
 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 17 PVS Meeting at Suburban House Restaurant
 April 23 EXCOM Meeting
 April 27 Deadline for May TOOT
 May 19 Fourth International Dinner at the Copes'.
 May 21 EXCOM Meeting
 May 31 Deadline for June TOOT
 June ?? Sailing trip
 June 19 Steak and Beer at the Emerson's (tentative)
 June 5 Trip leader's seminar at the Deighton's
 June 25 EXCOM Meeting
 June 29 Deadline for July TOOT
 July ?? PVS Event
 July 23' EXCOM Meeting
 July 31 Deadline for August TOOT
 Aug. 11-12 Raft Trip
 Aug. 27 EXCOM Meeting
 Aug. 31 Deadline for Sept. TOOT
 Sept. ?? PVS event

PVS APRIL MEETING
 TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1973 - SUBURBAN HOUSE RESTAURANT

From 495 (the Beltway) take I95 Exit s. (Shirley Highway). Take the first exit off I95 into Springfield Rt. 644 (Old Key Mill Rd.) At first traffic light, turn left onto Rt. 617 (Back Lick Rd.) Go approximately 200 yards to the Suburban Huse Restaurant, 6585 Back Lick Road. PVS meeting will be held in the banquet room, which has a separate entrance. Meeting at 8 p.m.; dinner optional at 7 p.m. Come join us! Dinner prices start at \$3.25, and Bob Wyckoff will have his slides of the French Alps trip.

ELECTION NEWS

The following have been nominated as Executive Board Members: Bob Gell; Bob Marx; Charles Liu; and Art Topping. Three will be elected at the April meeting. Nominations for President are still open.

Congratulations to Jim Smith, who has been nominated for full membership. Penny Widerhold is the new membership chairman. Our thanks to Eike Stecher for handling this difficult job for the last eleven months. Please check your copy of the January membership list. If you note an error, please tell Penny.

MARCH MEETING: AVORIAZ, TIGNE AND SUTTON

Thanks go to Aina Hertelis for coming up with a fine party room for the last meeting. Unfortunately, our late attangement didn't allow adequate time for the TOOT to be published with directions, etc. However, Thelma Belloli, Peggy Lacey and Keith Lyon called the members, and we had a good turnout. We were treated to some fine slides of the French ski trip led by the Wyckoff's/ Our PVS photographers and narrators were Art Topping, Jim Wingrove and Wrong Way Max Bunnell. Bob Marx showed us that all the good snow and fine eating were not limited to France-- he showed his slides of the Sutton Trip.

If any of you have slides or films of your own trips, don't be bashful. Call Ralph Anderson, 938-1038, and arrange to show them at an upcoming meeting.

DELEGATES PLEASE NOTE

The next few months will be buxy ones for organized skiing. PVS will be looking for delegates to the following meetings:

April 29	Penna. Ski Federation Spring Meeting, Boiling Spring, Penna.
May 4-6	USEASA Convention, Playboy Hotel, Great Gorge, N.J.
May 20	BRSC Spring Meetin g
June 6-10	USSA Convention, Sun Valley, Idaho

O.K. all you advocates of organized skking, stand up and be counted. We need representatives. Contact Keith Lyon for more information.

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Your editor now has two jobs, and the present situation, which was merely uns~~as~~satisfactory, is rapidly becoming intolerable. Something has to give, and we're afraid it has to be the TOOT. Won't somebody else take over? Call 762-0346 for details.

FOURTH PVS INTERNATIONAL DINNER

International gourmet dishes prepared by PVS chefs and friends. Hors d'oeuvres, entrees, vegetables, desserts and cheeess- a selection of each, plus wine, beer, soft drinks, etc.

Place: Pat and Don Copes
117 W. Monroe Ave.
Alexandria, Va. 836-5436

Time: 6 p.m. Saturday May 19, 1973. Reservations MANDATORY
by Friday, May 11.

Cost: \$4.00 per person, including wine and beer. BYO cacktails.
All contributors will be reimbursed for their expenses.

All food is prepared by contributing chefs. Those special dishes are what we're looking for. We also need card tables, chairs, helpers, etc., so call Pat Cope and offer to help.

Rservations are limited to the first 38 people who sign up, so better hurry. Non reservations from non-members will be accepted before May 1.

THE FRENCH SKI TRIP

February 16 - March 6

The Haute Savoie is very haute! They have big ski mountains and basins -- and we had them with wonderful snow and sunshine. That's what forty PVSers found when we skied those new and far-out (not to mention far up) French ski resorts of Avoriaz and Tignes. In both places we found immense ski terrain above timberline, with high-rise condominium villages. And many, many lifts. We could not only ski down, down, down -- but we could also ski far and wide.

Avoriaz is about 50 km north of Chamonix/Mont Blanc; and Tignes is about the same distance south, near Val d'Isere.

One wonderful day was skiing from France into Switzerland near Avoriaz. We put on our boards right outside the condo, and took two pomas -- one after the other -- to the top of the ridge. Then we looked over . . . and straight down the Champery headwall into switzer-ski-land . . . and we looked again. Talking it over, we decided we first needed a warmup run down the French side. After the warm-up, the headwall looked-only very steep and mogully. The run down was challenging in the old-fashioned sense of the word. Only one of the party fell, and had a 300-yard slide! But when we got to the bottom, it was truly satisfying -- one of the best runs of the trip.

Nice to relax with beer and lunch on the porch of a Swiss hut with sunshine and laughter. Our day was made -- or so we thought until we tried the next mountain. The four-place gondola took us up a needle-top mountain. It was frightening to look down that narrow steep trail, and realize it was the only way down!

The careful Swiss had reassured (?) skiers by putting up rope nets, to keep you from falling off the mountain. But it was a good run -- particularly to talk about afterwards. And we have pictures to prove it.

No doubt about it, an important difference in Alpine skiing is the mental attitude of being able and willing to take the view of so much space below your ski tips. One has to counter-psyche the big mountains that are psyching him. But when you've done it and have run the big ones, you feel a better, more confident skier.

As on most trips, there were some disappointments. We missed ~~the~~ fine waiters speaking English -- Austria and Switzerland have spoiled us. Also, one expects so much of French cuisine that when it's just good food, one is a bit let down. But it was great to have an apartment instead of a hotel room. We had some problems with transportation, too. Aircraft trouble made us a day late getting there, and strike on Air France caused us to take a sleeper bus from Tignes to Paris. Have you ever slept on a double-decker shelf where the seats ought to be? Well, don't knock it -- you never know who may sleep next to you!

There were 14 ski days -- and nine of them with glorious sunshine. No accidents or plaster casts. Some sunburn and lots of suntan. Your choice of wide-packed trails or plenty of powder. The last day dawned with eight inches of fluff -- on a packed base. It was skiing on white velvet, in the sunshine!

It all was great advanced skiing . . . just right for FVSers.

Ski-O-Ree

Ski-O-Ree overcame the curse of the Banana Belt's winter weather this year and splendid spring skiing prevailed at Canaan Valley, West Virginia, March 3 and 4. Snow on the ground caused great joy particularly to those yet to see a snowy slope this year. At the cheese fondue party at Keith Lyons' cabin in Blackwater Falls State Park Friday evening, PVSers hopes soared in anticipation for a super weekend.

Saturday the 20 PVSers found all the good ingredients for skiing: snow on the slope, no bare spots, operable lifts and no lift line! For this, heavy rain showers were ignored. Special awards should go to those who also endured the long delay, caused by a very large turnout from the members of 8 clubs participating in Ski-O-Ree, to take the USEASA standardized tests. Congratulations to Keith Lyons and Debbie Anderson (subbing for Cliff) for passing the Basic Test, and to Ralph Anderson and Lee Hebbard for passing both the Basic and Standard Tests. On Sunday, 5 club members participated in the Interclub Races, and with 250 entrees, the competition was keen. ~~Van Foster~~ Van Foster made the best showing of the group.

There were only a few skiers on the slope Sunday afternoon. Consequently, those that enjoyed the solitude performed some wild skiing. Carol Parmenter, Eileen McDonald and Peggy Lacey were among those who were challenged by Kurt Burn's hot-dogging. Patrice Foster's progress to parallel skiing was obvious after her diligent practice, and Papa Jim, in the sportiest outfits on the slope, showed fantastic skiing ability, too.

Peggy Anderson and Peggy Burns did a fine job in planning and producing hearty, delicious breakfasts, and Cliff Anderson and Barbara can't be beat for bagging lunches. We hope to see more of Mike and Cheryl Ulrich and Eileen McDonald at PVS meetings, trips, etc.

Don't get the idea that skiing at Canaan Valley is like skiing at Cabin Mountain in the 50's. With its two chair lifts, a variety of slopes, including some very good intermediate ones, Canaan Valley really is a great asset to the list of local ski areas, and if the crowd this past weekend is an example of the usual lift line, it is well worth the drive through the West Virginia mountains.

Try it--you'll like it!

