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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

July/August 2007

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Well Mike, you got some flack over last month's column. How about something more traditional this month? OK.

Dear PVSer,

This month's topics are Sex, Politics and Religion...just kidding.

Actually, your ExCom has been busy. In the June meeting we decided (with an overwhelming 6 elected attendees voting unanimously) to **re-align** the dues structure to establish consistency with the dues of Absentee and Associate Members. Currently Associate Members pay \$25 Individual/\$40 Couples. However, Absentee Members previously paid \$20 Individual (no provision for Couples). So, for those PVSers, no matter their flavor, residing 75 miles from our home base, the dues now are aligned for Absentee Members to \$25 Individual/\$40 Couples.

Mike, this sounds to me like a dues INCREASE!

Well, it really is an "alignment." But there is more: we plan to combine the July and August Toots and skip the July and possibly August ExCom meetings depending on agenda items.

So, let me get this straight: in the early official moments of your administration, ExCom has raised...sorry "aligned" dues and taken the summer off?

Not exactly, we are considering the possibility of a "virtual" ExCom meeting in August.

"Virtual" ExCom meeting. What we getting into the 21st Century here?

Something like that. More likely a telephone conference call...in which members (who have e-mail connections) can participate with us.

Wow!

Although, per usual, monthly meetings are off until September, we do have some important activities this summer: the All Trips Party on July 21st; Wednesday Free Outdoor Concerts at Strathmore; and the annual Betty Lawrence Crab Fest on September 8th.

Lastly, we do again have a need for volunteers to help organize mid-week and weekend events. I know many of you volunteer to host activities informally. But we'd like to pull together a group that could help guide this effort. Please contact me directly to help us out in this important endeavor.

Best wishes, Mike Strand

All Trips Party



Kerry & Marianne Hines

Delaplane, VA

Saturday, July 21

4:00 PM



Saturday July 21, 4:00 PM
11019 John Marshall Highway
Delaplane, Virginia 20144

Please RSVP by July 14

540-364-4810 or mchines@erols.com

Come for dinner, enjoy the mountain (and maybe wildlife) views, and learn all about the many great trips PVS is offering for the 2008 season.

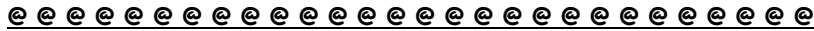
A small fee will be charged.

Everyone is asked to bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert

Directions:

- 1) Starting at the Capital Beltway/Interstate Route 495, take I-66 West toward FRONT ROYAL; go approximately 42 miles.
- 2) Take exit #23 onto US 17 toward DELAPLANE/PARIS – go 0.9 miles.
- 3) Turn **left** onto VA-55 WEST toward FRONT ROYAL – go 2.0 miles
- 4) 11019 JOHN MARSHALL HWY is on the **left**.

For anyone interested in pre-party exploration of some of the local offerings--- O'Brian, Stillhouse, Three Fox, and Naked Mountain Vineyards, the Sky Meadow State Park, and a leg of the Appalachian Trail are within a 10-15 minutes drive of our house. Also, the two local orchards usually have ripe cherries, and/or peaches by mid-July. Have questions or want directions, please call or email.



Changes

Jessma Blockwick has a newer e-mail address: jessma@earthlink.net

(Than the one reported in the June 2007 Toot)

Reg and Jean Heitchue -- new e-mail address: heitr2@verizon.net

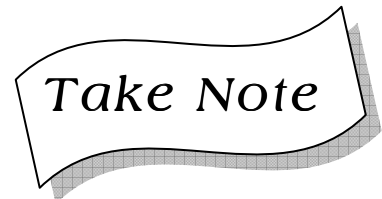
And **Reg** has a new Work telephone number: 202-201-1424

Hank and Judy Neill -- e-mail address is: reata@mac.com

Harry Lins -- new e-mail address is: hlins@usgs.gov

Katherine Lins -- new e-mail address is: kathy@familylins.com

Francesca Adams -- new e-mail address is: fradams@rcn.com



Welcome to our New Applicant Members:

Angie Hale

2366 Tumbletree Way
Reston, VA 20191
703-620-9364
angiehale@verizon.net

Russel and Bonnie Sweeney

10801 Cyntheanne Rd.
Fortville, IN 46040
317-485-7611
Russel = going2c@aol.com
Bonnie = bonotabl@aol.com



On Tuesday, July 10th at 9 PM **Joanna Walker**, a PVS member, will showcase her amazing voice in the lounge at Le Canard Restaurant in Vienna, VA. We are expecting a full house, so please plan to arrive early! For more information please contact her – joanna.walker@cox.net Help support live music in Northern Virginia and add some jazz to your life!

Coming Events



CRABFEST

Saturday Sept 8, at 4:00PM

Rain or Shine

This popular event will now take place again at Betty Lawrence's home in Vienna. Betty orders bushels of crabs. And the rest of us bring salads or desserts.

If you wish, you also can bring "uncrabby" food that can be grilled (grill provided).

RSVP Betty by Tues Sept 4th (703) 319-1860 or 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 toll): Take Dulles Toll Rd (Rte 267) 5.5 miles west from the Beltway to Hunter Mill Rd. exit 14; turn **left** (south) onto Hunter Mill Rd. (Rte 674) and follow it (you will have to make a **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 22181

Telephone: 703-319-1860



Strathmore (FREE) Outdoor Summer Concerts

Strathmore (Bethesda/Rockville) is again providing free outdoor summer concerts on the lawn most Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. Take the Metro (Grosvenor/Strathmore station) or park at the Metro garage (need \$4 on your SmarTrip card to pay to exit the garage) or park on the street nearby. Bring food, drink or buy at the concert. Bring your blanket or low chair...and enjoy summer sounds. Contact Strathmore for performance details at or www.strathmore.org

--continued.....

Strathmore – continued...

July 11: Washington Symphonic Brass: Milt Stevens conductor

July 18: Hungary for Music Diamond Cuts

July 25: Junkyard Saints 2007 Wammie Award winners for artist of the year.
Zydeco & New Orleans Jazz.

Aug 1: Little Bit of Blues

Aug 8: The Bach Sinfonia--Pleasure Garden Music of Handel, Bach & Boyce w/a soprano & more



PS: Look for Mike & Eloise Strand at most of these concerts.

ALERT: The free Strathmore outdoor film festival begins August 10th, starting with "Night at the Museum," "Casino Royale," "Over The Hedge," "Wizard of Oz," "North By Northwest," "The Devil Wears Prada," and more. See www.strathmore.org for details.

Mike Strand

Past Events

JUNE MONTHLY MEETING

It was one of the hottest and most humid nights for this area, with thunderstorms bouncing around, which may have contributed to the small group at first-time hosts, Dave and Carolyn Callaway's in Rockville. There were 29 members, including out-of-area member, Jessma Blockwick, now a Coloradian, who arrived very late after getting lost, and one guest, Angie Hale, who became an applicant member and signed up for a ski trip at the meeting.

President, Mike Strand began the meeting by introducing himself as this was his first meeting since being elected at the April meeting. VP Dick Comerford had been filling in. Mike also told us he will be having hip replacement surgery, and the September meeting will also be in the capable hands of Veep Dick.

Ray told the group of two upcoming events: the all-trips party, and a crab fest (see details in Toot), and the three trip leaders gave updates on their trips (flyers to be in Toot). The Snowmass trip needs 1 single man, and has only 1 room left for 2. Following the short (11 minutes) meeting, we were back to socializing and dessert.

Thank you Dave and Carolyn for hosting us. PVSers noticed that the wine was even "Callaway" label.

The next regular meeting will be in September.

by Sara Huggins



THE KNEE

by Ray McKinley

It's summer. Hot, humid, hazy horrible days, followed by hot, humid, hazy horrible nights. It's the season that's the bane of all skiers. It is, however, at least somewhat reassuring, to know that ultimately (assuming 6 months is ultimately) cold and snow will, once again, conquer our dreaded summer.

To get you over the summer season, the Knee will offer some sincere statements of scintillating significance (and some silly sayings) from your staunch supporter of snow, skiing and Sebastiani. (Or perhaps wine from another, Southern California vineyard—see below.)

Bummer: In early June, Mike Hatanaka was putting a heavy, 1950's television into his car's trunk. He doesn't know what happened, but later at the hospital, doctors thought heart attack or stroke. After copious testing they now believe Mike slipped, banged his head and got a concussion and major bruise on his brain. This caused tiredness and some loss of muscle function. He is currently getting physical therapy at Manor Care in Potomac, and getting better daily. Mike's prognosis is for a 100% recovery (Fantastic!), and he hopes to ski this winter.

Fred and Barbara Leonhardt are taking a vacation different from any they have taken. This means it's not a ski or a golf vacation. They are visiting Iceland, Norway and France. Fred explained that they wanted to visit somewhere where it's green and flat without little white balls rolling everywhere.

I asked Glade Flake how his knee was doing. Glade thought it droll that the Knee was asking about knees. He also said he had tried skiing, and it wasn't good. Not kneet!

Veep Dick and Betty Comerford are back from a vacation to Munich and Amsterdam. Both love the Bavarian beer. Betty said she didn't see any of the girls of the night in Amsterdam. Dick had no comment.

Another great e-mail letter is in from our own Bill Hager; this one from Afghanistan. And the e-mail was accompanied by several dozen

photos from an on-line photo service. As usual, Bill's words brought out great images. But the photos brought out what a dry, desolate place Afghanistan is. The Knee will most certainly not plan a ski trip there.

Do you realize that in about 40 years, we'll have millions of old ladies running around with tattoos and pierced navels? (That's scary!)

Our June PVS meeting was the first at the home of new members Dave and Carolyn Callaway. The meeting was also a first because they served their own, Callaway Vineyards Merlot and Chardoknee wine. No, they didn't make it in their basement. Rather it came from the same named vineyard in Temucula, Calif. (It's just a bit northeast of San Diego.) Everyone seemed to enjoy the wine. Or at least no one whined about it. Thanks, Carolyn and Dave for a great meeting.

As you may recall, Mike Strand's June Presidential message was, rather ukneeque. Indeed, Mike issued an e-mail oops. At the meeting, Dick Comerford talked to Mike about it, "Now you know people read your messages!"

There was a pleasant surprise at the June meeting. Jessma Blockwick was back in the DC area visiting her sister from her new home in Colorado. She unfortunately got lost and arrived just as the meeting was ending. Jessma would have been on time, but made a wrong turn and ended up in Arkansas, where she was attacked by the growing tribe of WalMart Indians. Would the Knee lie to you?

A note to all of you: To keep dues down, we charge \$3.00 to attend each PVS meeting. According to Sara Huggins, at the June meeting, some 30 people attended and we only collected \$67. So we were \$23 in the red. Please do sign in and pay at each meeting you attend.

Non-baseball fans Serge and Liz Triau recently visited RFK Stadium to watch our Washington Nats lose to Detroit. They had Detroit visitors who were trying to visit all of the major league ballparks. The last time Liz and Serge were at RFK was for a Redskins game!

Tuckerman Ravine, which lies on the southeast slope of 6,288 ft. Mount Washington is one of the oldest, best-known and most difficult backcountry skiing spots in North America. It's an anomaly; a piece of the Rockies transplanted back East. Marvin Hass notes that the annual pilgrimage of hiking up and skiing down took place on May 25th this year. The Knee believes the last PVSers to do Tuckerman were Adele Waggaman and Lu Beale, -- on Memorial Day, 1985. Kneenuf.

Calendar

July	21	Sat	All Trips Party at Hines ' 4:00 PM
Sept	8	Sat	Crabfest at Betty Lawrence's
Sept	11	Tue	Mike Strand's hip surgery
Sept	18	Tue	Monthly Meeting at Waddick's
Sept	25	Tue	ExCom at Strand's
Oct	16	Tue	Monthly Meeting at Jablon's



Ski Trips -- 2008

Snowmass - January 17-24 -- Carolyn Maurer
Sun Valley - February 9-16 - Nancy and Ray McKinley
Balkans - March 2-13 - Marianne and Kerry Hines

NOTE: THIS IS THE JULY AND AUGUST TOOT



Jan and Bob Marx
8312 Oakford Dr.
Springfield, VA 22152