



VOLUME XXXVI

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

MARCH 2002

NUMBER 3

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

Greetings, PVSers—

There is surely no greater exhilaration from a passive participation than the excited response to watching the 211 winter Olympiads put their best ski, sled, skate and boot forward to gain 34 medals for the USA. Americans' spirit continued to rise after two weeks of memorable "home team" triumphs in the 19th winter games. Arriver merci a la cita de Salt Lake! Bene veneto a Turin!

In somewhat different ways PVSers Shirley Rettig, Sue Walsh, Bette Walker, Kathy Dillon and George Welti "hit the slopes," but reports are all are healing happily.

Our thanks to Shahsrad Miller and Butler Ben for a meeting that awarded a bountiful table. Coat-wearing attendees were rewarded with the sight of a lovely portrait of the hostess at the top of the stairs. Margaret Wyckoff set a record for hosting two PVS events back to back. Thanks to you all.

PVSers are looking forward to the trips of March to Chamonix with Mary Ward and Jim Slack and the grand tour of Courchevel, Greece and Turkey with Nancy and Ray McKinley. They sound like the kind of activities we cherish.

Happy March 31st to PVSers everywhere.

Ned the 24th



MONTHLY MEETING - MARCH 19, 2002 - 7:30 P>M>

Home of Carol Bridgers

11924 Oden Court

Rockville, MD 20852

Tel: 301-881-4898

Directions to Carol Bridger's home: From Wisconsin Ave., Rte.355, going north, turn left on Montrose Road (going west) at traffic light. Go 1.1 miles. Turn left at 3rd traffic light onto Tildenwood Drive (entrance to Tildenwoods). Take second right onto Sulky Lane; then turn first right onto Oden Court (cul de sac) to 11924.

From 495, take 270 north, go two miles. Exit Montrose Road at 4A East. Take second right and turn into Old Farm Subdivision onto Old Bridge Road. Take second left into Oden Court.



Who's for ice skating? The next meeting of PVS ice skaters will be at Cabin John Ice Rink on Wednesday, March 13 from 11:00 to 1:00. Questions? Call Bette Walker (202-333-0766).

BICYCLING GOURMET

Glen Echo to Botanical Garden (and return)

Thursday, March 28, 2002 10:30 AM



Starting Point: Glen Echo/Clara Barton Parking Lot [West side of Glen Echo; on MacArthur Blvd. near Goldsboro Road]. Ride will proceed along MacArthur Blvd Bike Path, C&O Canal Towpath, and Capital Crescent Trails to Georgetown/Washington Harbour (arrive approximately 11:45 AM). Those wishing to can proceed further to the newly re-opened Botanical Garden on the Mall. Planning on returning to Washington Harbour at 1:30 PM for a sit-down lunch at Tony & Joes waterfront pub/restaurant (outdoor tables, weather permitting). Total distance: 15-22 miles. [Short Towpath segment will not be used if muddy; any type of bike OK.] This ride is structured to accommodate all levels and is a good way to start out the season.

Leaders: Marvin Hass (703) 751-4737 and Betty Byrne (202) 483-4048

MARK SPRING FLING ON APRIL CALENDAR



Disabled Sports USA's 20th Annual Spring Fling Auction and Banquet will take place Sunday, April 28 at the Bethesda Marriott Hotel in Bethesda, MD. Proceeds go to support sports rehabilitation programs that open competition, employment, and recreation opportunities for people with physical disabilities.

The Spring Fling kicks off with a silent auction featuring high quality sports equipment, apparel and other merchandise. After dinner, there is the live auction which includes more than 20 trips to premiere winter and summer vacation destinations.

For tickets or more information contact Trudy Orgel at 301-217-9839. To see if PVSers will have one or more tables, call Charlie Huggins at 301-424-5725.



**Chesapeake BAY BRIDGE WALK
and BOAT WATCH**

Sunday, April 28

Join us for the Chesapeake Bay Bridge walk. This year the Bay Bridge walk is very special and has been moved up a week to the last week of April to coincide with the start of the Volvo round-the-world sailboat race. The last leg of the race from Annapolis to France starts at 1:00 on Sunday, April 28 just North of the Bay Bridge. The best place to view the start of the race is from the bridge.

Details to follow in the April TOOT.

Note: We should be back in Annapolis by 3:00 P.M., in time to go to the Spring Fling.

PVS GOES TO 'MAMA MIA'



Saturday, May 4, 2:p.m. All PVS seats are sold and plans made for dinner at Les Halles. If you have questions, call Margaret Wyckoff, 301-589-5532.

HILLWOOD TOUR, MAY 11, 2002

Tour the magnificent Hillwood Museum and Gardens with PVS and lunch afterwards at the Hillwood Cafe.

The tour is at 11:00 A.M. and lunch at 1:00 P.M.

Tickets for the tour are \$8.00 for 65 and older and \$10.00 for those under 65.

Lunch is \$11.43 including entree, coffee or tea, tax and tip. Entree choices are Curried Chicken Salad, Tuna Salad Croissant, or Fruit and Cheese Plate.

To reserve a space, send a check to Marilyn Clark 8953 Falling Creek, Annandale, Va.22003 for the cost of the tour and lunch (optional). Please indicate your lunch choice and make check payable to Marilyn Clark

May Midweek Atlantic Getaway [Wed-Fri May 15-17, 2002]



At Don and Kathy Dillon's and Betty Lawrence's
Bethany Beach area houses

Signup/further info by telephone with the Dillons
at (302) 537-7878 [email: ddillon39@mchsi.com] or with
Betty Lawrence at (703) 726-8165

Limit: approximately 22 and currently about 75% full.

In event limit is reached, PVS'ers can still participate in all activities
by arranging own lodging at nearby beach motels (not likely to be a problem midweek in May).
Current plans under consideration include:

*Strolls/bicycling on Ocean City and Rehobeth Beach boardwalks
Betty Byrne and Marvin Hass -- *coordinators*

*Nature walks/birdwatching/bicycling in Cape Henlopen state park

*Golf/tennis Don Dillon -- *coordinator*

*Lunch in Lewes waterfront restaurant; stroll in historic district; visit to nearby
vineyard with winetasting/wine museum

*One dinner at the Dillon's with drinks/hors d'oeuvres
before at Betty Lawrence's

One dinner at beach area restaurant

*Provence bicycling slide presentation

Cost: not yet established (but essentially on *breakeven* basis)



Ski Those interested in running a ski trip

Trips in 2003, please contact George Hicho at

2003 301-963-1836 or GEHSW@Erols.com ASAP.



Wine tasting, dinner, and over night at the Lake 18 May 02

The 3rd annual wine tasting at the Cope's is scheduled for Saturday 18 May 02. The format is the same as last year and includes the wines with multiple accompanying food courses, and roundtrip transportation from and to the Hampton Inn at Rt. 95 & 3. Reservations at the Hampton Inn are encouraged so everyone can enjoy the wines and not worry about driving afterwards.

After 3 weeks in Northern Italy last fall, Don and Pat returned more excited than ever over Italian food and wines. Some of this wonderful stuff will be part of this year's tasting.

Those who sign up should mail a check for \$75 per person made out to Don Cope. Mail it to 216 Mt Pleasant Dr, Locust Grove, VA 22508, phone 540-972-9838. Those who wish to stay at the Hampton Inn (540-371-0330) should make their own reservations. Transportation from the Inn to the Cope's and back is included in the price. Directions and arrival times will follow. Space is limited to the first 20 to sign up, so don't delay.

You are invited to attend—

The annual spring dinner to be held on Saturday, June 15 at the Colonnade, 2801 New Mexico Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. at 7:00 P.M.

This elegant affair is limited to 40 people.

To make your reservation, call Marilyn Clark at 703-978-9435 or Email the Clarks at clarkra@worldnet.att.net.

PVS WebSite www.potomacvalleyskiers.org

Password Problems: On entering the site, the viewer is asked for a password, which every PVS'er should know. However, according to the online instructions, it should *be* typed in using all capital letters. Some viewers have been trying to use lower case letters, which will not work.

Recent additions to the Web Site include several pages of Snowmass 2002 photos, one page of Canadian Rockies 2002 photos, and one page of Zoo Walk/lunch photos.



The Nominating Committee nominates the following for 2002 elections:

For President: Ned Flaherty

For Vice President: Reg Heitche

For two year terms on the Executive Committee:

- David Abraham
- Barbara Leonhardt
- John Smith

The Nominating Committee consisted of Marvin Hass, Charlie Huggins, Sylvia Lukens, Dot Mills, David Lerner and Bob Knopes, Chair.

Additional nominations may be made by the signed proposal of any five active members presented to the membership at a business meeting at least one month prior to the April meeting.



Applicants who have fulfilled membership requirements and will be voted on at the April meeting:

Rosemary Schwartzbard
Richard Schwartzbard

Sponsored by the Dillons

Robert Schafer

Sponsored by Jeannette Albersheim

Dottie Villers

Sponsored by Jeannette Albersheim

David Warthen
Marsha Warthen

Sponsored Barbara Leonhardt

Francesca Adams

Sp onsored by Betty Byrne

Demetri Chacones

Sponsored by Emmi Plowman

Sharon Mulholland

Sponsored by Barbara Leonhardt

Please make these changes and additions to your roster:

New address:

Jack Peoples
3320 Chiswick Ct.
Apt. 3A
Silver Spring, MD, 20906
301-438-7298

Newly Renewed Member
— **Shahrsad Miller**
4015 N. Abingdon St.
Arlington, VA 22207
703-533-7651

New applicants:

Nora and Frederick Lippert
3518 Raymoor Rd.
Kensington, MD 20895
301-942-2799 (Fred's off: 301-295-4493)

Jeannette Bair
9707 Barrister Ct.
Bethesda, MD 20814
Email: jeannettebair@worldnet.att.net

**Remember! The fee for attending PVS's
wonderful monthly meetings is now \$3.**

**MISSING ANYTHING? Someone left a pair of Rayban sunglasses on
the table at Yanni's Restaurant after the Zoo walk. If they are yours,
call Margaret Wyckoff at 301-589-5532.**

NOTHING WINTRY ABOUT THIS MONTHLY MEETING!

Shahrsad Miller hosted a grand celebration of ski season in her gorgeous North Arlington home that came straight from pages of "House Beautiful" and "Art and Antiques."

Shahrsad's beautiful personality is reflected in her dramatic use of color and design in her choices of furniture and décor. Her four fireplaces and gourmet kitchen were among the highlights of her elegant home. What fun we had touring, admiring her art collection, and enjoying her great hosting!!!

With little fanfare, over 50 PVSers and guests gravitated to the butler's pantry/bar for liquid refreshments and then were drawn to Shahrsad's bountiful table offering a selection of cheeses, tiny individual quiches, potato salad, and tasty barbecue. Completing the dinner were fruit cake and brownies, always a favorite with our happy, hungry hearts.

Soon Ned called us together for a business meeting,. Two more ski trips are just around the corner and our many spring activities were announced. We shared tales of our recent trips and plans for future adventures and special events.

Thanks you, Shahrsad, for an evening of fun, food and fellowship with new and old friends.

.....Charlotte Eddy



TWAS A GRAND DAY FOR WALKING...

Seems as though zoo walk leaders Betty Byrne and Marvin Hass have special powers. How else explain that everything was perfect for the Zoo walk? The weather was ideal, we got to see the baby elephant at play (pushing a garbage can as he ran to and fro—just like a human toddler), we got to see the old elephants perform a series of routines outside, we got to see a sea lion go through a series of tricks that would make a circus performer jealous. In short, the timing was flawless.

Afterwards we walked to Yanni's Restaurant where the food was delicious and so generous that one order of kabobs was plenty for two people. The day was so perfect that we felt called upon to toast the leaders—and each other—in authentic retsina. We had done the Zoo walk so quickly that we were finishing lunch when Jackie and Ned showed up at the pre-announced time. At least they got to have dessert with us.

Thanks, Betty and Marvin—and let's do it again, pretty please?

Snowmass 2002

At five A.M. forty some PVSkiers gathered at Dulles Airport (an hour at which in younger years they were just getting home) to wait for a 7:AM flight to Denver. From Denver to Eagle and by bus to Snowmass, a trip interrupted by a wait for police escort, but we don't remember why! We do remember that we stopped in Glenwood Springs for tempting tidbits for apres ski occasions.

At 4:30 the Snowmass Mountain Chalet staff welcomed us with wine and cheese, and an area rep introduced us to the pleasures of the slopes and issued ski passes .

After the party some of us (the lucky ones who were born before the war) took Advantage of the generous offer of Christy Sport to select rental equipment.

The next and every morning thereafter we gathered in the Chalet Breakfast Room for a very fine breakfast and at noon for delicious soups and fruit, compliment of the hotel.

Every other evening we got together for Apres ski wine and cheese hosted by our leaders, Fred and Barbara, who seemed also to be our dinner hosts so frequently were they just that!

As hoped for the slopes were covered with beautiful snow, the weather was entirely cooperative, and PVS finally took advantage of it, going in all directions and ending up at "home" with many stories to tell :

The spectacular, scenic views at Elk Camp posed some problems for PVS. While admiring the vista, one forgot to get off the chair and others tumbled into heaps on the off ramp. Fortunately - no injuries other than to one's pride.

The 3-year old "Snow Cubs" ski school was just starting when Charlotte Kline and Sue Walsh hurtled through the net fencing surrounding the kid's area. Terrorists? NO A sudden strong increase in the earth's gravitational field had pulled the ladies into belly flop position and into the red net!

Jackie Flaherty put her socks to dry over the lamp in her room. A passer-by knocked and asked if she smelled smoke. She did and for good reason - her socks were on fire! For the rest of the trip Jackie skied with 2 holes in her socks.

Hearing what a thrill it was to ride the toboggan down the mountain, Bette Walker made arrangement with a handsome ski patroller - and...all's well that ends well!

Midway in the week Fred led a trip to Glenwood Springs where he and Margaret enjoyed massages and the Hot Springs.

Can one PVS lady holdup a city bus? You bet! About 15 PVSers were freezing and stomping their feet in the dark at a bus stop in Aspen. The bus driver said his bus was full and they have to wait for the next one. This was unacceptable to the leader, Betty Byrne, who planted her foot firmly on the first step of the bus and began what could only be described as a plaintive aria about frail senior citizens (who? US?). Then followed an emotional duet with the bus driver which Betty won and all boarded the bus in triumph.

Well, it all had to end, but it ended!

...It ended with PVS, s good reputation as a result of Mike Hatanaka's prowess with vacuum cleaner. The Snowmass Chalet very much appreciated the condition in which we left the salon after Apres-Ski

Many thanks to Barbara and Fred for a trip well planned, well-executed and well worth repeating!!!!!!!!!!!!

Bette and Margaret

The Bumble Bee, the Bumble Bee
He led a trip to go to ski
And got us home for early tea.

The BumbleBee is of course John Smith who has added pipe cleaner antennae to his Bee helmet and yellow parka. He was ably assisted by Pat Tengel and between the two of them they escorted 16 PVS members, applicant members and friends to a marvelous split week in Lake Louise and Banff Springs. The trip started out promptly from Dulles, but bogged down slightly in Toronto where yours truly was culled from the line of embarking passengers and searched down to my Timberlane boots. I was allowed to board in time to be told that all passengers would have to disembark as there was a mechanical problem and an airbus was being flown in to finish the trip. This set us back a few hours.

All anxieties and angst were immediately displaced by a strong feeling of contentment when we saw our rooms and their panoramic views of frozen Lake Louise, the ice sculptures left behind from their winter carnival, an ice castle, the mountains and the glacier.

After a leisurely, gourmet Sunday Brunch (the Canadian dollar had hit a new low against the US \$ the previous day, making it our patriotic duty to eat more than we normally would), most of us ventured out for the first of five or six days of great skiing. Unfortunately, George Welti's first day of skiing was also his only day as he was the victim of an accident coming off a chair lift. A wrenched knee put him on crutches (and alternately in a wheel chair) for the rest of the week.

Several members entered the NASTAR races at Lake Louise and Jack Peoples took home a bronze medal while Shirley Rettig garnered a third place finish.

On our third day at Lake Louise, we headed for the Banff Springs Hotel. "5 Star" does not begin to define the quality of this Canadian Pacific built hotel. Between skiing and après skiing, we had the use of the hotel's 32-meter indoor, heated, salt-water pool and its 20-meter super heated outdoor pool, not to mention the waterfall Jacuzzi to reinvigorate sore muscles. The skiing continued to be excellent. The lift lines were always short and moved quickly. Almost everyone skied over the Continental Divide into British Columbia and then back into Alberta in the space of a few meters.

Throughout the week, other skiers noticed our leader and asked, among other things, if his antennae resulted in better cell phone reception.

All of us were pleased to see several elk grazing between the wings of our hotel in Banff. We enjoyed two great meals with our fellow BRSC club members. The return trip home was on time and comfortable. I don't know how the rumor got started, but it is not true that one of us showed a lift ticket instead of a boarding pass when leaving Calgary.

.....John Brunelli



THE KNEE

by
Ray McKinley

It's the middle of ski season. To help increase your skiing enjoyment, the Knee will again explain a special service for the safety-conscious. The service is called KneeSki, or if you are thin SkiKnee. Perhaps you are worried about after effects of 9-11, or the spate of injuries to PVSers. Stop worrying. I'll help by designing your ski trip, and booking your air, bus and hotel reservations. But here is where SkiKnee service is ukneeque. After making your arrangements, I'll actually take your trip for you whilst you remain safe at home. I'll take pictures with your camera and send postcards to your friends. Each postcard will have at least one witty comment--unlike this column.

Starting soon, we hope, club historians Jan Marx and Lu Beale will do an occasional column called "Remember When." Perhaps they got the idea when Jan created a book for Lu containing all of the drawings Lu did during her 16+ years as TOOT editor. The book is really super, ask to see it.

Speaking of "Remember When", it was a real joy to have an ExCom meeting at Margaret Wyckoffs. It brought back great memories of pre trip parties for the Wyckoffs twenty years of running superb multi week European ski trips.

Occasionally I forget what I've written in this column. Could it be amknesia?

The only casualty from the PVS trip to Lake Louise/Banff was George Welti. George injured his--dare I say it--Knee er knee. But he is recovering rapidly, and without surgerknee.

The Canada trip was sponsored by BRSC, which surprisingly stands for Blue and Red Smelly Coats--go figure. Trip leader John Smith was in discussions with a member from another club discussing the merits of clubs. The other guy said "PVS is a club of snobs. They only drink wine!" This guy was apparently wearing a BRSC.

Just before the trip, John Smith was back from a four day business trip--including 2+ days of travel--to Bahrain. John did not ski in nearby Bahsnow.

Yuck. As compared to ten years ago, ski sales are down some 15%. Over the same period, snowboard sales are up 700%.

While most of us are headed for the mountains, a few are going in the opposite direction. Trip Committee Chair, George Hicho is back from a month in Florida--skiing the southern Alps, of course. And Nick and Jean Chybinski are headed off for a tour of Cuba--skiing the northern Andes. Olay!

A while ago, the Knee received a note from Ski Liberty patroller Jim Wingrove. It's a list, as refined by the Liberty Patrollers waiting...and waiting for snow. It's titled "Skiing With No Snow." Here are some of their suggestions:

Dress up in as many clothes as you have and then take them off since you have to go to the loo.

To simulate finding your car, go to an ice rink and walk across the ice 20 times in your ski boots carrying skis, accessory bag and poles.

To simulate ski boots, put a large pebble in your shoes and tighten a C-clamp on your toes.

Buy a pair of gloves and throw one away.

Go to McDonalds, stand in the longest line, and insist on paying \$10.50 for a hamburger.

Ubiquitous PVS: While having dinner at l'Auberge Chez Francoise, Dick and Marilyn Clark ran into Jean Strickland. She is suing.

Bob and Jan Marx were waiting for a shuttle bus at Copper Mountain. They saw familiar faces. They belonged to Dick Comerford and Huey Roberts. The next day they skied with Dick and former "Macho Maidens" Sally Philbrook and Pat Crescenti. Have you been a member long enough to remember the Macho Maidens?

According to an article sent by June Kelsay 35 states have ski areas. Thanks June.

Our monthly meeting at Shahrsad Miller's was a first for PVS. Our first meeting in a home of a non-member. It seems Shahrsad had forgotten to renew her membership and was dropped from the roles last November. Membership Chair Marilyn Clark resolved the issue on the spot, and we now have one more member. Right on.

Finally, Judy Macaluso is warming up for our French trip--spending the week before in Taos.

CALENDAR:

- Mar. 13 ... Ice Skating, p. 2**
- Mar. 19 ... Monthly meeting at Carol Bridgers', pp 1&2**
- Mar. 26 ... ExCom at the Flahertys'**
- Mar. 28 ... Bicycling Gourmet, p. 2**
- Apr. 16 ... Monthly meeting at the Klines'**
- Apr. 23 ... ExCom**
- Apr. 28 ... Disabled Sports Annual Spring Fling, p. 3**
- Apr. 28 ... Chesapeake Bay Bridge Walk and Boat Watch, p. 3**
- May 4 ... PVS goes to 'Mama Mia', p. 3**
- May 11 ... Hillwood Tour, p. 4**
- May 15 ... thru 17, Midweek Atlantic Getaway, p. 4**
- May 18 ... Wine tasting and dinner at the Copes', p. 5**
- May 21 ... Monthly meeting at the Leonhardts'**
- May 28 ... ExCom at the Heitchues'**
- June 15 ... Annual Spring Dinner, p. 5**
- June 18 ... Monthly meeting at home of Ray and Judy Jones**



Bette Walker
#8096
2801 New Mexico Ave., N.W.
Washington, D. C

