

VOLUME XV
NUMBER 5

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

MAY, 1979

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"LOOKING BACK"

Looking back over the several years that I've been a member of PVS, it seems that our club is better than ever. Membership is at an all time high, we have more events, and higher than ever attendance at both events and meetings. PVS is the club for skiers, but has many outstanding activities in the "off ski" months of the year. Many people have helped make PVS the active, "event-full" club it is today, but special credit is due Ray McKinley for his enthusiastic leadership the past two years. In the weeks ahead I'll be looking for ways to keep PVS the successful club it has become.

Marilyn J. Clark

MARILYN CLARK, PRESIDENT

MAY MEETING

"Bring Your Skiing Slides and Pictures To Show"

Date: May 15, 1979

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Place: At Aase Berling's, 10401 Grosvenor Place, Rockville, Md. In the rec room at the top of the middle building of the three high rise apartment buildings. Come to Rockville Pike and turn into Tuckerman Lane just south of Georgetown Prep School. Turn left on Grosvenor Place and proceed slowly (the driveway to #10401 is not lighted). There is parking on the left (as you face the building). Take the elevator to the top floor and exit right to the rec room. Refreshments will be served so bring your slides and pictures and prepare for a good time!

MAY EVENT "Tenth International Dinner"

Date: May 19, 1979, Saturday Night

Time: 6:30 for drinks and hors d'oeuvres, dinner served at 7:30.

Place: At Pat and Don Cope's home in Alexandria, Virginia, 117 West Monroe Avenue, just two or three houses from the intersection of Russell Road.

This delightful gathering of gourmets enjoying what they like to do best, eating and drinking, will cost \$7.00 per person. Please deduct the cost of the food you bring from this amount. Unfortunately space is limited for this popular event and the reservation list is filled. If you have not yet contacted coordinator Marilyn Clark, (after 4:00p.m. please, 978-9435) to determine what you should bring, please do so immediately.

Please do not park in the Cope's circular drive - use it for drop-off only. Call Don at 836-5436 if you need further instructions on finding their home.

Directions: Take the George Washington Parkway past the sailing marina to the first right turn which is marked Slaters Lane, to the parallel service road. At the first signal, make a right turn onto Slaters Lane. Follow Slaters Lane through an angled left past the warehouses and make the first right turn. Go over the railroad bridge and turn left onto Monroe Ave. (The Monroe Ave bridge is Rt. 1). Go through 2 signals and the Cope home is the big, white house on the right before the 3rd signal.

JUNE EVENT #1 "Hike in the Shenandoah National Park"

Date: June 9, raindate is June 10.

Time: Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Cooper School, just inside the Beltway at exit 13, Rt. 193, Georgetown Pike. The school is on the right of 193 on Ball's Hill Rd. Carpooling will be arranged there.

Leaders are Dot and Jenckes Mason, telephone 652-4313. Make reservations with them.

Where: Seven easy miles on the Bluff Trail with two or three harder ones on to The Peak added for the more ambitious. Sturdy shoes are recommended. Wear shorts at your own risk - there may be briars and nettles. Bring lunch and water. There will be beer and wine at the end of the hike. Dinner at the Mason's mountain home north of Front Royal after the hike (optional) with more wine and beer all on a share the cost basis. Reservations a MUST.

JUNE EVENT #2

"Picnic, Swim and Sail at Hadler's Cottage"

Date: June 16, Saturday. Raindate June 17th.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to dark. Food served about 5:00 p.m.

Place: Jacque Hadler's cottage on Kent Island. Limited to 40 people.

Bring: Salad or dessert. Call Gail Gell, 949-9036 (H) or 924-5000 (O). Bring your own picnic if you come at 10:00. Also bring your swimming gear and extra folding chairs if you have them.

Soft drinks, beer, wine, hot dogs and hamburgers with all the fixings will be provided. Jacque's catamaran will be available for sailing and the bay for swimming. The cost is \$2.50 per person to cover drinks and food.

How To Get There: Go east from Annapolis on Rt. 50 over the Bay Bridge. At the first traffic light after the bridge, turn south on Rt. 8 on Kent Island. The Matapeake Public Recreation Ground entrance is 3 miles south of Rt. 50 (a public boat landing if you wish to launch your own boat). At the Kentmorr Airpark entrance, 5 miles south of Rt. 50, turn right back toward the bay. Take that road to Hadler's cottage. It's the only road - you can't go wrong. It's the blue (4th) cottage after the 90 left turn.

NATIONAL SKI PATROL CHARTER

The National Ski Patrol needs your help and needs it now; waiting until later will do us no good, we must all act now. The issue is a National Charter for the National Ski Patrol. Senator Hatch (D. Utah) has introduced a bill, S.43, which is now in a subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee to grant the charter. If it is to pass in this session it must move in the next few weeks from the subcommittee to the Senate floor and be voted on.

Why is this important to us? For lack of a national charter, the National Ski Patrol is now subject to the differing regulations of all the seperate states. This steadily increasing burden of dealing with many different bureacracies is very expensive and time consuming, particularly for a voluntary organization. For example, it cannot obtain surplus supplies from the U.S. government. Many ski areas are using poorly trained paid patrollers (for which we pay) and the National Ski Patrol is losing its reputation in the industry for expertise and training ability. Do you want to pay extra to have untrained people get you off the hill?

What can we do? By far the most effective political device is a flood of individual letters (not postcards). The letters need not be long or closely reasoned; probably they will only be counted, but they will count. The key people are members of the Judiciary Committee, listed below, but the number of other Senators and Congressmen supporting the bill will influence the committee as well as the final vote.

Sit down right now and write short letters to all the Senators and Congressmen with whom you have any connection--both your state senators and your congressman, those of states in which you ski, to friends in those states and committee members states asking them to write. Ask them to support S.43 and to be a co-sponsor. Point out it will cost the taxpayers nothing and will be of lasting benefit to their constituents and you want him to vote for it. Address the letter to "Honorable Senator Charles McC. Mathias (for example), U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510". No more detailed address is needed.

National Ski Patrol Charter Continued

You may ask, why is all this necessary? If the bill is so good, won't it pass automatically? Unfortunately not. Congress has granted some bad charters in the past and some congressmen are fearful of another embarrassing mistake, so we must push them. For all of us, do it now.

Geoff' Wadey

At this point, twenty-seven Senators have co-sponsored S.43 as introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senator Hatch. Six of those 27 members are members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. If they can get three more members of the Senate Judiciary Committee to endorse the Bill, they will have a majority of the Committee voting in favor of it and it is expected that the Bill would than be favorably passed by the Committee and voted to the Senate floor. They are requesting our immediate support in the form of letters to five senators whom they consider to be most susceptible to our request in this endeavor. Those five Senators are:

1. Senator Birch Bayh - Indiana
2. Senator Charles Mathias - Maryland
3. Senator Max Baucus - Montana
4. Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr. - Delaware
5. Senator Strom Thurmond - So. Carolina.

If you are writing as a resident from a State other than the State represented by the particular Senator, please indicate that you are writing to him in his capacity as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and ask that he support Senate Bill S.43.

It would be helpful if you would forward a carbon copy of your letter to Senator Edward Kennedy - Mass. Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and a copy to Senator Orrin Hatch - Utah, member Senate Judiciary Committee.

Blue Ridge Ski Council Safety Award

PVS member Dick Clark was recognized by BRSC at the Spring meeting April 20th through the BRSC Safety Award. This award is given annually to an individual who has made the greatest contribution in the field of skiing safety and positive accident prevention within the territory of the Council during the ski season immediately past. A perpetual trophy (and an individual trophy to be retained by the recipient) will be given to Dick for this next year.

PVS nominated Dick for his outstanding work with the National Ski Patrol System's binding release check program and Junior Ski Patrol Advisory for the Southern Appalachian Region of the NSPS. Through Dick's participation in both these programs skiing is safer for us, the skiing public.

Gail Gell

APRIL EXCOM REPORT

The Excom meeting was held on April 24 at the home of Keith Lyon. Present were: Geoff' Wadey, Bing Poon, Keith Lyon, Alice Swalm, Judy Mealey, Ray McKinley, Larry Pease, Gail Gell, Jim Slack, Mary Ward, Art Topping and Marilyn Clark, presiding. Items discussed were:

1. Geoff' asked for a complete Treasurers report and Marilyn stated that a report would be presented at the next meeting.
2. Marilyn announced that she has asked Bob Marx to be the new Vice President, Alice Swalm, Secretary and Margaret Wyckoff, Treasurer. These appointments were approved unanimously by Excom.
3. It was announced that PSF dues would be paid by the treasurer. Excom also voted to pay BRSC dues, \$19.80, which is 15¢ a member. It was announced that Art Topping would represent PVS at the PSF meeting on April 28 & 29 in Harrisburg, Pa.
4. It was decided that Geoff' Wadey, Art Topping and Eloise Newdorp would be asked to represent PVS at the USSA Convention May 4, 5 & 6. A 4th delegate would be appointed by the president and other members would be asked to serve as alternates. Excom voted to instruct the delegates to vote against any increase in membership rates which would increase the amount of dues to be paid for each member of PVS. Ray McKinley volunteered to look into the possibility of getting a PVS skit together for the convention as we were requested.
5. Gail Gell will coordinate the June 16 picnic at Jacques Hadlers Kent Island home. Thelma Belloli will coordinate a Bike Trip on July 7, and Ray and Malle McKinley will coordinate the Steak & Swim event on July 21.
6. It was decided that the next PVS meeting on May 15 during which members will show their ski slides, that donations will be asked for the benefit of the U.S. Ski Team. PVS will match each donation up to a total of \$75.00. Donations will also be asked at the June and July Meetings.

7. The possibility of organizing a PVS Bridge group, co-ordinated by Peggy Burns, was discussed. Interested persons are urged to call Peggy at 256-4443.
8. Geoff' Wadey reported on the BRSC and ESA meetings and recommended that all PVS members write their congressmen regarding the upcoming legislation on the National Ski Patrol Charter. See separate notice.
9. The May Excom meeting will be held at the home of Geoff' Wadey, 7505 Holiday Terrace, Bethesda, Md. on May 22nd at 8:00 p.m. Please call Geoff' for directions, 320-5459 (H) or 588-6180 (O).

Submitted By Alice Swalm

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

A well-attended Second Annual Meeting/ Party was held on April 17 at the lovely home of Peggy and Kirk Burns. A lively cocktail hour preceded the election of new PVS President, Marilyn Clark and Excom members Barbara Wingrove, Bing Poon and Keith Lyon. Eastern Ski Association representative Gene King gave an informative talk about ESA and encouraged everyone to participate in the upcoming ESA convention in Washington.

Two good ski movies were shown, courtesy of Keith Lyon, and the evening ended with dancing and a few more drinks. Our sincerest thanks once again to Peggy and Kirk for sharing their home and for providing such a memorable evening.

The result of the membership ballot at the annual meeting was that thirty-one members voted unanimously to have all the eligible applicants become full members. We extend congratulations to the following:

- Jean and Reg Heitchue
- Angela and Mort Kuff
- Dot and Jenckes Mason
- Judy and Mike Mealey
- Bette Walker
- Bernie Schuckner

The new membership year will be beginning in July. Watch TOOT for membership form.

PVS PROFILE

"Tony Soler"

To look at him ski you would never believe that he didn't start until in his mid 40's. But when you realize how busy Tony was scaling cliffs, fighting white water in rafts and descending into the bowels of the earth, it is understandable that there was not enough time to ski!

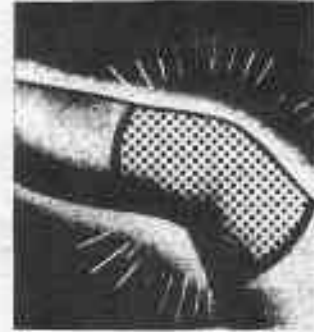
According to Tony, his outdoor feats started back in the 1940's, when he and a group of friends would travel just about every weekend to West Virginia to rock climb, go rafting or spelunking, his real sporting love. "Caving these days is pretty tame", says Tony. "Caves are well explored. We used to go into caves no one had ever been into before". His most memorable caving experiences were descending into an unexplored cave through a small pool at the foot of a hill using scuba gear. During another journey, Tony, underwater and again in total darkness had to feel his way back to his group by following a rope that kept getting caught in every nook and cranny.

Tony has scaled all those rocky cliffs overlooking the Potomac River, but perhaps his greatest climb was done on Devils Tower in Wyoming. He and four others discovered a new route up those vertical 600 foot walls and that is now known as the "Soler Route". The most challenging river Tony ever rafted on was the Youghioghenny in West Virginia in the early Spring, when the melting snows made the rapids even wilder than normal.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Tony went to school at Lafayette College in Easton, Md. He was in the Phillipines with the U.S. Army and after settling in Washington met his wife Rosemary at the Bureau of Standards. They have a grown daughter, Caroline, living in Denver. He is one of the early members of PVS.

Tony is retired now. Retired from the caving, the climbing and the rafting, and from being an electrical engineer. He and Rosemary live in Wheaton where they enjoy swimming, biking, walking, and, lucky for us, skiing.

THE KNEE By Big Foot



Tis May, tis May
the lusty month of May;
PVSers may not be skiing
but that's o'kay
Cause they're enjoying other types of play,
and out sailing on the bay,
and out rolling in the hay (?),
and watching the TV show, Today,
and south of the border, 'round Mexico way,
and in the street walking - er - jay.

Bet you didn't know the Knee was going to become a literary column? Now that's poetic license! And that's what I meant to say.

PVSers have been out and around these last few months. Probably the last skiing of the season was done by Paddy and Shirley Frucht and Charlotte Reith who skied through April 14 at Aspen. Sounds tell us that Paddy got new greased skis and made 15 runs in one day. (Exlax overdose gave me the same results a few years ago)

Speaking of sick and wounded (and I was), our recent ex-president Ray McKinley was sporting a cracked rib at the annual meeting. He said it was a skiing injury, but here's the real scoop. He and Malle were skiing at Vail with Dick and Julie King in early April, (the Knee understands that they have a beautiful new house. Will they call it a palace since it's the home of Kings?). Anyway, Ray was waiting at the bottom of the hill and decided to demonstrate a kick turn. All of a sudden his poles were in the wrong place and, yup, one cracked rib. Since current President Marilyn Clark was sporting a leg cast a few meetings ago, we wonder if Ray was playing one-up-manship. Or would that be one-down-manship? If you decide to - er - rib Ray about it, you might rib ex (and hopefully future) PVSer Charlie Gordon too. He also had a cracked rib at Norm Engleman's post trip party and he doesn't even know how he did his. Also at Norm's party and still with sore knees were Angela Kuff and Jean Heitchue (gesundheit).

Continued

The Knee Continued

Bob Wyckoff's post trip party was also an enjoyable evening. It was held at Charlotte Eddy's home with an overwhelming (or at least whelming) amount of food. Everyone enjoyed seeing Lois Rose's slides 4 times. That must have been the case since, as everyone else showed theirs, Lois kept saying, "I've got that picture too".

The Knee understands that presidential spouse Dick Clark just competed (compat??) in his first 10 kilometer run. Not too shabby since he started running only last year.

Got another story about nameless and missing B M for you. You remember B from The Knee several months ago. If not, there are some clues in the following: At the last Excom meeting our president, Marilyn, nominated B M for vice-president and he was approved. But, as usual, B wasn't there, (perhaps he thought they were going to collate a TOOT?). However, he promised to come to a meeting sometime this summer. Also at the last meeting, former president Geoff' Wadey made a lengthy speech about supporting a national charter for the ski patrol, yet he almost missed one of the most important parts until Bing Poon set him straght.

At a recent Ski Travel meeting PVS was well represented by the Wyckoffs, the Grasleys, the McKinleys, the Englemans, our President and Art Topping. All of the major resorts were there trying to recruit ski trips. Bob Grasley was seen at the "Ski Africa" exhibit. You can't ski there Bob, Kenya? Are Uganda run a trip there? If so, the Knee would like Togo.

And now, with great pleasure, the Knee presents our Kneadle of the Month (or perhaps the year) award to the Eastern Ski Association. Its for the right way to run a railroad. The Knee recently came upon the ESA 1978-1979 budget. They had some 26,197 members and a net loss of \$1.24 per member. Income was \$7.52 per member. Processing was \$1.96, Skier cost \$0.67 per member. Member services (ie benefits to us) were \$0.79 per member. And Administration was \$5.34.

Knee Cont.

ADMINISTRATION WAS \$5.34!

Golly gee, PVSers, I'm so pissed I'm seeing yellow. Between administration and those beautiful computer print outs we get it cost us \$7.26 per head. Our "Benefits", a small percentage of which includes lobbying and the things we're in ESA for, are not even 10% of the total. It's positively ludicrous. Would you contribute to a charity where less than 10% of the budget is for the charitable end???

And do you know what their solution is? The ESA Board of Directors wants to almost double our ESA dues. The Knee would like to take the Kneedle of the month and stick it firmly. . .

SKI SALT LAKE CITY/ALTA/PARK CITY

1980

Tentative plans call for leaving on the evening of February 21, 1980 and returning on March 3rd. Skiing for five days out of Salt Lake City or Alta to Alta, Snowbird, Solitude, etc., and stay and ski in Park City the last five days.

Now getting quotes and estimate around \$700 per person to cover round trip transportation, lodging and lift tickets. We can save about \$35 - \$40 per serson on the airfare if we can get reservations by name in before June 15. If you are definetly interested, send \$50.00 per person as soon as possible to Norm Engleman, 10450 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac, Maryland 20854.

For further information call Norm at 299-2635 or Judy Mealey at 790-8227.

Correction

Please make a note on your membership roster and the telephone tree that the correct telephone number for Adele Waggman is:

986-0285

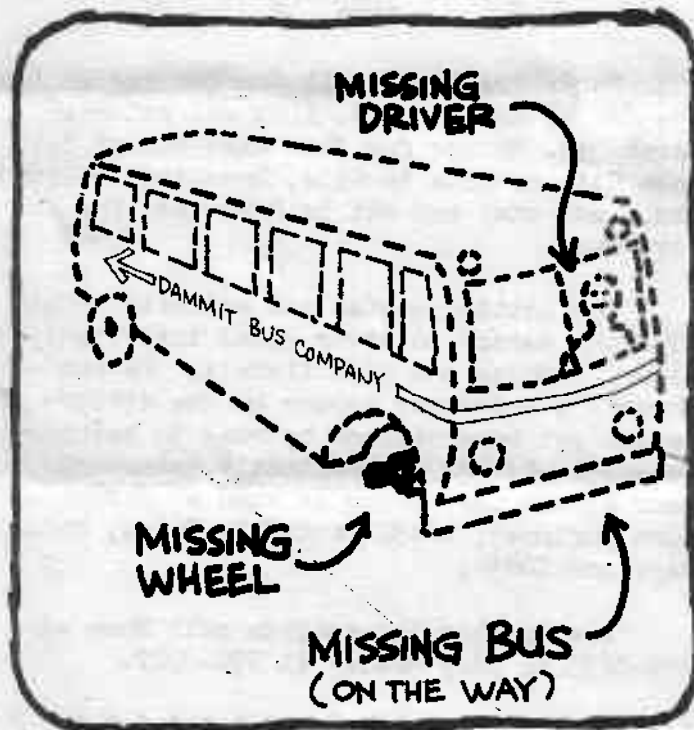
Killington

KLEVVOR KOMMENTZ ON KILLINGTON,
KOLLECTED & KREATED BY KUFF.

The PVS "Killington Group(s)" began to assemble at the Columbia Island Marina and at Montgomery Mall in the early morning..almost pre-dawn hours. The plan was for the bus to make its pickups at 7AM in VA. and 7:30AM in MD. Okay so far?

The first would-be skiers arrived at M/Mall at 6:45AM. The bus left The Mall, promptly at 1:45 PM! What happened in the intervening seven hours boggles the mind.

To begin, the bus didn't arrive on schedule. Trip-leader, NORM ENGELMAN naturally, called the bus company. He called the Columbia Island Marina group. Nobody had any information as to the whereabouts of our bus.



At first, the bus company dispatcher or representative said, "Itz-on-itz-way". After an hour, another call. No bus. After another hour, more calls.

The "on-itz-way" story wore thin and we began to get double-talk from the owner of the bus company. Then, we were treated to a series of lies,

such as...someone stole a wheel... the bus was being repaired...the driver up-and-quit. Poor NORM was beside himself with frustration and the rest of us were just cold and hungry and miserable. What a start!

It got to the point that everyone was trying to work out car-pool arrangements to make the trip. Yikes!!

Fortunately, the Ski-Gods intervened and a bus driven by a drafted-driver, appeared. Just in the nick of time. The Columbia Island Group was aboard and the group from M/Mall loaded ski and gear and climbed into the bus in literally, a matter of seconds.

So, after a shakey start, we were "off to Killington".

The trip between Washington and New York was notable for two things. The speed of the bus was phenomenal.

We really whizzed along. And, the assortment of munchies and drinks that NORM provided was amazing. He brought several kinds of cheese, and every kind of soft drink and wine anyone could desire.

Everyone did his or her best to get rid of it all during the first 200 miles.

Once we got underway, things went smoothly. A round-about stop in N.J. to pick up JACK HADLER, a pit-stop... and several hours later -- we ground to a halt in front of the mighty, downtown BARDWELL HOTEL. It was not whatcha might call a "swell-looker", however, due to our worn condition, we accepted our fate and bundled off.

When one is as travel-weary as we all were, not to mention the blearies from NORM's cheap wine...one is more prone to accept life's little surprises with a tad more 'grace'.

We trundled into the hotel."Hotel?" My dear, let me tell you....the place looked as if it had been shot out of a Revolutionary War cannon. It was ready for either Count Dracula or Dr. Frankenstein to move right in.



Instead of these non-skiers, we moved in. And damned glad to be there, too.

The exterior promised us nothing. The interior kept that promise. The carpeting was taped together with duct tape, giving the entire floor a somewhat glittering appearance.

There were great fjord-like cracks in the walls. The entire structure slanted downhill at least 5 degrees. But, surprisingly, the beds were quite clean and neat.

Whoever "designed" The BARDWELL was less concerned with bathroom convenience than with sleeping capacity. While nearly all of the rooms had a surplus of beds, few of them had a sufficient number of toilets or baths. Some had none! Yup! Folks were obliged to take to the halls in their nighties to find the loo. What does one do in lieu of a loo? I don't knoo, do you? (*sigh*)

Even under the trying conditions and at such a late hour as we arrived, our trip-leader NORM, was equal to his task. He single-handedly, sometimes heavy-handedly apportioned rooms and people until everyone had accommodations - and was, more or less, satisfied. Even the management of the hotel breathed a sigh of

relief at the finale of the arrangements.

Needless to relate, no one had any difficulty in getting to sleep. And, bright and early Monday morning, we were treated to the first of many culinary delights.. "breakfast at the Bardwell". A line-up of hearty fare was available to fill the "empties" and fortify us for a day on the slopes. And so it was, every morning. Each day slightly different, but always a piping-hot, delicious breakfast.

At 8:30 AM, the 9 o'clock bus was full. No stragglers in this group. All skiers accounted for and ready.



The first sighting of the trails atop the three mountains that comprise "Killington" was a thrill for all. From the rank beginners (MORT & ANGELA KUFF) to the ranking veterans such as JACK HADLER & MIKE MEAL-EY)..the view was a breath-catcher.

First-day conditions were good, but no what is referred to as "Spring Skiing". Not by a cold, long shot.

During the week, we experienced everything from bright sunshine, to pouring rain, to biting wind, to powdery, new-snow, to foggy-haze, to ice and rocky spots. You name it, we had it on Killington.

For the newcomers, it was as if we'd been on several trips at once. We had it all in that one week.

This was a memorable trip. It was simply great. Here are some of the reasons why:

RAINY-DAY DUCKS: BILL ANDERSON, ANITA COHEN, DAN BRANDENBURG. Intrepid ski buffs, were able to wring water out of their bindings on the "rain-day".

NORM's NOMADS: The loose-group included the MCKINLEYS, JUDY MEALEY, ALICE SWALM, JACQUES HADLER, STEVE CLARK and REG HEITCHUE. There has been a move to change the name of the group to NORM's IRregulars. Any seconds?

The PROFICIENTS: This galaxy of stars is just too smooth to talk about. RACHEL SMITH, LILA TAYLOR, DEAN WORCESTER, TONY SOLER, CHARLIE GORDON.



The BOMBERS: JURGEN POHLY showed the way to MIKE MEALEY, DAN BRANDENBURG, MARIANNE SOPONIS, MIKE RYSAVY, THELMA BELLOLI (she of the million-dollar smile), TOM AGUILAR & GEOFF WADEY. What a group! Look out beelow!

The Up & Coming Shussers: CARLOS SILVA, IRENE FARRELL, DORIS WORCESTER FARID SROUR, MORT & ANGELA KUFF all took the famous Killington Ski School lessons. It is amazing the improvement noted from Monday until Friday.



CASUALTIES: Two unfortunate spills put JEAN HEITCHUE and ANGELA KUFF out of action fairly early in the game. They became good friends while monitoring the action from the Drinking Deck of the Base Lodge. Both are on the mend, thank you, and looking forward to next season...and mended ligaments.



DRAFTED DRIVER: Steve McInty, though not the originally-scheduled driver, answered the call to operate our bus and did himself proud. How he man-

aged the return trip while jousting with Montezuma's Syndrome will be a mystery for quite a while.

There is one theory that DR. SILVA performed some short-stop magic with P-Tex. This is only a rumor at this juncture. Both the AMA and the USSA are jockeying for jurisdiction of the matter.



MEDICAL MIRACLE: In addition to his administration of a Hippocratic hype to the driver, our resident physician DR. CARLOS SILVA, kept ANGELA ambulatory and able to tolerate her pain. It is not known what the dear Doctor was dispensing to his patients, but he obviously partook of some, himself. He was seen, on no less than two occasions, skiing blissfully down Great Eastern...without his skiiis! Go for it, Doc.

This was the first trip that we (ANGELA & MORT) had made with PVS. But, you can bet that we'll be regulars from now on. If this trip was typical of PVS events, we're hooked!

What a truly delightful assemblage of people.

And, how terrific to ski Killington. As Nimble NORM says, "There is nothing else that's so much fun -- with your clothes on". Then he walked up to a ski lift and hugged a gondola.

Good 'ol NORM.



ESA SOUTHERN AND BRSC MEETINGS

By Geoff' Wadey

Meetings of the ESA, Southern Area, and the Blue Ridge Ski Council were held on April 21st at Arlington Hall Station, Virginia. The PVS delegates to both meetings were Eloise Newdorp, Art Topping, Geoff' Wadey, and Bob Wyckoff.

The only business of the ESA meeting was the election of our ESA director(s). The Southern Area presently has two directors, but because of the decreasing proportion of ESA members in this area, the upcoming ESA convention is expected to reduce our allotment to one. Both Whiting Willauer and Gene King, the present directors, were reelected, with the proviso that if the number is reduced, Whiting Willauer will serve.

New officers elected at the BRSC meeting are Bob Wyckoff, Vice President; C. Edward Crawford of the Baltimore Ski Club, Treasurer; and John McIlray of the Westinghouse Ski Club, Secretary. The next meeting will be held at Ski Liberty on September 29 or 30, hosted by Baltimore. The Crabtown Ski Club will host a BRSC picnic on the Chesapeake Bay somewhere on a date to be decided. (This replaces the tennis match).

Dick Clark of our club was awarded the Ski Safety Award for his outstanding efforts on ski binding checking. (See separate notice in this issue).

All three of our trips - Bob Wyckoff to the French Alps, two weeks at the end of January; Bob Grasley to Cervinia and Chamonix, two weeks at the end of February; and Norm Engleman to Utah, two weeks in mid-February - received BRSC sanction. So also did a one week trip to Chamonix at the end of January sponsored by SCWDC and the Atlanta Ski Club. (No conflict with the Wyckoff trip is expected). The 1980 Ski-O-Ree will be held at Snowshoe (Seven Springs was voted down) on February 2,3, sponsored by SCWDC and Arlington Hall.

Whiting Willauer, as ESA Director, reported that BRSC is in danger of losing its membership in the ESA because of the

continued

reduced proportion of ESA and 100% ESA clubs belonging to the BRSC. It seems the ESA rules (presently suspended for BRSC) require that a majority of the clubs belonging to a member council be Eastern Clubs and even though the number of such clubs in BRSC has increased, the proportion has decreased. A solution he suggested is that clubs with members who hold ESA memberships through other clubs (true for Westinghouse and Baltimore) be granted "secondary membership" which would count. He also suggested that ESA should give voting powers to the councils (they now have none).

Two more serious matters came up; one was the National Ski Patrol Charter situation (see page 3 of this issue) which was presented by Kris Iverson, Administrative Assistant to Senator Hatch, and the other was ESA's financial situation. It seems that the departed Executive Director of ESA kept most money matters in his head, and financial records are scanty, and the accounting late. ESA has borrowed \$50,000 against the income it expected to receive, which it did not receive because of decreased membership, and so is unable to repay the loan. To show good faith to the bank ESA has pledged the building fund and its furniture as security. Until very recently the ESA Directors were not aware of the situation. What is to be done?

At the upcoming ESA convention the ESA Executive Board intends to propose to raise the dues (the actual amounts are confusing, but are \$3 to \$6, depending on club circumstances) and to reduce the dues discount for 100% clubs (such as PVS) from 50% to 25%. The consensus of the discussion at BRSC is that there is no assurance that these increases will increase ESA's income and may, in fact, substantially reduce it because they will drive even more members away. The poor accounting makes it difficult to judge, but there is some indication that the last dues increase actually decreased the income slightly which makes it look as if we are over the hump and that further dues increases will make the situation worse, not better. There is a possibility that ESA will so cripple itself that there may be no effective political action, Olympics arrangements, racing control, trip management, or anything, and perhaps no recovery.

On the other hand, it came out that many New England 100% clubs are primarily racing clubs whose prime allegiance is to ESA and USSA rather than to the club whose label they carry. It is also true that club + ESA + USSA dues are really a negligible part of the cost of skiing.

continued

BRSC Meeting continued

Then again, it was said that the 50% discount (which gives 100% clubs a cheap ride) is a "sacred cow" and any attempt to change it will be fought tooth and nail, particularly by the New England clubs. Since BRSC has no vote at the convention, no decision was made. It will be an interesting and perhaps important convention.

End

PVS tee shirts are available for \$5.50, each with this beautiful design, done by our own Hank Thomas. Call Ray McKinley, 790-8812 to order your size.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- May 15 - PVS Meeting at Aase Berling's Grosvenor Place rec room, 10401 Grosvenor Place, Rockville, Md. See notice on page 1.
- May 19 - Tenth Annual International Dinner at Pat and Don Cope's home, 117 West Monroe Ave. Alexandria, Va. Marilyn Clark, co-ordinator, tel. 978-9435. See seperate notice on page 2.
- May 22 - Excom Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Geoff' Wadey's home, 7505 Holiday Terrace, Bethesda, Md. Call 320-5459 (H) or 588-6180 for directions.
- June 9 - Hike in the Shenandoah National Park with Dot and Jenckes Mason, tele. 652-4313 for reservations. See seperate notice on page 2.
- June 16 - "Picnic, Swim and Sail" at Hadler's cottage on Kent Island, Gail Gell co-ordinating, tele. 949-9036 or at work 924-5000. See seperate notice on page 3.
- July 7 - Bike Trip, Thelma Belloli co-ordinating, telephone 632-9888 at work or 966-3383 at home. More details in June TOOT.
- July 21 - Steak & Swim Event at Malda and Roy Elrod's home in Triangle, Va. Malle and Ray McKinley co-ordinating, telephone 790-8812. More details in June TOOT.

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|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
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