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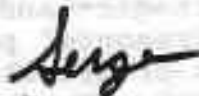
DECEMBER 1995

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well the November weather was a great start for a fabulous ski season, as many ski areas reported the earliest start in many years (except Liberty). Wisp opened officially on Veterans Day, which was the earliest date in many years, and boasted of having three feet of snow on the mountain. In fact reports are great on the East coast and as usual Colorado is off to a great start in most places. So I want to wish all PVS'ers on the first club trip of the season, to Winter Park, as well as all members headed for the various slopes in December, a fantastic start of the new season. We should have some exciting ski stories to exchange at the PVS Christmas party at the Heitchue's on Sunday December 17, 1995.

I want to wish all a very merry, joyous holiday season, and excellent skiing throughout the new year.



Serge Triau, President

PVS CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:00 P.M. AT THE HEITCHUES
2146 Owls Cove Lane



Note the special day and time. Please bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre or dessert as usual. (Despite the earlier time, this isn't a dinner event.) Ladies: Please refrain from wearing spike heels which damage the wooden floors.

DIRECTIONS: From Beltway (I-495) exit 12 onto Route 267, the Dulles Toll Road. Exit 13 at Whiele Ave., turning left. Turn left onto Sunrise Valley Dr. At first traffic light, turn right onto South Lakes Drive. After passing the shopping center, turn first left onto Ridge Heights Road. Take first right onto Owl's Cove Lane. Go to end and park in the cul-de-sac. 2146 is at the bottom of steep driveway. If weather is bad, and the driveway slippery, try the path with stairs on the left and then right on lighted path to front door. Note: Some of these directions are new.

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER MIDWEEK SKIING - Liberty - Thursday Dec. 21st.

If weather conditions remain cold enough to snow cover the trails, Charles Huggins will lead the first midweek skiing of the year. Lift passes are \$28. Four hour flex time tickets are available for \$24, and seniors 65 and over ski for \$14.

Interest skiers should call Charles Huggins (301) 424-5725 as we will car pool to the slopes from the parking lot of the Fairlanes Bowling Alley on Shady Grove Road departing promptly at 7:30 A.M. for Liberty.

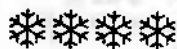
NEW EVENT -- Tour of Kreeger Museum and Lunch at The Inn at Glen Echo -- 13 April 1996

Genee and Charles Boykin are leading this new event. We will tour the Kreeger Museum located on Foxhall Road in Upper Northwest Washington, D.C., and then have lunch at The Inn at Glen Echo (Maryland), which is about 5 ½ miles from the museum.

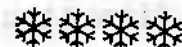
Once the former residence of the late GEICO insurance magnate--David Lloyd Kreeger--and his wife Carmen, Kreeger Museum now houses the Kreegers' personal collection of approximately 180 works of art which include paintings by renowned artists as Renoir, Monet, Degas, Cezanne, Chagall, and Picasso.

The tour will begin promptly at 10:30 a.m. and will last about 1 ½ hours and lunch will follow immediately after. The tour is limited to 35. Lunch is limited to 25. Details regarding cost of the tour and lunch will be printed in a later issue of TOOT.

Call Genee at home (703-790-8277) to let her know of your interest in the tour and/or lunch. Once details are printed, however, you **MUST** confirm your reservation by payment to Genee Boykin, 1411 McLean Mews Court, McLean, Virginia 22101, NOT LATER THAN 15 MARCH.



It has been suggested that PVS develop a list of e-mail addresses for members who are on line and we'll print a copy for everyone. So, if you have an e-mail address, please send it to Serge Triau at: MNNJ27A@prodigy.com



PAST EVENTS



FALL HIKE AND DINNER WITH THE MILLERS ...Frank Shelburne

PVSers arriving at Cooper School in the steady downpour on Oct. 21 must have wished that they had forgotten to sign up so that they would now be back home in their beds listening to the patter of the rain on the windows. But there they were and they must go.

A little way down the road, however, the rain stopped, the clouds rolled back, and a beautiful fall day unfolded before us.

Our euphoria lasted until we turned onto Route 619 at the Fish Hatchery. Ahead of us the ford across Passage Creek was covered with water which it seemed inadvisable to plunge through. We learned that Lu Beale, of all the car and truck drivers, had not been intimidated by a little water on the road, had splashed through and gone to the trailhead. And, after waiting a while for the rest of us, had floated her car back again.

While we debated what to do, officials came and closed the road ahead, ending our dilemma. Most of the group opted for a walking tour of Strasburg. Others decided to try Signal Knob. There again we found a normally brook-sized stream had covered the trail. Again some turned back, but Kirk Burns remounted Bob Harmon, John and Ramona Matthews, and Frank Shelburne across and onto the trail which soon became dry hiking.

All PVSers eventually rendezvoused at the Millers. There, with our problems all behind us, we could relax with beer and wine and Shahrads's delectable hors d'oeuvres, followed by delicious lasagna and salad. Later, out came a big, dark chocolate cake topped with ice cream and candles to celebrate Howard Hensley's birthday.

Thus ended a day that was most enjoyable, even though it did not go as planned. Many thanks to the leaders, and to Jamie and Shahrads for the delicious food and hospitality.

To Hike, or Not to Hike?

Few PVSers realize what a profound influence the Federal Government has on the activities of this humble organization, but the "Big Budget Showdown of 1995" nearly zapped this year's Chili Hike! How could this be, you ask? Was it a lack of inspectors to check for bad beef in the chili? Had we violated some OSHA standard for member safety while in the wilds of Northern Virginia? No, it was no Park Rangers to patrol at Great Falls National Park! (Did you know that Great Falls was a National Park?) PVS was locked out! (Hikers have Myron Marquardt to thank for not discovering this fact while in a long line at the locked gate; he alerted organizer Ray to this dilemma the day before. Ray, acting with his usual dispatch, promptly arranged with Dick Clark to lead us on a trek around Lake Accotink, a lowly (but still open) Fairfax County Park. Thanks, Myron.)

(Continued)

Chili Hike continued....

So, on a gloomy afternoon, with rain spitting briefly at the outset (to test our mettle), 19 eager hikers set off. At the mid-point, five bailed out to travel by car to the McKinley watering hole; 14 less eager hikers plodded onward. For those who went the extra mile (or two), it was a great day to be out with friends old and new.

Then it was on to Chateau McKinley for delicious eats: Hors d' oeuvres and desserts by guests; chilies and potables by hosts Ray and Nancy. And would you believe it, there were 10 more "Eaters" there than there were hikers! No wonder this organization has the reputation it does. All in all, it was another boring PVS (and E) event. Thanks everyone.

....Robert Marx

GOOD TIMES, GOOD FOOD, GOOD FRIENDS _____ by Liz Triau

The November PVS meeting was held in Reston, VA at the lovely new home of Sally Finan and George Welti. About 50 plus members, a couple of guests (one of whom was Ray McKinley's charming stepmother, Dorothy, visiting from California!) and absentee member Dick Harsh from Colorado.

Sally had prepared a magnificent feast of ham, roast beef, veggies, fruit and many other tasty goodies which everyone devoured with gusto. Amid all the eating and drinking were the many lively conversations predominately centering on skiing and the eagerly awaited ski trips.

President, Serge Triau, conducted the business meeting, then introduced Brian Eardley of the Ski Center who had brought along an assortment of ski equipment. Serge had requested information about "fold-up skis" for ease in traveling but the closest Brian could come to that was the short (and funny) "Big Foot" ski which probably would fit in a suitcase! Of course, there other assorted boots and skis and Brian was, as usual, very informative and helpful. Shall we all switch to "fat skis"??!

Following all that was more food, as an abundance of desserts awaited us in the dining room.

What a way to begin our Thanksgiving holiday with such a feast! Many thanks to Sally and George for opening your house to all of us for another memorable PVS gathering.



CLUB ELECTIONS

A nominating committee, chaired by Betty Lawrence, has been appointed to select a slate of nominees for president and three executive committee members for the 1996-97 season. These nominees will be presented at the April meeting for election by the full membership.

The committee will be meeting on Dec. 14. If you have any suggestions for nominees, please call Betty at 703-759-0471 before that date.



SKI THE MAGNIFICENT ROCKY MOUNTAINS OF UTAH!
February 17-24, 1996

There is still space available on this trip. Particularly needed is a single man to share a double room. Call Dina Taylor at 301-663-6089.

March 13 - 20, 1996,

PVS STEAMBEAVER

*Steamboat's Champagne Powder &
Beaver Creek's Uncrowded Elegance*

- > Luxurious Accommodations, Splendid Meals in Incomparable Settings and Great PVS Companions at Two of Colorado's Most Magnificent Ski Resorts
- > An Injury Has Resulted in an Opening for one Female. Call Us Today.
- > Otherwise, The Trip Is Full. However, Additional Space May Be Available. If You Are Interested in Joining Us, Please Let Us Know. For Information Call Nancy or Ray McKinley at (703) 527-7126.



MEMBERSHIP--HOW IT WORKS

Marilyn Clark, Membership Chair

The following steps outline the procedure for becoming an active member of PVS:

1. An unsponsored person can pay \$10 for a 6-month subscription to TOOT and the privilege of attending 6 meetings. At the end of the 6 months, this person can become sponsored.
2. A sponsored person, after attending 3 meetings and/or events, can become an applicant member by paying fees of \$50 (individual) or \$90 (couple) for 2 years dues. The additional requirement for active membership is to ski three days with members of the club. Applicant members have 3 years in which to qualify for active membership.
3. The responsibility of the sponsor is to introduce the applicant member(s) to PVS members and to report to the membership chair when all the requirements for active membership have been met.
4. In April of each year, qualified applicant members are voted on by the active membership. Any applicant receiving 5 or more negative votes will not be granted active membership in the club and will be dropped as an applicant member.

DEAN WORCESTER *** AN APPRECIATION

Dean Worcester died Friday November 24, from a fall down a flight of stairs, sustaining a fractured skull, from which he never recovered.

Dean was a member of PVS for about 30 years and an avid skier of skill and verve. Since he was a child of New Hampshire and a graduate of Dartmouth College, before the era of fancy ski schools, his skiing harks back to the "good old days" of long wooden skis and "bear trap" bindings. He introduced several members of the Club to the sport, namely Charlie Gordon and Tony Soler, on a sort of ad hoc, ski "by the seat of your pants" type instruction. Instructions were given on weekends after driving all night to New England, skiing all day, returning after the slopes closed on Sunday in time to go to work Monday morning at Harry Diamond Laboratory, where he worked as an electronic scientist. This was their standard "MO" for years. Needless to say, Charlie and Tony were noted for hobbling about the lab with "fat ankles" during their working hours.

Not only was Dean a skier, but an accomplished sailor. He owned a 50-ft. three-masted schooner named "Rebel" that covered every nook and cranny of Chesapeake Bay and environs many times, plus numerous trips to New England waters and Florida. His navigational skills were used teaching courses in this area, and he was Comm dore of the Traditional Boats Branch of the Annapolis Yacht Association.

An aficionado of Dixie Land jazz, he had an extensive record collection. He will be sorely missed by all members of the Club plus his numerous friends.

Rosemary Soler

IN MEMORIAM

It is with deep regret we report the death of Virginia Larson on Wednesday, November 22, at Suburban Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland. Ginny was a long time member of PVS, fully supporting our trips and social activities up until a few weeks before her death. In addition to skiing, she was a consistent ice skater and Bavarian Dancer. Professionally, she was an editor for the U. S. Public Health Service. Prior to her Federal Government career, she worked in England and Germany after World War II. for the Red Cross. Ginny was the ideal friend. Steadfast in her likes and almost impossible to anger. She possessed a dry sense of humor which made her company delightful. Ginny will be greatly missed by all her friends here in the U. S. as well as abroad.



THE KNEE

by
Ray McKinley

Boy, did PVS do it right for early skiing. Due to warm, make that hot, weather, New Mexico ski areas won't open before mid-December. And there is very limited skiing in Utah. (Snowbird quotes a 5 inch base!) Not so Winter Park with a 50 inch base. And that's before over 2 feet of snow stranded Thanksgiving skiers, forcing them to ski extra days. Pity.

As a club, PVS did not have a good Thanksgiving. We all lost two long-time friends, Ginny Larson and Dean Worcester. The club will not be the same without them. Heartfelt condolences to their loved ones.

The Knee will neither confirm or deny the rumor that whilst carrying a large plant he tripped, requiring 12 stitches in his forehead and a cast on broken left fingers.

This was also a bad fall for PVS hikes. The Millers' hike changed locations due to flooding. The Chili Hike was changed to a Fairfax County venue due to government and Great Falls Park being closed.

We had a lovely time at Sally Finan's and George Welti's Reston abode. Next time we see the house it will look different. They plan to tear out the wall between the kitchen and family room. By the way, George designed all of the ukneeque 3-D geometric structures in their living room.

From my PVS racing file: (PVS and racing together? Yes!) Six PVSers finished in NASTAR's national top fifteen for their age group and state. Kudos to Shirley Rettig, Mary Riley, Liz Triau, Nancy Laymon, Charlie Gordon, and Serge Triau. And a special tip of the ol' Knee Cap to Charlie Huggins who cajoled, threatened and begged us to try racing in Lake Louise two years ago. 'Tis fun.

Did you know that Jeanne Strickland and Jean Heitchue went to the same Springfield, Mass. high school? You figure

out who graduated 15 years ago!

The last PVSers to renew their membership were Dick and Betty Comerford --at the Chili Hike. Only Betty attended; Dick was in Colorado skiing.

The Knee received a semi-indignant call from Aase Berling saying she was twice over a great grandmother and was thus PVS' first great grandmother. Kneea kulpa.

Thus, the Knee will be careful with this item. Apparently, in most likelihood, it seems that, perhaps, Jeanette Albersheim could well possibly be, if other information does not obviate it, the first, or nearly first, PVSer to, perchance, take a vacation to Syria.

PVS' resident painter, Bob Harmon will perhaps, possibly, in some likelihood have a one-man show at the National Institutes of Health in March.

Paul Yessler recently retired as a fed. He'll retain his private medical practice.

Two PVSers have tried the "wonder drug" Melatonin. The result: sleeplessness. The good news is that both had very young looking bags under their eyes. Has anyone had any positive experiences with Melatonin?

A bit of religious news: Norm Engelman lost his soul on a recent midweek hike. Or perhaps, possibly, in some likelihood that's "sole". Something fishy here.

Dina Taylor's Utah trip conflicts with the Blue Ridge Ski Council's Winter Carnival. "They didn't check with me," claims Dina.

Bill Anderson, host of the November ExCom was sporting a new refrigerator. Cool. He asked if the two breakfasts on Marx' Wisp trip "were on separate days." Cool.

In Annapolis, in their absence, Glade and Joan Flake's icemaker hemorrhaged spilling beaucoup (that's French for a gaggle of) water over their first floor and several thousand dollars of damage. Not cool.

Sue Walsh passed out participant and roommate lists for the Winter Park trip at the November ExCom. What George Hicho won't do to save 32 cents!

CALENDAR:

- Dec. 13 Pre-Sun-Valley party at the home of Kathy & John Dillon.
- Dec. 17 Christmas Party at the Heitchues', page 1.
- Dec. 21 Ski Liberty, page 2.
- Dec. 28 ExCom at the Clarks'. It's Thursday.
- Jan. 16 Monthly meeting at Shirley Rettig's.
- Jan. 23 ExCom at the Leonhardts'.
- Feb. 17 Pre-Steamboat-Springs party at the McKinleys'.
- Feb. 18 to the 20th. Ski Blue Knob with Betty Lawrence.
- Feb. 20 Monthly meeting at the Waddicks'.
- Feb. 27 ExCom at Lu Beale's.
- Mar. 10 to the 11th. Ski Blue Knob with Betty Lawrence.
- Mar. 19 Monthly meeting at Paul Yessler's.
- Mar. 30 Spring Dinner.
- Apr. 13 Tour of Kreeger Museum, with lunch following.
Page 2.

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