

VOLUME XXXVI

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

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WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

Fellow PVS'ers:

We have lost a great friend and a wonderful person with the passing of Ned Flaherty. We are fortunate to have his last message as our PVS President, written shortly before he passed away, even then thinking of the welfare of the club.

Reg Heitchue
President

Dear PVS'ers,

Thanks for the pleasure of serving as your president! Six months before my term expires, the time has come to turn over the gavel to our able Vice President, Reg Heitchue. Please assist him with your cheerful attitude, sincere character and zestful enthusiasm, so he can lead our club to celebrate its 37th anniversary.

Thank you, Jessma, for your nine noble years of editing the TOOT. Another talented writer, Jan Marx, becomes editor in October. We are proud and grateful to you both for your service to our Club.

Carry on, you persons of PVS. Goodbye and good luck to the best bunch of skiers in America.

Ned Flaherty
President XXIV



Dr. Edward M. Flaherty

January 31, 1925 - August 19, 2002

On August 19, 2002, Ned Flaherty, President of PVS for the past 1 ½ years, passed away rather suddenly after a short bout with cancer, leaving family and friends saddened and shocked.

Ned was a Psychologist by profession and was retired from the Navy with the rank of Commander. Then, after a second career as Clinical Psychologist at Montgomery General Hospital where he was Director of the Outpatient Psychological Treatment Program, Ned retired for the last time.

First and foremost, Ned was a family man who was always a devoted father with his children as they were growing up, was active in his children's competitive swimming and then later always involved with his children, their spouses and his 22 grandchildren. Ned also enjoyed gourmet cooking and was a longtime member of the Flower Valley Gourmet Club. All who have had the pleasure of partaking in Ned's gourmet meals will always remember them.

Of course, everyone knows that Ned loved skiing - he used to say that he dreamed of skiing all year. When Ned and Jackie's children were young, Ned took the family on many ski vacations. Then, in 1990, Ned read an article by Lu Beale in the Washington Post telling about PVS and he thought it sounded like a great club so Ned and Jackie proceeded to join and have enjoyed skiing and other activities with PVS ever since. Many of us will never forget the fun trips Ned and Jackie led for PVS to Steamboat, one of Ned's favorite ski areas.

Just two months ago, Ned and Jackie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a large gathering of family and friends for one of their many famous backyard parties with music, dancing, food, drink and lively chatter. It is difficult to believe that he is gone now so soon after that joyful occasion.

Ned Flaherty will be missed by all who loved him.

HURRAH! IT'S MEETING TIME AGAIN!



SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2002, 7:30 P.M.

HOME OF DORIE AND JOHN WADDICK
1605 North Howard Street
Alexandria, VA 22304
703-751-3143

DIRECTIONS TO THE WADDICK HOME: From Springfield, take 95/395 North. From DC, take 395 South. Take Seminary Road EAST exit toward the Alexandria Hospital. Go 5 traffic lights after the ones on the exit ramp. Turn left on North Howard Street. (Alexandria Hospital is on the right.) 1605 is the second house on the right. If the driveway is full, take next right on Maple Tree Court and park.



BICYCLING GOURMET

Glen Echo to Bethesda

Thursday, September 19, 2002 10:30 AM

Starting Point: Glen Echo/Clara Barton House Parking Lot. (MacArthur Blvd. & Goldsboro Rd. nearest major intersection). **Distance:** 16 miles. **Terrain:** mostly on bike paths with some gentle slopes.



Route: Ride will proceed via the MacArthur Blvd and Capital Crescent bike paths to Woodend mansion in North Bethesda, headquarters of the Audubon Society of Washington. We will then cycle the short distance back to Bethesda for lunch at the Thyme Square Cafe, which is adjacent to the bike path. This Cafe has been listed in Phyllis Richman's Dining Guide (First Edition) and features healthy gourmet cuisine (fish & chicken OK, no red meat).

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

Note: No reservations needed. These trips do leave promptly at time indicated. Please allow sufficient time to arrive at the starting point, to get your equipment in order, and to review the route description by the leader. Rest rooms and water available at the starting point and at Woodend.

August Ride Review: The cold beer at the end of this ride sure tasted good. This was one of this summer's hot days (mid 90's), but leader Marvin Hass, ExCom member David Abraham, and Shirley Rettig persevered anyway from Vienna to Arlington along the W&OD Trail.

October 17 Ride: W&OD Trail from Rte. 28 to Leesburg. Lunch at Old Dominion BrewPub.

Oktoberfest



- When:** SATURDAY, October 5th, 2002 at 3:00 p.m Rain or Shine
- What:** 24th annual PVS Oktoberfest featuring beer, sausages, sauerkraut, pretzels, potato salad, & pflaumen kuchen. Oompah music, too, for dancing of feet, clapping of hands, and cavorting of spirit.
- Special Event:** The Ladies (Kimber, Sunrise, and Cookie – of the Arabian horse persuasion) will be giving tours of their new barn.
- Call:** Mary Ward & Jim Slack at 703-754-8814 by Tuesday the 1st of October to reserve your place (limited to 60), to choose low-fat or high-test wurst, and to sign up for bringing a potato salad, kuchen, or other Bavarian delectable. No-shows will be responsible for their share of the cost.
- Cost:** Approximately \$8.00 per person.
- Bring:** Your own eating utensils and plate. Your favorite beer mug is, of course, always welcome.
- Optional:** Lederhosen and Dirndl. Even Pferdekleidung.
- Where:** Mary Ward & Jim Slack's Termineigh Horse Farm & Nosh Bar, 4580 Sudley Road, Catharpin, Va.
- Directions:** Take I-66 west from the Beltway. Exit at 47B (Manassas Battlefield) onto Route 234-North (Sudley road). Go 5 miles to downtown Catharpin (check out Alvey's Community Store). At the guard rail 0.5 miles later, turn left onto the (paved at the beginning) gravel driveway. (If you get to Old Field Drive on the left, you just went by our driveway. If all else fails, call 754-8814 from the payphone at Alvey's and we'll come get you.) We are the brick house at the end of the driveway.



SIXTH FALL FOLIAGE WEEKEND



WHEN? October 18, 19, 20, 2002

WHERE? Betty Lawrence's Lodge at Blue Knob, PA

Hiking, golf, flea markets, RR Museum, Spa, skiing (weather permitting???) Be the first to the ski slopes.

\$10 per person per night, 2 nights minimum. Accommodations limited. If interested, call Betty Lawrence at 703-726-8165

SKI TRIPS, 2002-2003

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Steamboat Springs, CO
Leaders: Sally Finan & George Welti
Dec. 10 to 17, 2002
703-716-9023</p> <p>2. Snowmass, CO
Leaders: Barbara & Fred Leonhardt
Jan. 16 to 23 (with possible extension
To Vail Jan. 23 to Jan 27)
301-963-8111</p> | <p>3. Whistler, BC
Leaders: Nancy & Ray McKinley
Mar. 1 to Mar. 9, 2003
703-527-7126</p> <p>4. Crested Butte, CO
Leaders: David Lerner & Bob Marx
Mar. 19 to 26, 2003
703-281-6923</p> |
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STEAMBOAT UPDATE (DEC. 10 -17, 2002)

You still have time to sign up for Steamboat Springs. We have one lady and one gentleman hoping for single roommates. Call Sally Finan for a sign-up form (703-716-9023). The good news is that we will be flying into Hayden, avoiding the long bus ride from Denver. A detailed schedule will be provided soon. The trip price includes: Round trip Air fare Washington/Dulles to Hayden and transfers to Steamboat, 7 nights lodging at the slope side Sheraton, baggage handling, taxes and gratuities, 7 full American breakfasts and 3 group dinners, welcome wine and cheese reception, 3 apres ski parties, pre- and post-trip parties, 5-of-6 day lift pass. Price per person (2 persons per room): Under 65: \$1295 65-69 seniors: \$1235 70+ seniors: \$1135 No-ski package: \$1135 Land-only package: subtract \$273 Single supplement: add \$350 Call Sally for trip insurance information.

Snowmass Jan. 16-23, 2002 **IMPORTANT - please read**

Most of you have read the newspaper accounts of the possible bankruptcy of United Airlines (UA), possibly as early as September. Of course, such an event will affect the Snowmass trip as well as any other trips with air by UA. For this reason, and as a safeguard, we will have tickets issued from UA within the next week (instead of in Dec.) for those who have airline reservations with us through Alpine Group Consultants even though this will affect the cancellation costs. As an added precaution, we are urging you to sign up for insurance before any bankruptcy is announced to assure coverage for the air costs. The price of the insurance has been re-negotiated since we sent out the pricing information last month; all of those over 70 will now be able to obtain insurance considerably cheaper than originally quoted. To cover the at-risk costs of the Snowmass trip, the new insurance prices are as follows: up to age 59, \$65; 60-69, \$75; 70-74, \$85; 75-79, \$95; 80-84, \$109; and 85+, \$125. Those over 70 who have already signed up for insurance will receive it at these new, lower rates (a savings of up to \$60 per person). Those 60-69 who have sent in their insurance acceptance form by 8/23 will continue to have the lower original rate of \$65 but anyone in that age group who signs up now, the rate will be \$75. We encourage you to consider or re-consider the insurance and send us the form included with the last mailing if you choose to take insurance. The trip planning is on schedule; if you have not sent in your 2nd payment (\$600), it is now overdue. If you have any questions, please call Barb or Fred Leonhardt at 301-963-8111.

CAN YOU HELP?

Volunteers are urgently needed to host PVS meetings. It's easy—really. And we can help. Call Ray McKinley at 703-527-7126.

WILL YOU HELP, PLEASE?

▶▶▶▶ AND NOW A WORD FROM THE (EX) EDITOR--

▶▶▶▶ As a wise man said in the crossword puzzle last week, "Everything is possible so never say never!" When I was asked to temporarily edit the TOOT while long-time editor Lu Beale recovered from surgery, I never dreamed that in PVS "temporarily" could mean almost nine years. But unbelievably it has been that long that I have been the editor, and it has been fun, frustrating, difficult, and ultimately rewarding.

I want to give my thanks to all those many, many PVSers who have written columns, notices, articles, whatever for the TOOT and have made it an interesting club publication. And I want to say cheers to the wonderful new editor, Jan Marx, who will bring a fresh era to the club. She might even be able to get along without rubber cement! For me, now, it's "See you around!"

.....Jessma Blockwick

A SUPER AUGUST PARTY

Wilma and Gene Sharer hosted a very special evening on Saturday, August 10. A beer-tasting contest was at seven in their beautiful garden with warm perfect weather, our usual warm company, and five tasty beers. Lu Beale won the prize for the most correct identifications—a ten-beer carton sampler.

This was followed by a most elegant and delicious buffet dinner under the stars on the patio. And it was topped with luscious ice cream cones.

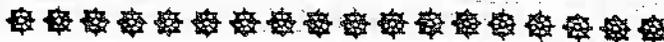
It was a perfect evening! Wilma and Gene are wonderful hosts. Many thanks from all of us.

.....Dot Mills

SUMMER SOUNDS AT STRATHMORE

On Tuesday, August 20 th, four of us enjoyed the wonderful big band sound of the U. S. Air Force "Airmen of Note". After many days of record breaking temperatures, we were very fortunate to have a lovely evening of cool dry weather. They played many memorable songs of the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's that many of us could even remember the names of. The U. S. Air Force "Airmen of Note" Big band was formed in the late 1940's to carry on the tradition of the famous Glen Miller "Army Air Corps Band" of World War II. They played the Glen Miller favorite "In the Mood" and other old favorites such as "America on Parade" and selections composed by Count Basie and John Coltrane. An unexpected added bonus this night was a large film festival sponsored by Comcast and the National Institutes of Health charities. Following the concert, there was a free showing of the movie "Top Gun". With the movie and the rousing music, it looked like they were trying to get some of us "old boys" to "reup" for a military tour.

.....John Smith



PVS GOLF OUTING

Nine hardy, eager PVSers met at Leisure World on August 23rd. Rain was threatening the otherwise drought-ridden summer, but the gods decided just to moisten the fairways.

Our star golfer was Ray Jones who shot a fantastic 89. Jack Peoples also had that low score, but he only played every other hole! We ended the wonderful day with a group dinner at the Leisure World Club House.

Many thanks to Bob Shafer and Myron Marquardt for arranging a wonderful day

.....Sue Walsh



DID CARDINAL RICHILIEU DRINK COFFEE? Historically, It's doubtful, but in the play a goodly group of PVSers saw at the Olney, he loved espresso, latte, mocha, whatever! The play was fascinating, with the Cardinal and the three musketeers plus D'Artagnan involved in their familiar machinations but with the added interest of appearances by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and Gandhi! There was much humor and also serious questions still pertinent to our own times.

Afterwards, 15 of the group adjourned to the Olney Grill for dinner and conversation. Thanks to Jeannette Albersheim for arranging the fun day. Next year in the new theater, Jeannette?



THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

Ned Flaherty. In older times death notices arrived via courier carrying a black edged letter. Ned's came via e-mail. It doesn't make losing a great friend any easier. I, like most of PVS, considered Ned to be a very close, personal friend. Judging by the attendance at his viewings and funeral, I wasn't alone. His friends were legion. A truly gentle man, a huge loss.

My favorite recollection of Ned is from a PVS Steamboat Springs trip, perhaps ten years ago. During happy hour, Ned, who was then a PVS newcomer, came up to me and said "I really like your column. I don't know you at all, let me buy you a drink." Two hours later, after countless stories and puns sitting in the Sheraton Bar, Ned and I were bosom buddies. Sitting in that bar, in Steamboat, is how I'll remember Ned Flaherty.

It's difficult to follow up such a loss, especially when writing this in the doldrums of our worst summer in quite a few years. It's been oppressively hot and humid. What a pleasant change when the first of the big fall, fat with new equipment ads, ski magazines arrived. Now I don't kneed any new equipment (or at least ski equipment), and Nancy and I do have our winter's trips planned. But what sheer joy looking at the ads for new "stuff" and new places to ski. It's time to think of the upcoming joys of skiing. The mere thought provides instant air conditioning--and time to finalize the upcoming season's skiing.

A most hardy Tip of the ol' Knee Cap to Jessma Blockwick. She is retiring after eight splendid years of service as TOOT editor. During her tenure, Jessma has put up with countless missed deadlines (sorry again), as well as turf battles, font size battles and all manner of other grief. Yet TOOT was always out on time. A truly remarkable job. Jan Marx, who becomes TOOT editor next month, has huge ski boots to fill!

The Knee is not a golfer--bad for the knees! However, I am told I should congratulate Liz Triau on getting a hole in one. Congrat's Liz,

but I don't understand. In general holes are bad (e.g. pot holes), and if you got a hole in one, which one. would a hole in one half be a ho?

On their kitchen wall is a picture of Reg Heitchue sailing on Dennis Connors' boat "Stars and Stripes," in the Caribbean. It's a good thing Liz Triau didn't get a hole in that one!

Sue Walsh is staying in town through at least October, so she can work on rebuilding her new all season Rehoboth abode. Right in

Gene and Wilma Sharer's beer tasting was a ball--or at least a *stout lager*. However, it lasted a bit longer than they expected. On leaving, one PVSer mistakenly took Emmi Plowman's purse. The situation wasn't resolved until the next morning, after Emmi spent the evening. That isn't the reason we won't likely have another beer tasting on the Sharer's Potomac lawn. The reason is they plan to move to a golf community across the Potomac near Leesburg. Bob and Jan Marx were the most properly dressed for beer. Jan was sporting a Grenada Beer Tee Shirt and Bob one from a new Crested Butte beer pub (where he and Dave Lehrner are coincidentally(?) running a ski trip!) Lu Beale, a confirmed non-beer fanatic, won the event by properly identifying the most beers correctly. Kneedless to say, all went away from the tasting hearty and *ale*.

I asked Nat Seeman to say something brilliant for the Knee. Nat replied, "Brilliant."

From my Small World Department: For some time Sue Lyon has been dating new applicant member David Phillips. Last month, while at dinner with his mother, the conversation turned to skiing. Dave's mother is a skier who just happens to be PVS member Jan Phillips!!

And once again PVSeers are traveling. Nancy Lewis will meet family in Gallup, NM. They promise no horsin' around. And Rachel and David Abraham are off to Germany to visit family and then to Vienna, where they will be hosted by "Heinz" the head of the Big Sky ski school.

Finally, Marvin Hass reports that, rather than have them stolen, Vail is selling off their "signed" man-hole covers. This could make it harder for Liz Triau to do her thing...

CALENDAR

- Sept 17 ... Monthly meeting at home of the Waddicks', p. 3**
- Sept. 19 ... Bicycling Gourmet, p. 3**
- Oct. 5 ... Oktoberfest, p. 4**
- Oct. 17 ... Bicycling, Rte. 28 (VA) via W&OD Trail to Leesburg**
- Oct. 18 ... Blue Knob Weekend, p. 4**
- Nov. 27 ... Bicycling, Glen Echo to Great Falls**
- Dec. 17 ... Monthly Meeting at the Strands'**

Thank You Jessma and Welcome Jan

All PVS'ers look forward each month to the arrival of TOOT. However, most of us do not take time to realize all of the work that goes into getting the newsletter published and into our mailboxes each month. Jessma Blockwick has been doing a superb job for the past 9 years or so as Editor of TOOT, putting together submitted articles, re-writing where necessary, and keeping calendars up-to-date. However, Jessma is retiring from the job following this issue. Please join all of us in giving her a huge "Thank You" for a job very well done and much appreciated. We are also grateful that Jan Marx has accepted the Editor job for future issues.

Bette Walker
#806
2801 New Mexico Ave., N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20007

