starpower.net

Nancy and Ray Garrett =

In February, 2003, Lu Beale submitted her Haiku: Life Is Short to the Washington Post, Style section. It was not published. Mary sent it to me to see if it was Toot-worthy. I knew Lu had written this and was pleased that Mary shared it. Knowing Lu, we can all better appreciate her creativity and vision.

The family bought a new car. A medium-priced, all-purpose vehicle.
Not great on style but as dependable as daybreak. We called it Doobie. I forget why.
It was a jewel and we thought it would last forever. Then things began to go wrong.
Little things at first. Brake shoes. Leaking hoses. Rusting pipes. Then, gradually big stuff.
Steering system. Differential. Transmission. Until finally it was clear to all, time to strip the
wheels, raise it onto cinder blocks, call in the wrecking crew.

I am an 88 year old widow. I am Doobie.

By Lucrece Beale



Annual Chili Hike 2004

By Jean Chybinski

Saturday, November 6 was the 19th Anniversary of the PVS Chili Hike. Twenty some people turned out for the hike and chili at McKinley's home. We hiked about 5 or 6 miles along the scenic and rugged terrain at Great Falls Virginia. The weather was perfect, but it was a little too chilly to have chili on the McKinley's patio. The patio is lovely with new red tile and the home still has the many artifacts that make it so interesting. Many of us saw for the first time the newly renovated house, since the hurricane felled a tree on their home last year. And there is a new addition to their collection. A trophy naming Ray the King of Korn. Congratulations, Ray! And thank you and Nancy for the hot -and -not so hot chili dinner and hike.

www.homestead.com/pvskiers/chilihike04.html



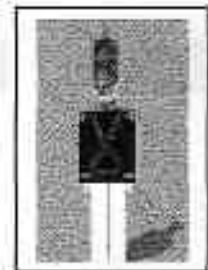
Bicycling Gourmet Thursday, November 11, 2005

A seventeen mile round trip starting from Glen Echo and proceeding via MarArthur Blvd and Falls Road bike paths to Potomac Village. After carbohydrate loading at the Vie de France boulangerie, we proceeded back to Glen Echo and proceeded to have a light lunch at the Irish Inn at Glen Echo. Post ride lunch at the Irish Inn at Glen Echo, once a workingman's pub called Trav's and beloved by bikers (both bicyclists and motorcyclists.) Alas! It has been "yuppified" in recent years. Mary Beale joined Marvin, Betty Byrne and the other bikers for lunch. Go to the PVS website for pictures. www.potomacvalleyskiers.org

Radio City Spectacular

On November 13, our top Rockette, Wilma, lead us on a Christmas adventure in NYC. What a marvelous way to start the holiday season!! Thirty-some PVSers, families and friends, got a delayed start as we waited at Shady Grove Metro for our tour bus (later located on the other side of the tracks). The delay did not affect our arrival time; only prepared us for "The New York Experience". Most importantly the magical performance of the "Radio City Christmas Spectacular", featuring the talented Rockettes and surprises galore. A 3D film jump starts Santa and his reindeer with a sleigh ride through New York City, taking all of us with him and landing in Radio City. The Parade of the Wooden Soldiers and The Living Nativity, with live camels, sheep, donkeys and horse, all on stage. This left us all very excited, inspired, regenerated and just plain warm and fuzzy.

With three hours to shop, walk and tour before dinner, we spread out in every direction, given instructions by our marvelous leader, Wilma, none of us got lost or stolen. Many arrived at the Times Square Brewery Restaurant early to take the chill off and sample the wares. Dinner was delayed, as the restaurant kept changing our floor and room for dining, plus our menu. Our printed menu was not the one in our contract; again Wilma to the rescue!!!! Management then told us to throw the old ones out, which we did dramatically and with gusto. Amusement for another hour. When finally served it was long after our scheduled departure time and the bus driver was anxious, double parked in New York City, poor guy. Though we did hurry on board the bus and when seated and relaxed, sat back and savored the glorious experiences, the sights and sounds of New York City. It was a day to remember, memorable, moving and spectacular, made possible by Wilma's leadership, organization and smiling flexibility. OURS TOO!!!



by June Reed

Show and Tell in the Ski Industry

Sally and George welcomed us into their spacious home for our annual Show and Tell meeting. Sally and Dottie Villers offered wonderful eats and delicious desserts from homemade pumpkin squares to crème puffs.

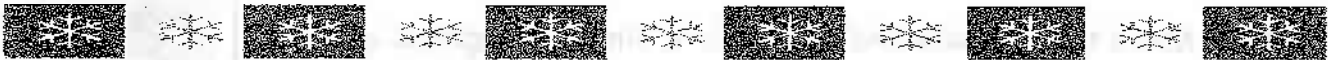
Brian Eardley was accompanied by Ski Center's owner Adam Kahane, long known to, and friends with, many PVSers. Brian showed us what is new in skies and boots. (Thank goodness the graphics have been toned down in the ladies skies and there are more options for the ladies. Too bad that there are no rear entry boots - yet.) Marvin Hass also thought Brian gave an excellent presentation but had an interesting take on the industry: "In fact, it was amusing for me to hear that the design of ski equipment is somewhat similar to that of bicycles. Namely, they are designed and marketed by hotshots, who focus on the perceived needs of hotshots and not on the actual needs of the large number of others who would be happy to sacrifice a little speed for greater comfort and safety."

Adam Kahane is the owner of the Ski Center, which started up in the early 60's in downtown Washington. PVS Webmaster Marvin Hass was one of his first customers. Ski Center has an interesting history on their website. <http://www.skicenter.com/history/index.htm>



Thanks, Sally, George and Dottie for hosting an excellent meeting.

Brian Eardley and Adam



FROM THE EDITOR:

I want all of you to know that I really appreciate Marvin's substituting for me during the many months that Bob and I were roaming the country playing hard at being "retired." Marvin is incredibly knowledgeable about the intricacies of the computer and is a willing helper to those of us who get ourselves into technology over our heads. He is terrific at seeing how we can apply computer techniques to PVS' needs. He has gotten very creative with the website.

DO check in at the website, there are extra pictures and lots of information available. Marvin also has some great pictures and a wonderful write up about the Knee's special recognition and Lu's award to him.

www.potomacvalleyski.org



THE KNEE

By Ray McKinley

Happknee Holidays and a
Merrknee Christmas

I bet you are thinking "Why does he keep up those corny jokes?" The answer is simple. You expect it of the Knee. This is why, in all the polls, the Knee remains the highest rated TOOT column which has appeared regularly for 25 or more years. Why, without my "corknee jokes," the Knee would be...well... shorter.

In this month's President's Message, Reg talks about a great way YOU can help our club. Volunteer to be on the Program Planning Committee. The Knee certainly concurs. Experience is not necessary. PVS gets your great new ideas for formulating and running events. And you get to help and to meet other club members. Call David Abraham today. No need to be a black diamond skier, or even a skier, to volunteer.

Let me tell you about Mike and Eloise Strand's mailbox. It seems that because of where it is located, at the end of their driveway on a cul-de-sac, it is always getting knocked down. Mike had tried putting it in using various devices—including a steel pole. All to no avail. A year ago the Strands had the solution. They put the mailbox atop a 200-lb boulder. It lasted some three months before it toppled. Their mailbox is now perched on top of a 1,600-lb rock! So far, so good. Anyone hitting that boulder now will experience a new type of rock-n-roll.

A huge tip of the 'ol Knee Cap goes to Rosemary Schwartzbard. Sexagenarian and runner Rosemary just competed in the 2004 Marine Marathon. And she completed the 26 mile course in the first third of the finishers! That's well ahead of many half her age. Part of her training was ukneeque. The Schwartzbards took a French barge trip. As Dick-um-barged along, Rosemary ran along the canal. Her phone service? Of course it's Sprint!

Like mother, like daughter: Lu Beale's daughter, Mary attended her first PVS meeting in November. Now she has decided to take her first full-fledged ski trip. She will go to Vail with Fred and Barbara Leonhardt and Serge and Liz Triau. Right on. And on.

It has been a rather warm fall for the DC area. There have been theories about a new *el nino* and the upcoming, either too snowy or warm winter

weather. To check, I called the Ski Liberty folk. If anyone knew the true snow poop, it would most certainly be those at Ski Liberty. I chatted at length with their weather prognosticators. Yes, they were aware of *el nino*. It's a relatively new Mexican restaurant near Harrisburg. And, no, it was not going to affect their planned season opening on Valentine's Day.

The Knee can help. And, at the same time resolve another PVS problem. The PVS unemployment rate is at an all time high—and it's rising (assuming that retirees are unemployed—which is true). Just like Kerry, I have a plan called the Snow Plan. All unemployed PVSers can grind up ice cubes and send the snow to Ski Liberty. Human Snow making—It's snow joke. Cool!

In the summer, Bob McNeill does volunteer work at Sibley Hospital. Does that make him a candy-striper? However, come November, after missing a year, Bob became a skier, skiing at Copper Mt. on November 11—the earliest of any PVSer this year.

This doesn't count our Colorado contingent Maryse Delevaux, Nancy Lewis and Gladie Youngblood. Indeed, Nancy was planning on skiing at Winter Park when it opened on Nov 2. And, after a long time recovering, our other PVS Coloradan, Penny Hanshaw, hopes to get back to our favorite sport this winter.

Betty Byrne is now in Australia where she will do some touring and then top it off at a multi-day performance of Wagner's Ring Cycle. Betty's no mere ding-a-ling!

Jacques Hadler was in town and came on the Chili Hike. Naval architect, Jacques is busy designing high speed (40-60 mph) ferries. And you thought naval architects only worked with belly button lint!

Margaret Wyckoff and Ilse Keel are back from a trip to Egypt and Jordan (love their almonds). They had a great time, but skiing conditions are "worse than Ski Liberty."

And Don and Pat Cope are just back from their first trip to Bermuda. They report the island has similar ski conditions.

Everyone is doing post mortems on the election. The Knee knows why Kerry lost. It was that really dweeby looking photo of him *snowboarding* at Loon last March. Had he been on skis, it would have been
a win!

CALENDAR

Dec 21 Tues Holiday Party Meeting at the Macaluso's
Jan 11 Tues Dec/Jan ExCom at Clark's
Jan 12, 13, 14 Wed-Fri WISP Demo Days
Feb 15 Tues Monthly Meeting -TBA
Feb 22 Tues ExCom at Villar's
Mar 15 Tues Monthly Meeting at Leonhardt's
Mar 16 Wed Hexagon Show
Nov 5 Sat 40th Anniversary Party at 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.

CURRENT PVS BOARD & OFFICERS -2004-05

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: vacant
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*

EXCOM:

First Term:

Marilyn Clark
Dave DeVilbiss
Mike Strand

Second Term:

John Brunelli
Ray McKinley
Dottie Villers



2005 Western Ski Trips

Jan 20-27, 2005	Snowmass
Jan 27-31, 2005	Beaver Creek
Feb 12-19, 2005	Sun Peaks
Mar 19-26, 2005	Mammoth