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<http://www.potomacvalleyskiers.org>

info@potomacvalleyskiers.org

Greetings PVers,

September is finally here, which means that we are starting a new PVS season and resuming our regular monthly meetings. The first meeting will be September 15 at Barbara and Fred Leonhardt's home in Gaithersburg, and I hope as many local members as possible will be able to attend. Admittedly it has been difficult to "think snow" when the temperatures have been in the nineties with high humidity to boot. However, my September issue of Ski magazine just arrived with a feature article on buying new ski gear. This is enough to get the ski juices flowing. I took the test in the article designed to determine the type of skier you are and therefore the type of skis you need. It turns out the description for me was, "You're hooked on powder and want to learn to ski it better on a wider waist." (Does that "wider waist" refer to the ski or me? Probably both.)

Signups for the PVS ski trips this season have been going well, but I would urge everyone to not hesitate any longer if you have not sent your money and application form in to the appropriate trip leaders. Some of the trips are filling up, and you will not be able to reserve a place if your initial check has not been received. The full trip fliers were attached to the last issue of TOOT and are also available on the PVS Web site.

Membership renewals have also been going well. I realize that we're in tough economic times, but PVS appreciates your efforts to speed the economic recovery along (well, at least PVS's economic recovery). Please get your checks and forms in to Dave Warthen. Your biennial 2007-2009 membership expired June 30, and the grace period for renewal ends October 31. Dave deserves extra thanks and kudos this month, because in addition to handling the membership renewals, he is doing a great job as September TOOT editor and also had the unexpected task of sending out notifications concerning Sally Finan's death and funeral. Thanks for all your help Dave.

See you at the September meeting.

Best wishes,
Dottie

Monthly PVS Meeting

at the home of Barbara and Fred Leonhardt
606 Firehouse Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 29878
Telephone: (301-963-8111)



Tuesday September 15, 7:30pm

Come join fellow PVSers at the first monthly meeting after the summer recess. Get the latest updates on forthcoming ski trips and enjoy the friendly hospitality at the Leonhardt's home.

Directions:

Take Interstate 270 North to exit 6B (West to Darnestown).

Follow Route 28 West, making no turns for 5.2 miles (as measured from the bottom of the 270 ramp).

At the signal, turn right onto Tscheffely Square Rd. (the main Kentlands entrance)

At the 3rd stop sign, turn right onto Leekes Lot Way, and then

an immediate right onto Firehouse Lane (7th house on the right).

Carpooling is recommended.

Coming Events:

**HIKE OR BIKE OVER WILSON BRIDGE TO NATIONAL HARBOR FOR LUNCH
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

An exciting new facility has opened in the area. There is now a pedestrian/bike path on the new (north) span of the Wilson Bridge. The path is wider than the typical bike path and there are three rest areas equipped with telescopes where you can stop and enjoy the fantastic views of Washington and Alexandria. The path connects with National Harbor, the new town center that has opened on the shore of the Potomac in Prince George's County. Join fellow PVS'ers on Friday, September 11, for a hike or bike ride over this path, followed by lunch at the National Harbor branch of McCormick and Schmick's. It is approximately 2.5 miles from the entrance to the



path on S. Washington St. in Alexandria to the National Harbor. Parking is available next to the bridge at Hunting Towers, 1204 S. Washington St., in spaces labeled "Reserved for Jones Point," where there are about 15 spaces. For a longer journey (the bikers), you can bike from home (as I will); park at the Marina that is between the airport and Alexandria; or park at Belle Haven Park about a mile south of the



bridge. I propose that the Hike group meet at 10:30 to walk over the bridge leisurely. The Bike group will meet at 11:15. Lunch will be at noon and then you will be free to go back over the bridge or to visit the shops at National Harbor. There is also ample paid parking at National Harbor if you only want to join us for lunch. Please sign up by September 7 so we can make appropriate arrangements. Further instructions will be sent once people sign up.

To sign up send email to rosemaryphd@verizon.net or call 703-598-6150.

Tell me if you will be hiking or biking.

Rosemary Schwartzbard

**Evening @ The Gracious Fife & Drum Restaurant, Fort Myer Officers' Club
Friday, 2 October 2009**



Liz Warren-Boulton and Joe Jevcak are sponsoring this event in Arlington VA. The evening will begin at 7:30 PM with dinner, accompanied by the Strolling Strings, usually a violin and an accordion/bass. At 8:30 PM a three piece band follows with popular dancing music and song. Standard dinners range from \$9.95 for salmon salad to \$19.95 for filet mignon and salad, plus tip. A selection of wine and beverages are available. Dress is sports coat for men and cocktail dress for women. Singles and couples welcome. Please email Liz at elizawb@gmail.com (202-244-5717) by 28 September if you would like to join us for a fun evening. We will make reservations and provide directions and instructions to get on the base.





Oktoberfest

31th annual PVS Oktoberfest



When: Sunday, October 18, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. Rain or shine.

Hosted by: Louann and Bob Eadie, Dottie Villers

Where: Louann's house – 2054 Eakins Court, Reston, VA

We Provide: German Sausage, Beer-Beer-Beer - Wine, Soft Drinks, and Pretzels. And **Oompah music!**

You Bring: An appetizer; sauerkraut, potato salad or baked beans, or dessert.

Suggestion: Pflaumenkuchen recipe is in the PVS Cookbook.

Also Bring: Your own eating utensils and plate (and your favorite beer mug).

Optional: Lederhosen and Dirndl.

Cost: A small fee of \$7 will be charged.

RSVP: Dottie at (703) 476-9259 by October 12th. **Tell her what dish you will bring.** Limited to 60 people.

Directions:

From the Beltway – Take the Dulles Toll Road (Rte 267) west to the Wiehle Ave. exit. Turn left onto Wiehle Ave. Wiehle Ave. ends in a tee at Sunrise Valley Drive. Turn right onto Sunrise Valley. Go 0.4 miles to left onto Soapstone. Take the second left onto Purple Beech. Take the first right onto Eakins Court. 2054 is at the end of the cul de sac.

Note: parking is limited on Eakins Court so consider parking on Purple Beech.

READY, SET, GO - Frank Shelburne Memorial Hike - Burke Lake, VA

9:45 AM, Thursday, October 22, 2009 (*NOTE change in date*)

Join me for a moderately paced 5-mile walk/hike around Burke Lake in Fairfax, Va. The trail is flat and well worn by many hikers, bikers, baby strollers, runners, etc. Following our outing we will have lunch in Clifton at the 'Heart in Hand' restaurant.

Dress in layers, and bring plenty of water and cameras. The lake-views should be lovely at that time of year. Hiking boots and poles are not necessary but may add to your comfort if desired.



Directions: Meet at the marina at Burke Lake. Turn into the main entrance off route 123, pass by the gate house, and follow the main road to the right. The road ends at the marina. There is ample parking and restrooms at that lot.

Please call and RSVP so I know to expect you. IF there is a 50% or higher prediction of rain (or snow ☀), the hike will be cancelled. Hope to see you at Burke Lake!

Marty Rine, 703-978-0179 (H), 571-344-5141 (cell), mrine@cox.net.



2009-2010 Ski Trips

Steamboat Springs, Colorado, December 12-18, 2009

Get a head start on the ski season and come to Steamboat Springs for a great week. Fly on your own to Denver on December 12 and take a free shuttle to the Embassy Suites Hotel, conveniently situated just six miles from Denver International Airport. Spend the first night there, and we will head to Steamboat Springs the next day, after a cooked-to-order breakfast.

At Steamboat, we will stay at the Ptarmigan Inn - Steamboat's coziest ski-in/ski-out lodge. The full-service Ptarmigan Inn offers [SportStalker Ski and Snowboard rentals](#) and complimentary valet ski storage, outdoor heated pool and hot tub, sauna, in-room refrigerators, coffee makers and remote color cable TVs. The [Snowbird Restaurant & Lounge](#), located slopeside in the hotel, allows you to dine while you watch the skiers go by. The lounge offers a daily happy hour that is the main watering hole of Steamboat ski instructors.

Included in cost of \$890:

Lodging 1 night at the Denver Embassy Suites

Lodging at the Ptarmigan Inn for 6 Nights

Daily Breakfast

Three Dinners – Yacht Club, Ore House Restaurant, + 1 TBD

Private Après ski in Trip Leaders Room

Transportation to Steamboat Springs from the Embassy Suites

For more information and to sign up, contact Dick Comerford,

dick.comerford@verizon.net,

(H) 703-777-9374, (C) 571-426-3098.



Snowmass 2010 Wednesday, January 13 - 20, 2010

- We're returning to Snowmass!! The developer has delayed plans for renovation of our beloved Snowmass Mountain Chalet! Join us again in 2010 for this PVS favorite.
- Snowmass offers direct access to 3,100 acres of slope-side skiing just outside the door.
- The skiing terrain totals more than 5,000 acres with interchangeable lift tickets and free bus service to Aspen Highlands, Ajax Mountain, and Buttermilk ski areas..
- Slopeside lodging at Snowmass Mountain Chalet includes a daily family-style breakfast and daily soup lunch, greatly appreciated by trip participants and other guests, many of whom return year after year. This small hotel, with its welcoming staff, is unique for its convenience and friendly ambiance.
- The trip will include group dinners, après-ski parties, and other activities available in the Aspen environs.
- Complete trip cost is \$2,138, which includes air, lodging, lift tickets, and party events.
- For more information:
- Contact trip leaders Carolyn and David DeVilbiss at 703-370-4865 or
- To reserve: -- Send payment of \$1000 per person, trip application, and signed waiver to:
Carolyn DeVilbiss
4508 Peacock Avenue, Alexandria VA 22304
- Note "PVS-Snowmass 2010" on the memo line.



**Sign Up ASAP - Mid-Sept
Space Reductions Imminent**



February 18 to 25, 2010

Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Join us for premium skiing at a world class resort in Jackson, WY. Slope side accommodations are at the Alpenhof Lodge, a cozy Bavarian style lodge with ski in ski out access. There are five or six days lift tickets included (seniors over 65 can deduct \$100). Go on an optional trip over the Teton Pass to Grand Targhee where "the snow comes from heaven not hoses". Cross country skiers have trails outside the front door or options to ski in Grand Teton National Park and Grand Targhee. The trip begins at Dulles, then goes to Jackson, Wy, then a short bus ride to the "Hole". We have a welcome reception of gluwein and fondue.

Full buffet breakfasts are included every day at the hotel. Two group dinners are included, pre and post trip parties, and two après ski gatherings. A short bus trip into the town of Jackson reveals many opportunities for shopping, dining, touring, skiing, and reliving history in a true western town. Yellowstone N.P. is 60 miles north, accessible by snowmobile or snowcoach, and a visit to the nearby National Elk Refuge will give you the opportunity to see a herd of 12,000-15,000 elk in winter.

Trip cost is \$1625. See complete trip flier for more details. Contact trip leaders Dottie Villers: 703-476-9259 or Marty Rine: 703-978-0179 for more information.

To reserve, send a deposit of \$350 to Dottie Villers, 2520 Farrier Lane, Reston, VA 20191 and note PVS -Jackson Hole trip on the memo line.



Ski Trip to Bormio Italy 2010

Summary Trip Details:

- Participating with the Blue Ridge Ski Council (BRSC) 2010 Bormio Eurofest.
- Dates: March 6-14, 2010.
- Price: \$1995 double occupancy.
- Transportation:
 - Airfare: Round trip airfare to Milan from Dulles Airport on Air France (Dulles-Paris-Milan). Air France still offers free wine, cocktails, and baggage.
 - Ground: Round trip charter bus from the Milan airport to the hotels in Bormio, with two hour stop at Lake Como on the way.
- Lodging: Seven nights lodging, double occupancy at the (4 star) Baita dei Pini Hotel centrally located in Bormio.
- Food: Full breakfast and dinner included daily.
- Insurance: Emergency Medical and repatriation insurance provided at no extra cost.
- Around Town:
 - Discount at Bagni di Bormio and Terme Bormio, the ancient and the modern town hot springs and spa.
 - Complimentary welcome card entitles each guest to Free public transportation throughout the ski valley.
 - Optional day trips and trip extension are available.
 - 3 Blue Ridge parties with drink coupons. Friday night party includes DJ for dancing. (Total of 4 drink coupons per person for the week)

Contact me if interested: dick.comerford@verizon.net (H) 703-777-9374 (C) 571-426-3098

Members Corner

by J. D. Warthen, Jr
(Membership Records)



PVS Biennial Membership Renewal 2009-2011:

The PVS Biennial 2009-2011 Membership Renewal period began on 1 July 2009. Every PVS member was sent a renewal application via electronic or USPS distribution. As of 28 August, 66% of PVS members renewed their membership for the 2009-2011 period. If you have already renewed your membership, [thank you so much for your remittance](#). If you have NOT renewed your membership, **PLEASE RENEW ASAP**. Please let me know if you do not intend to renew your PVS membership. According to the PVS By-laws, there is a grace period for membership renewal. You will receive one FINAL electronic and/or phone call reminder prior to the end of the grace period. If you have not renewed after the grace period, you will be removed from PVS membership and will no longer receive TOOT, appear on the PVS Roster, or qualify to participate in PVS activities. Membership cards will be distributed after the grace period.

The next quarterly updated PVS Roster will be distributed electronically on 1 November. This updated roster will also be included with the USPS '09 TOOT for those without e-mail addresses. **PLEASE RENEW ASAP** so as to be included in the roster.

Many Thanks from Marsha Warthen:

Many thanks to all in PVS who have inquired about my recovery from knee replacement surgery on 23 June and knee manipulation at MGH on 4 August, the latter of which was due to scar tissue formation. I have appreciated the cards, well wishes, concern, and prayers. Recovery is slow and PT is a challenging pain, but I am making progress with this process. Flexion is increasing, and some day I will enjoy walking down steps.

Wikipedia Trivia: Pre-historic Nordic people and Samis invented skiing to assist in hunting, military maneuvers, and as practical transportation.

Roster Changes:

- Kirk and Peggy **Burns** ([Address Correction](#))
7414 Spring Village Dr Apt. FV105
Springfield, VA 22150
- Paralee **White** ([Address Correction](#))
2021 Grandmore St.
Las Vegas, NV 89135
- John **Seabold** ([Home Phone Correction](#))
703-527-7716

TOOT Distribution to 175 PVS Members:

pdf: 87; USPS: 38; MS-Word: 27;
Emb. Text: 3; and Text (Att.): 2.

Roster Corrections:

Changes in postal or e-mail address, telephone number, method of TOOT distribution, version of TOOT format, choice of Hotline, desire to volunteer, etc. should be reported to Dave Warthen.

dwarthen@verizon.net, 301-774-2653

Adventures of Miss Daisy Beale:

I have had a busy summer. My mistress' cousin and son were here for a while, and when they left, the neighbor's 2 squawking parakeets moved in for the summer with their palatial cages. How's a girl to get her beauty rest?

Recently, by way of the dogvine, I found out that a relative is coming to my home on 51st Street. He is my half-brother, "**Buddy**," and he looks just like me – well almost! It will be nice to have a playmate, who is as vertically challenged as I; and of course, I will teach him the ropes around here. At last, a ski 'buddy'!

While I wait for the new arrival and winter sports, it is back to my peanut butter-flavored tennis ball. I like living here, and am treated pretty well, but I am not sure about those squawking birds. Buddy will be a welcomed change.



"Buddy"

In Remembrance of Sally Finan



Long-time PVS member Sally Finan passed away on Thursday, August 6 at the age of 77. Sally had been a member of PVS since 1985 and had served on ExCom, led group hikes and ski trips, and hosted many memorable meetings and parties. Anyone who ever skied with Sally knew that she was a formidable skier and delighted in taking a few more challenging runs. Her skiing was curtailed the last few years due to a shoulder injury and difficulty with altitude. However, she skied with fellow PVSSers on several occasions last winter.

Sally's Celebration of Life service was held at noon on Saturday, August 15 at the Adams-Green Funeral Home in Herndon, VA. Thirty-one PVS members attended the service in tribute to years of friendship and shared memories with Sally. PVS provided a lovely floral arrangement for the service. Various family members and friends spoke of their remembrances of Sally, including former PVS member George Welti and PVS president Dottie Villers. Following the service a reception was held at George and Sally's house with refreshments provided by the Welti and Finan families and others. Sally surely would have enjoyed this final get together with family, friends and PVSSers.

by Dottie Villers



Past Events:

PVS All Trips Party: On July 12, Cara and Bob Jablon graciously opened their home to 27 PVS members, 2 applicant members, and 2 guests. All were welcomed into their lovely home, which is filled with magnificent art in each and every room. All of the numerous paintings, sculptures, and art objects were such a joy to see.

Their outdoor pool looked inviting but no one ventured in, as we were all too busy conversing with each other and eating the delicious food which everyone brought. The hamburgers and hot dogs were also delicious, as Cara did a great job grilling them to perfection.

A synopsis and highlights of the four planned ski trips were given by each of our trip leaders: Carolyn DeVilbiss - Snow Mass, CO., Dottie Villers - Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and Dick Comerford - Steamboat Springs, CO and Bormio, Italy. Their presentations enticed several more members to sign up for one or more of the trips.

Thank you Cara and Bob for hosting such a wonderful party, which was most enjoyable. by Sue Lyon

Wolf Trap Picnic & Show: Luck was with the 26 PVSSers who met at the Wolf Trap picnic area on August 19—the predicted rain did not materialize. The group was also fortunate to have Dottie Villers as the organizer of this delightful event. She arrived early and reserved 5 tables for us, supplied with water, wine, and other drinks. The rest of us brought a wide assortment of delicious appetizers, salads, and desserts. We ate well while enjoying enthusiastic conversation.

The picnic was marred only by the absence of Sally Finan, who had planned to attend. Dick Schwartzbard led the group in a moment of silence to honor her.

Following the picnic, we filed into the Filene Center to see the Wolf Trap production titled, "Face of America: Glacier National Park." Beautiful pictures of Glacier Park were displayed on a large screen while a series of musical acts were performed in front of it. Most impressive was Sun Road, a modern dance performed by four young men, with quick, agile, and graceful movements. This was accompanied by a strange video showing four men in tuxedos performing intricate movements in various outdoor environments, accompanied by a woman in a red evening dress. According to a Washington Post review, the dancers began looking out of place, moving aggressively, kicking up dirt, etc. As they began to engage with the environment, leaning into the wind to maintain balance, etc., they suddenly looked like they belonged there. Earlier musical pieces included a fine pianist and two guitarists performing songs about Glacier.

by Ruth Powers



THE KNEE

by Ray McKinley
RaysKnee@gmail.com

Good Evekneeing, PVers. I do not open with this salutation because I am so presumptuous as to assume when you are reading this column after 6:00 pm. I do it for its artistic (?) and factual merit. Consider the alternatives. There could be Good Afkneernoona (or perhaps Afterkneen) or worse Good Kneet. Even the Knee wouldn't attempt to use those. So that left Good Evekneening and Good Morkneeing as acceptable alternatives. Since I'm writing this at 8:30 pm, the choice was obkneeous. QED.

It's September. We've made it through the summer's wretched excesses of heat and humidity. Although to be perfectly honest with you (and the Knee is always perfectly honest), this summer wasn't all that bad and July was downright tolerable. Let's ski!

Some of us are still in the non-ski vacation mode. Marvin Hass and Betty Byrne are in Europe. There they will be on a Bike and Barge tour. In order to keep the trip short, all of the Barging will be in Liechtenstein. And Rosemary and Dick Schwartzbard are just back from a theater trip to the Big Apple. They saw three Broadway shows in two days. Now that's a heavy dose of theater!

Eloise and Mike Strand are headed for upstate Knee York. They will visit with Susan and David Payne at the Payne's Finger Lakes vineyard. Eloise will stay at the vineyard while Mike travels to Ft Drum (you'll get a bang out of that) to attend the weekend annual reunion of his Army Company.

The highlight of the reunion is Saturday evening. There everyone toasts with a drink from a silver bowl with a tad of history. The bowl, according to Mike was in the South Pacific just as the Japanknees were to overrun the island. The company buried the bowl. And after the war, members went back and unearthed it, unharmed. Now that's tradition!

Bob and Cara Jablon are back from a trip to China. The Knee asked Bob what he thought of Red China. "It goes fine with a bright yellow

tablecloth." New ExComer, John Seabold is back from sailing in the Nantucket area--on a 57 footer!

Knee Alert: If you receive an e-mail from the Department of Health telling you not to eat canned pork because of swine flu, you can ignore it...It's just spam. Ouch!

It's membership time, don't forget to renew yours or Dave Warthen will take you to task. To help you renew, next month, the Knee will again provide poetknee. In the meantime, 96-year-old Marianne Cook ("at my age, I don't even buy green bananas") called the Knee with a membership question. Marianne said, I'm too old to be an "Active Member." Could I just become a passive member? Unfortunately, no.

A Tip of the ol' Non-Cancerous Knee Cap to Dick Laeser. Dick missed the last ExCom because he was having a cyst removed from his kidney--as an outpatient! It was done through cryoablation where the cyst is frozen with liquid argon inserted by two needles. By the weekend he was in San Francisco! Wow. Even more amazing is that Dick is a "a skiing 6-time cancer survivor." Aside from a cancerous kidney tumor, his other kidney, his prostate, two melanomas and his thyroid (which had metastasized to a neck tumor) are all removed. And Dick's never had to have chemo. Unreal!

Barbara Leonhardt didn't want to go to hubby Fred's High School reunion. So Fred went to his reunion with his sister while Barb and her brother took an Alaskan cruise. For those of you who track such things, it was Fred Leonhardt's 20th reunion. That's what he told the Knee. And Fred would never fib!

Bob Marx is still recuperating from his life-saving bone marrow replacement surgery in Minkneesota. He was really pleased to receive a phone call from Marianne Cook wishing him a rapid recovery.

According to Marvin Hass and the BBC, the new Russian oligarchs have found a new outlet for their money. Skiing. The Russian rich go to high-end Alpine resorts such as Courchevel. But they don't go to conquer the Alps, rather they want to show off and spend their newly acquired millions. It's not uncommon to rent a chalet for \$40,000 a week. And a jewelry store reports several spending over \$100,000 in a visit. That ain't borscht!

TRAVEL ALERT

Be aware that there are new travel requirements that you will have to comply with for the upcoming ski season. Under a new program, "Secure Flight", the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) requires the following:

1. When making flight reservations, you must provide your exact name as it appears on the ID you use to get on a flight, which means either a passport or driver's license. This will present no problem if your passport and driver's license are issued in the form you normally use when traveling.
2. You must also provide your date of birth and gender when buying tickets.

TSA has built in some flexibility for the near future but you should strive to obtain consistency between the name on your ID and travel documents.

Rosemary Schwartzbard

Bob Marx Update

Bob Marx has been battling Myelodysplastic Syndrome (a Leukemia-like disease) since September 2008. Progress on his treatment has been reported in this newsletter and online in his blog at: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/bobmarx>. This note is a summary of the treatment progress. Bob received a bone marrow transplant on April 30 after some months of chemotherapy. Since that time Bob and Jan have been staying in an apartment near the University of Minnesota Hospital. The main problem after this treatment is immune reaction to the the new blood cells and a counter reaction by the transplanted bone marrow cells. This is termed graft-versus-host (GVH) disease. There have been many good days but there have also been difficult days. Bob is now on the mend after a GVH episode in early August that caused problems in his intestines and his eyes. The GVH symptoms have passed but recovery from the episode is slow.

Jan provides updates from time to time on the Caring Bridge site. We all join her in hoping for continued progress with Bob's recovery

by David Lerner

Calendar and Information

Local Event Calendar				Ski Trip Calendar	
Sept 11	Fri	Wilson Bridge (Schwartzbard)		Dec 12-18	2009 Steamboat (D. Comerford)
Sept 15	Tues	Monthly Mtg (Leonhardt)		Jan 13-20	2010 Snowmass (C. & D. DeVilbiss)
Sept 22	Tues	ExCom (Beale)		Feb 18-25	2010 Jackson Hole (Villers/Rine)
Oct 2	Fri	Fife & Drum (Warren-Boulton)		Mar 6-14	2010 Bormio, Italy (D. Comerford)
Oct 18	Sun	Oktoberfest (Villers/Eadie)			
Oct 21	Wed	F. Shelburne Hike (Rine)			