



TOOT



Volume XLIV No. 10

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc

October 2008

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

www.potomacvalleyskiers.org

info@potomacvalleyskiers.org

Presidents' Message (Oct – below) (Sept –page 3)

Dear PVSers, **HELP WANTED**

We need help! ExCom is working hard to fill the loss (hopefully temporary) of Jan and Bob Marx to Toot, Ski Trips and a number of communications duties. Some of these responsibilities we have been able to fill by ExCom members. But we do need help from you to keep things rolling along.

Specifically, here are our needs to continue publication of the Toot:

1. Mailings to about 50 PVSers who don't get the Toot over the Internet. Skills required: ability to photocopy* Toot pages; stuff envelopes; affix mail labels and post stamps*; mail envelopes. (*PVS pays for costs). Compensation: You get your name in the Toot and the thanks of all members! **We are looking for 3 members to do this activity on a rotational basis.**
2. Toot copy editor to assemble articles, announcements, narratives, and trip notices. Skills required: ability to "copy" and "paste" E-mail submissions into the Toot format ready for distribution by mail or the Internet. Inserting art welcome but not required. Compensation: You get your name in the Toot and the thanks of all members! **We are looking for 3 members to do this activity on a rotational basis.**

The Ski Trip Committee's work is mostly done for the upcoming ski season. But there are trip evaluations to distribute to the trip leaders, collect and review. Also, proposals for ski season 2009-2010 will need review. We have an active Ski Trip Committee. But help is needed for a temporary Ski Trip Committee **Chairperson** and, perhaps, **another member** to join Mike Hatanaka, Shirley Rettig, Rosemary Schwartzbard, and Eloise Strand.

Our club is dependant on members who open their homes to monthly general and ExCom meetings; volunteers to lead ski and other trips; organize local events; write event summaries for the Toot; serve and lead committees; and a score of other activities.

So now is the time for you to step forward. Your club needs you. Please contact me before I contact you.

Best Wishes, *Mike Strand*

Monthly Meeting

at residence of
**Michael and
Eloise Strand**



Tuesday Oct 21; 7:30pm
10728 Lady Slipper Terrace
Rockville, MD 20852
Telephone: (301) 881-0812

Come join your fellow PVSers at this second monthly meeting after the summer recess. Take advantage of this opportunity to socialize with your fellow PVSers and find out the latest situation regarding PVS trips as well as getting a report on the BRSC meeting held recently..

Directions: From Virginia: Take the Beltway (Rte 495) Maryland to Exit 36 North -- Old Georgetown Rd (Rte 187) Proceed North about 1.2 miles passing by the Wildwood Shopping Center and over Rte. 270 to Tuckerman Lane. Turn right on Tuckerman Lane and proceed 400 yards to next intersection and turn right on Gloxinia Drive. Proceed 300 yards on Gloxinia Drive (where it ends) and turn right again onto Valerian Lane.. Proceed just one block and turn right again onto Lady Slipper Terrace.

From Gaithersburg area:: Take Rte 270 South to Old Georgetown Rd North exit and turn right at next intersection onto Tuckerman Lane. Follow directions from above.

From downtown Bethesda and DC: Take Old Georgetown Rd North from downtown Bethesda about 4 miles to Tuckerman Lane. Turn right and follow directions from Virginia.

Segway Tour of Gettysburg Battlefield

Saturday, October 18

Update: 12 riders so far: Unused slots have been returned to tour operator. However, anyone wishing to participate should contact trip leader who will see if any slots are still available.

PVS will do another tour while riding Segways. This tour will ride along the Eastern route of the Gettysburg Battlefield accompanied by a National Park Service Guide. Two groups of 10 riders (one starting at (9:30 AM and the second at 2:15 PM) will make the 2- 2 1/2 hour tour; each rider will be trained before following sufficient training time. If you can ski, bike, or do similar activities, you can handle a Segway. Both groups of riders will meet for lunch at 12:30 PM at the nearby historic (1776) Dobbin House Tavern where we will order from the menu (see www.dobbinhouse.com for sample menu).

Lunch will be paid individually at the restaurant. A rain date of Oct. 19 is probable but tour cost will be refunded if you cannot make the rain date. For more information or to sign up (subject to space availability), please call Barbara at 301-963-8111 or fbleonhardt@starpower.net



Frank Shelburne Hike

Wed 10:30AM Oct. 29

Seneca Creek State Park:

Four mile circuit stroll around lake followed by lunch at nearby Café Mileto (nonhikers welcome for lunch only)



Directions: Take Interstate 270 past Shady Grove Rd. Look for signs to move you the feeder lanes for exit 10, Rt. 117, Clopper Rd./West /Diamond. From the feeder lanes look for the Copper Rd/West Diamond exit. At end of ramp, turn right and follow Rt. 117 for about 2 mi. to a left into Seneca Creek State Park.

Visitor Center (incl. bathrooms) is to the right not far from the entrance BUT we will meet at the lake near the boat ramp off Seneca Creek Rd. Park where you can.

Directions to Café Mileto for lunch for nonhikers.

Continue on Clopper Road passing the entrance to Seneca Creek State Park and proceed about one mile. Turn left at the next crossroad which should be Mateny Rd. Proceed about 0.8 mile to the Cloppers Mill Shopping Center which is at the intersection of Mateny Rd and Great Seneca Highway. Turn right into shopping center and look for Café Mileto.

Trip leader: Sally Finan (703) 716-9023

Please try to let leader know if you are planning to come for lunch by Monday Oct. 27 so she can reserve sufficient space for the group.

Oct 26 (SUN)

**LEONARD BERNSTEIN'S "MASS" AT KENNEDY CENTER
(Event Full)**

[Note: Event planned by David Abraham]



Nov 7-9 Fri-Sunday National Ski and Snowboard Expo No. Virginia/DC Travel Show

The Washington DC installment of the National Ski & Snowboard Expo will feature an expanded program (<http://www.nationalskiexpo.com/Welcome.html>), which will include the [Northern Virginia/DC Travel Show](#). The public will have access to over two hundred exhibitors in this combined event and a single admission price for both shows.

Dulles Expo and Convention Center, Chantilly Adults: \$10.00 Seniors 65+: \$8.00 (Discount tickets may be available in local ski shops)

[There is no PVS involvement for this event. Announced only for information of PVS members]

Nov. 8 Sat 1-5 PM **Lake Anna Open House**



You're Invited!
To an OPEN
HOUSE at the
McKinley's, on
Beautiful
LAKE ANNA, VA
1-5 pm Sat Nov 8

Come visit Nancy and Ray McKinley's new Lake Front home on Lake Anna, 90 miles South of the DC area via I-95, See the lake, take a canoe ride, visit a local vineyard, stop at the Belmont Distillery for some real moonshine, or just drop in for the afternoon and enjoy some good food and libations. YOU MUST SIGN UP IN ADVANCE. Food and drink must be brought in as there is scant in the way of services at the Lake. So we need to know how many are coming. Call 703 527-7126, or better e-mail to Directions will then be e-mailed out. We can also answer any questions. Y'all come down and see us!

President's message Sept 2008 (got lost in cyberspace and could not get in Sept TOOT)

Greetings PVSers,

Summer is almost over^(Taos) and Fall^(Snowmass) is just around the corner.

Hey Mike, what's with the^(Taos) and the^(Snowmass) ?

It's to get the readers focused on the upcoming ski season^(Park City) ...without coming out with obvious^(Powder) hoopla.

But why not just write it?

Because so many readers would ignore the column^(Black Diamond) and go on to the Knee. Most do so anyway, but at least they are exposed to these key words. It's called a subliminal message...designed to pass^(Lift) below the normal limits of the human mind's perception. Subliminal is derived from the Latin words sub, meaning under, and limen, meaning threshold.

So has this subliminal stuff been around for a while?

Oh yes. For example, during World War II^(tunaep), an instrument that projects pictures for an extremely brief period, was used to train soldiers to recognize enemy airplanes. Today^(Ski-In) that same tachistoscope is used to increase reading speed or to test sight. In the 1950s they quickly flashed messages on a movie screen to influence people to buy^(tunaep) more popcorn and drinks...this for 1/3000 of a second at five-second intervals. But this was not validated.^(Aspen)

A real controlled study did cause thirsty observers to want Lipton Tea over other brands. Those who were not thirsty, however, were not influenced. Subconscious stimulus^(Ski-Out) by single words is well known to be modestly effective^(tunaep) in changing human behavior or emotions. This was evident by a pictorial advertisement that portrays four different types of rum. None of the participants were able to identify the hidden message. Yet 80% of them unconsciously perceived the backward message and showed a preference for that particular rum^(White Wine).

Mike, wait a minute, a backward subliminal message that is effective? Hard to believe! Well, I gotta go.

Where to?

I'm hungry...anywhere for a peanut butter and jelly sandwich...right now!

Best Wishes and Happy Labor Day, Mike

PVS SNOWMASS 2009

Thursday, January 15 – Thursday, January 22

Update: Single made needed to share room; Trip is full otherwise. However, space might still be available at the Snowmass Mountain Chalet on special inquiry. Contact Dave DeVilbiss by telephone/email

We will again be staying [slope-side](#) at the [Snowmass Mountain Chalet \(SMC\)](#) which is just below the Snowmass Mall. The SMC is a small lodge with 64 rooms, from which you can ski to one of four lifts. Check the web site at: www.mountainchalet.com. The total package is: Delta Airlines from Dulles to Salt Lake City and Salt Lake to Aspen and return plus the land transfer from Aspen airport to SMC and return; 5 day lift ticket (good for all ski areas in the Aspen complex – those over 70 can get a silver pass) with option for a sixth ski day; 7 nights lodging (double occupancy); 7 breakfasts; daily soup lunch; 2 group dinners; après ski parties including welcome wine & cheese party, and an all guest hotel sponsored party; pre-trip and post-trip party.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Price</u>
Full Snowmass Package		\$2,072

For more information:

Contact co-trip leader David DeVilbiss at 703-370-4865 or by e-mail at devilbid@verizon.net
Co-trip leader Carolyn Maurer not available in October

To reserve:

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

PARK CITY MOUNTAIN RESORT (update: wait list)

FEBRUARY 22-28, 2009

ELDERHOSTEL SKI PROGRAM #7573RJ

Ski in/Ski out at the Lodge at Mountain Village, Park City, Utah

This is an Elderhostel ski program. They make all land arrangements. You will have to register through Elderhostel as explained below. Elderhostel allows participants to invite any adult companion to attend this program with them even if they do not meet the 55 year-old age requirement.

Ski the best of the Rocky Mountains! Park City gets more than 350” of snow annually and is ranked as one of the top ski destinations in this country, with 3,300 acres, 14 lifts, 100 trails, and more than 3,000 vertical feet. Experience champagne powder and great grooming. Altitude will vary from 7,000 to 10,000 feet. There are many flights each day to Salt Lake City. It is then a 45-minute van ride to the resort.

Registration for Land Arrangements with Elderhostel

All participants must sign up with Elderhostel on their own. -- *The trip is filled but you can get on the Wait List.* The trip is first-come, first served. There will be other people besides PVSers on the trip. Last year there were 55 attendees and a waiting list. If you are interested in the trip, please call Elderhostel 1-800-454-5768 or visit their web site: <http://elderhostel.org>. The program number is 7573RJ and listed under winter sports. You will be required to send a \$100 deposit to reserve your space and then they will bill you in December. Tell Elderhostel that you are part of the PVS ski group.

Trip Leaders: Rosemary Schwartzbard and Ellie Thayer

Both leaders have attended this program and they will work with Gary and Sandy Nielson, who run the Elderhostel Utah Program, to coordinate the PVS component of this trip.

After signing up with Elderhostel, please contact:

Rosemary Schwartzbard
rosemaryphd@verizon.net 703-598-6150

Ellie Thayer
ellie.thayer@comcast 703-534-3061

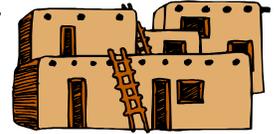
Taos, New Mexico

March 13 to 21, 2009

Join us for a fun week in Taos Ski Valley -- skiing for everyone with dry desert air, radiant sunshine and lots of snow. Pre and post trip parties and welcome supper.

The trip will begin on Friday morning from Reagan National Airport to Albuquerque then a short bus ride to Santa Fe. Explore Santa Fe that afternoon and evening. Overnight in Santa Fe's downtown Plaza at the historic La Fonda hotel known for its award-winning architecture, décor, and artwork.

Stay at the slopeside Inn at Snakedance in two-unit condos with private bath and all conveniences. Opportunities for fine dining include the marvelous St. Bernard Hotel.



Enjoy an afternoon/evening in the town of Taos for shopping and dinner. Taos has a unique blend of natural beauty, American Indian culture, old west history, and world-class art galleries and museums.

Price per person, \$1,650 (including airfare) Single supplement: \$380 Land-only: \$1222 Special ski rates for those over 70 and 80 years old. Space still available!

For more information, contact trip leaders Liz Warren-Boulton and Joe Jevcak at elizawb@starpower.net or 202 244-5717 or 202 447-0250 (Joe daytime). Make checks payable to Liz at 3049 Porter St, NW, Washington, DC 20008.

May 28 - June 12 2009 Join Reg Heitchue and Nancy & Ray McKinley on a South Seas Cruise

They're the most alluring and beautiful destination on earth--Tahiti and French Polynesia, the legendary isles of the South Pacific. Now home of the 360' Star Flyer - the consummate mega-yacht sailing experience for a mere 170 passengers. Below is just a bit of what we'll see as we sail in quiet luxury to such legendary locations as Bora Bora, Moorea, Tahaa, Raiate and 5 other spectacular South Pacific Isles. Star Flyer is as fleet as the wind, a true clipper ship, yet a modern cruise ships in every way, created for comfort-loving passengers who also love the traditions and romance of the legendary era of sailing ships. Star Flyer is 360 feet long and carries just 170 guests in pampered comfort. Life aboard is blissfully relaxed, like traveling on a private yacht. You'll never feel confined, as our ship offers pleasingly spacious cabins gourmet meals and expansive teak decks with ample space for relaxing and play.



Prices: **\$5957 per person Double, \$7939 single** Based on airfare of \$1804.
Land only \$4153

NOTE: THIS PRICE INCLUDES A \$1000 PER PERSON EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT...THIS MAY NOT LAST! ACT NOW!



Our Fabulous 14 Day Cruise Vacation Includes R/T Airfare, Wash DC to Tahiti 3 Days with breakfast in Tahiti, double occupancy 11 Day Sail Cruise on the Star Flyer including all meals baggage handling bus gratuities pre trip party. Space is limited. Please send your check for \$400 per person payable to Reg Heitchue, 11990 Market Street, Unit 1015, Reston, VA 20190. Please call for more information 703-437-7611 heitchu@yahoo.com

Members Corner: News; Photos; Roster Changes



Northern Exposure: A number of PVS members have visited Alaska during the summer of 2008 including Bob and Jan Marx, David and Marsha Warthen, June Read-Martin, and Sharon Mulholland. The Warthens, June R-M, and Sharon M. went on a combo cruise and land tour. The Marxes traveled extensively in our biggest state even reaching Prudhoe Bay (photo in September Toot).

The photo on the left shows the Marxes with the helicopter that landed on one of the only advancing glaciers, the Taku Glacier of the Juneau Ice Field.

[Nice to know that at least a few glaciers are managing to advance in spite of global warming!--TOOT editor of the month]

Notes about members of PVS

Irene and Jack Ragen: My daughter is in Santa Cruz and we will be moving within 5 miles of their place. Elaine will be retiring next year and she talked us into moving there. We hope you come and will visit us when you are near the area. Fondly, Irene and Jack

Mary Engelman, wife of the late **Norm Engelman**, a long time PVS member and ski trip leader, has passed away. Their home was the site of many pre/post-ski trip parties and monthly meetings, including a PVS wedding (Gail and Larry Pease) . *(submitted by Charles Huggins)*

Roster Changes, Corrections: [submit any changes to dwarthen@verizon.net]

Heilan, Robert and Marie Telephone: 703-356-5718

McNeill, Bob and Marty email: rmcneill3@verizon.net

Ragen, Irene 3400 Paul Sweet Rd. Unit A312, Santa Cruz, CA 95065 Telephone: 831-476-1406

Wingrove, Jim email: jrw@atlanticbb.net

September Monthly meeting review.



A goodly group of PVSers were on hand at the Leonhardt's to end the summer hiatus and officially declare summer over. It's now time to turn our thoughts to snow and skiing! The weather cooperated enough for us to enjoy the lovely outside deck. As ever, Barbara provided a variety of delicious appetizers for us to munch on before the meeting. Mike Strand was on hand to conduct the meeting and provide us with an update on ski trips and other upcoming PVS events.

After the meeting, Barbara served several delicious desserts, including something new (at

least to me), bite-sized chocolate covered ice cream pieces. It is always a pleasure to enjoy a meeting at the Leonhardt's lovely Kentlands home. Thank you Barbara and Fred for hosting another PVS meeting.

(Text submitted by Dottie Villers; Photo submitted by Charles Huggins)



THE KNEE

by Ray McKinley

In case you hadn't heard, it's election time. (Really?) The **Knee** has really only one piece of advice: Read my quips.

For **Knee** pundits (and perhaps for others), this is truly a wretched election. There's nary a **Knee** pun amongst the four candidates. We must strive to bring back the halcyon days of John Kek**nee**dy, or Richard **Knee**xon, or my favorite, Ron**knee**. I loved his program for "the truly **Knee**dy." I was even able to squeak by with Dukak**nees**. But Obama, Palin, a true desert when it comes to puns.

And, of course, the issues are all important. From a PVS standpoint, there is only one issue. Our unemployment rate is at an all time high, and growing. This assumes that retirees are unemployed. The **Knee** has a plan, the "snow plan." All unemployed PVSers, can take their ice cubes, grind them up and sell the result to Liberty as snow. I know what you are thinking, "That's snow plan." **Kneenuf** of politics.

But first, PVS makes NPR: At the end of September NPR did a lengthy item on absentee balloting, and in particular how difficult it is on the military. There was an interview with Polli Brunelli, Director of DoD's Federal Voting Assistance Program. She said they are making significant progress. Polli, however, didn't even mention skiing. Perhaps PVS can push for absentee skiing!

A tip of the ol' **Knee** cap to our Secretary, Mary Beale. Since Mary has been doing hour minutes, they are perfect to the second!

Did you know that 34 of us out of 175 members have September birthdays? Skiing isn't the only thing you can do in January!

According to Marvin Hass, Vladimir Putin schussed down a trail at the new Psekhako Ridge ski area in the Caucasus Mountains to promote the region's area for the 2014 Winter Olympics. There, above the Black Sea city of Sochi is an 8-year, \$12 billion plan to create a world-class winter resort in a region that now has a single line of slow-moving chairlifts. The owner is building the ski area, with three gondolas, 20 trails and five restaurants. A peak away, a billionaire is also plowing \$262 million

into another resort. And aluminum mogul Oleg Deripaska plans to spend \$1.5 billion on the international airport and Sochi Olympic village.

Hooray for computers! Our Membership Chair, Dave Warthen, now has virtually all of the PVS records computerized. Recently he has updated the list of our Charter members—those who were the original club members 43 years ago. Know where the data were found? They were on Marilyn Clark's 3 x 5 handwritten cards!!

A brief personal note: I know you have read or heard elsewhere about Bob Marx. But when horrible things happen to friends, it hits hard. Bob and Jan, you are clearly taking all of the right steps to take care of Bob's pre leukemia disease. We all wish you the best. The loss of your dedicated talents to our ski club, albeit hopefully temporarily, is a huge loss that threatens the very life of our club. Please come back well, and soon. We miss you.

Back from a biking vacation in Holland is Marvin Hass. He peddled an average 40 miles per day, and spent no time with any of the famous Holland dykes.

At the recent ExCom meeting, Ruth Powers was wearing a Beijing Olympics 2008 T-Shirt. She got it there on a visit last year.

Applicant Member, Louann Eadie, is recently back from a thirty-day trip to China. Thereafter, she immediately went to Deep Creek Lake. Later, the **Knee** asked Louann what she thought of Red China. Her prompt answer, "I think it goes fine with a yellow tablecloth."

Deadlines: President Mike Strand's September column was one of his best. In a quite humorous way, it tied in subliminal advertising with our ski trips and, of course, with peanuts. Unfortunately only those with Internet access, got to see it. (*Pres. Mike did sent the copy prior to deadline. However, it got "lost in cyberspace" and did not appear in the editor's mailbox. It is being reprinted elsewhere in this issue--Editor's note*) That's also why this column is being written in August!

It was a pleasure to see absentee member from Arizona, Sue Walsh, recently. She was visiting her Rehoboth Beach house, and came into town to go to Wolf Trap with Dottie Villers and PVS. Happy cactus!

Hopefully you've seen our blue white and gold PVS lapel pins. According to Bill Anderson, the club bought 205 of the pins in 1993 for \$700. the **Knee** asked why 205 pins? Bill responded that 206 pins just seemed like too many.

Calendar and Club information

Local Event Calendar				Ski Trip Calendar	
Oct	18	Sat	Gettysburg by Segway	Jan 15-22	09 Snowmass (C.Maurer/D.DeVilbiss)
Oct	21	Tues	Monthly Meeting	Feb 22-28	09 Park City (PVS/Elderhostel) (R .Schwartzbard/E.Thayer)
Oct	26	Sun	Kennedy Ctr -- Concert	Mar 13-21	09 Taos, New Mexico Liz Warren-Boulton/ Joe Jevcak
Oct	28	Tue	ExCom meeting		
Oct	29	Wed	Frank Shelburne Hike		
Nov	7-9	Fri-Sun	Ski and Travel Show		
Nov	8	Sat	Lake Anna Open House		
Nov	18	Tues	Monthly Mtg (Ski Center)		
Dec	9	Tues	ExCom Meeting		
Dec	16	Tues	Monthly Meeting		
Jan	25	Sun	Monthly Mtg in afternoon		
Feb	15	Sun	Monthly Mtg in afternoon		

Sailing Trip
 May 28 – June 12, 09 Tahiti and French
 Polynesia. (Reg Heitchue)

November TOOT: TOOT will be assembled by guest editors for the next few months. Copy can be submitted to mhass@mailaps.org. Editor recommends sending copy with "Request Return Receipt" [on Tools menu in Outlook Express] or equivalent. This October issue was edited by Marvin Hass. Email distribution was carried out by David Warthen who also supplied address lists for USPS Print distribution based on current club roster records.

PVS Roster information updates

Change of postal or e-mail address, telephone numbers, TOOT email format, etc.

Call David Warthen (301) 774-2653 or send e-mail message to dwarthen@verizon.net



Blue Ridge Ski Council information: Some of you are aware that the Blue Ridge Ski Council (BRSC) is a founding member of the National Ski Council Federation. One of the benefits of our being a member, is that PVS is a member through BRSC. There is a lot of information available to PVS members from the Federations website. There also are some \$\$\$\$ savings available directly to PVS members.

<http://skifederation.org/Members/>

userid: skiclub password: member

Latest BRSC news: The 2010 Winterfest venue will be Lake Tahoe, CA and NV. Feb. 20 - Feb 27, 2010
 The 2010 Eurofest will be in Bormio, Italy. March 6-14, 2010 (David Lerner)



Ski related Special Events: The online publication DCSki maintains a list of Special Events including Demo Days, SkiSwaps /sales at area ski shops, and special programs at local ski areas. <http://www.dcski.com/events/index.php>

Ski Humor: My Life on the Boards (from the Guardian online edition)

Skiing or snowboarding? Introducing our winter special, comedian Ed Byrne recalls his many attempts to master both and explains why the bruises were worth it in the end

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/travel/2008/sep/27/top100skibreaks.skiing>

PVSers might get a chuckle or two out of this article which can be accessed on the Internet using the "link" above.

Unusual Ski Areas: Welcome to skiing's new wild frontier Hundreds of miles from the crowded slopes of the Alps, on the shores of a remote fjord in Arctic Norway, a new lodge is offering skiers a unique thrill - the chance to travel by boat to a different pristine mountain each day.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/travel/2008/sep/28/top100skibreaks.skiing>