



VOLUME XXXV

# Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

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Fellow PVSers:

Though our major focus activity seems remote from June, currently the warmth and spirit of the off-ski-season is impressive and remarkable, as seen at May's monthly meeting at Leonhardts'. Over 70 members (numbers not years) showed we don't need to wait for the "Techway" link over the Potomac to gather and share as we do.

More evidence of the spirit that has carried us over 35 years. The Sheraton-Steamboat Springs hotel came lookingn for PVS to return next season!!! Marilyn Clark reports there are 14 skiers standing in line (as skiers are wont to do) to get on our official membership roster.

It is exciting and rewarding to be involved in a group with such vitality, interest, and camaraderie. Even long-distance PVSers can't stay away. It was great to see Nancy Lewis and Irene and Jack Ragan back visiting us.

As said before, the ExCom and other club workers want to hear what you'd like from us. It is important because you make PVS what it is.

*Ned*  
Ned Flaherty  
President XXIV



MONTHLY MEETING  
JUNE 19th - 7:30 p.m.

Home of Betty Lawrence  
525 Haven Lane, Great Falls, VA  
Tel: 703-759-0471



**Directions to Betty Lawrence's:** Take Beltway Exit 13 onto Route 193 (Georgetown Pike) toward Great Falls. Drive 6.3 miles to Great Falls where you turn right on Walker Road. Go 1.1 miles to left on Squires Trail. At the end of the road, turn left onto Haven Lane and proceed to 525 on left.



## BICYCLING GOURMET

### Middleburg Horse & Wine Country

Thursday, June 21, 2001 11:00 AM



**Starting Point:** Middleburg (VA) at the Upper Crust Bakery which is just west of Safeway. Join the leaders for coffee and pastry on the rear patio of the Bakery between 10:30 and 11:00. Ride will really leave at 11:00 AM as scheduled (Latecomers advised to meet us in The Plains).

[Directions: From Beltway Exit 9 take I-66 West 33 miles to Exit 31. Make a right (north) turn onto VA 245, then go one mile to T intersection (VA 55) in The Plains. Go right ½ block on VA 55 then left at gas station at VA 626 (Loudon Ave.). Continue 8 miles on VA 626 to Middleburg Turn right on Route 50 for 1-1/2 blocks and look for Safeway on left. Turn left on Pendleton at Safeway and park on one of the side streets. Look for Upper Crust Bakery in white wood frame building on West side of Pendleton St. and check for leaders on rear patio.]

**Total distance:** 18-22 miles. Ride will proceed west 1 ½ miles via Rte. 50 to Zulla Rd (VA 709), then south (left) eight miles to VA. 55, then east (left) to The Plains (rest stop). Then north on VA 626 for eight miles back to Middleburg where you can join the leaders for fluid replenishment and nourishment at Magpies Cafe. Note: This ride takes place mostly on two lane roads with a short stretch on busy Rte. 50. Road riding skills required. Scenic rolling countryside with hills (don't say we didn't warn you!)

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

**May Ride Review:** Calvert County Riviera — Scenic ride passing by four marinas and a beach followed by lunch at the waterfront Rod 'N Reel restaurant with champagne and birthday cake supplied by the leader in honor of the co-leader, Betty Byrne. See PVS Web Site for photos.

**July ride** will take place Thursday July 26 along the tree-shaded C&O Canal towpath starting at Great Falls Park, Maryland.

**SPRING DINNER, JUNE 23, 2001, 7 P.M.** Call Marilyn Clark at 703-978-9435 if you have questions.

**REMEMBER; YOU MUST BRING YOUR OWN DISHES AND EATING UTENSILS!!!**

SUMMER HIKE ALONG THE RIVER

Monday, June 25, 10:30 A.M.  
Riverbend Park, Virginia

Bring a picnic lunch. We'll meet at the Visitor's Center, and head off along the river. Hike will be 2-3 miles, tho it can be extended if the hikers wish.

To get to the Park, take Georgetown Pike, Exit 13 off the Beltway, heading west. Pass Great Falls Park and continue to its end, where turn right on River Bend Road (Route 603). At four-way stop sign, go across and turn right on Jeffrey Road and continue to entrance of Riverbend Park.

Let Jessma Blockwick (703-356-0717) know if you're coming, so car pools can be arranged if desired. She will be away some days in June, so please leave a message. Hike is cancelled if it rains or snows.

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You are invited to the  
annual all-ski-trips party

Saturday, July 14, 2001, 5 p.m. (Rain date July 15)  
Home of Jean and Reg Heitchue, 2146 Owl's Cove  
Lane, Reston, VA.

Call the Heitchues by July 9 to sign up to bring appetizer, salad or dessert. A small fee will be charged.

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GOLF AT LEISURE WORLD

On Thursday, August 2, join the golf fun with other aspiring PVSers at the Leisure World Golf course in Maryland. Not a tournament, no prizes, no handicaps. Tee time is 1:30 p.m. Cost per person for 18-hole greens fee and cart is \$35. Less for 9 holes. Let Bob Schafer at 301-598-2226 or Jeannette Albersheim at 301-598-7525 or email [ajmcgla@aol.com](mailto:ajmcgla@aol.com) know that you are coming.

Summer Theater at Olney

August 5, Sunday afternoon matinee at 2 pm. Not Pinter. Not Stoppard. It's *HOLIDAY* by Philip Barry, the writer of *The Philadelphia Story*. A romantic comedy about a dysfunctionally wealthy family, it lampoons American materialism and all the hedonistic "responsibility" that goes with it.

A **bargain** (enough to make up for the gas) – only \$14.50 this year. New ad policy to attract groups. We expect to meet the minimum requirement of attendees to qualify for this price.

Deadline for signing up and sending in your check is July 18. Also say whether you might stay to have dinner nearby. Off-the menu dining is arranged at the Gazebo Restaurant in Rock Creek Center, which is en route back toward Washington from Olney.

Please write your check to Jeannette Albersheim and send it to her at 3574 Fiske Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20906. Questions? Call her at 301-598-7525 or her at [ajmceja@aol.com](mailto:ajmceja@aol.com)



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**Join the Sharers at 12404 Beall Spring Road, Potomac for a fun-filled Beer Tasting and Picnic Event on Friday, August 10, 2001, 7 p.m. Call Wilma at 301-975-9411 or E-mail to [wsharer@aol.com](mailto:wsharer@aol.com). Cut-off date is Aug. 3, 2001. More to come in future issues.**

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Executive Committee Profile: Margaret Wyckoff.

Margaret was born in Breslau Germany and began skiing in on "wooden skis" in areas with no lifts. She started her education at the University of Breslau and finished her degree in Accounting in Washington D.C. at Strayer College after moving here in 1952. She joined SCWDC in 1959. She met her husband, Bob, in Paris on her first ski trip back to Europe with the Pennsylvania Ski Federation. Upon their return, they set up housekeeping in Silver Spring, Maryland. In due course, Patricia joined them, adding joy to their lives and sparkle to many ski trips, on which she often accompanied the group.

Margaret is now enjoying the retired life, however, in her 'previous' life, she worked as an accountant for trade association for over 25 years. Her finesse with numbers carried over into ski clubs as well. Margaret was Treasurer for SCWDC from 1964-1965, treasurer for PVS from 1978 to 1992 and served on the Board of PVS from 1986 to 1988.

Margaret and her husband led trips to Europe from 1954 to 1989. First with the Pennsylvania Ski Federation and then starting in 1970 with PVS. Not only has she hosted trips abroad, she also welcomed PVSers in her home for at least ten Octoberfests!

Margaret has rendered faithful, conscientious and valuable services to our organization in the past and she is looking forward to serving on the board again.

Ski

A NEW OPPORTUNITY - ACT BY JUNE 9TH



Return to the famous Sheraton Steamboat Hotel for a PVS-approved "no-frills" ski trip. Fly R/T by United Airlines to Denver/Eagle-Vail (airline has not confirmed destination yet) and enjoy seven nights lodging and skiing. Trip includes R/T ground transfer from designated airport by motor coach, baggage handling at hotel upon arrival, queen-sized beds, seven daily breakfasts, and a complimentary wine-cheese reception upon arrival at the hotel.

Since this is a "no frills" trip, there will be no formal apres skis or group dinners but since the area is so well known to many, members themselves can arrange these.

Presently, the trip will be "chaperoned by" Doug Horstman, who will accompany the PVSers to Steamboat and then an attending PVSer will make sure all return to Washington. However, depending on the number of PVSers going to Steamboat, there is a possibility that we might have a trip leader from the PVS group who will lead the trip in its entirety.

The trip costs are as follows: \$999 pp. two per room, seniors 70+; \$1144 pp. 2 per room, seniors 65 to 69; and \$1199 pp, 2 per room, adults with five-day Steamboat lift pass. The price is based upon a MINIMUM of 24 participants.

Please, ASAP, send your deposit check for \$100 made out to George E. Hicho at 7404 Cliffbourne Ct., Derwood, MD 20855-1101. Horstman's agency, at no cost to PVS, has give us until JUNE 9th to determine the number of PVSers that will take this trip. If the trip is a go, you will be contacted as to payment schedule; otherwise your deposit will be returned to you..

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### Ski Snowmass, CO Fri. Jan. 18 - Fri. Jan. 25, 2002

Apparently Snowmass, CO is very popular with PVS as the trip is now full. While there is a short waiting list, we urge you to call to get on the list - cancellations always occur; no deposit check is required to be on the waiting list so just call Barbara or Fred Leonhardt at 301-963-8111 for more information. Unfortunately United Airlines is still delaying setting their discount rates for ski season so we do not have a final price for the trip as yet: we might alter the trip to fly just to Denver and motorcoach to Snowmass from there. Our lodging is set. The Snowmass Mountain Chalet (SMC) reminds one of the ski lodges in New England; the large sitting room, with its comfy chairs, big fireplace, and windows overlooking the slopes, enhances the character of this slope side lodge. Trip goers should not expect the grandeur of a large hotel with massive lobby, uniformed bell caps and desk clerks, etc. The SMC has superb ski in/ski out location, very well appointed rooms, and the ambiance of a small, 64-room ski lodge. For more information, check the web site at [www.mountainchalet.com](http://www.mountainchalet.com). The trip includes: pre-trip dinner; air to Denver or Eagle-Vail and return; motor coach to/from hotel; 7 nights double occupancy; 7 breakfasts; complimentary soup lunch each day; wine and cheese welcome; 3 apres ski; 3 group dinners; baggage handling; and 5-day lift ticket good at all 4 Aspen mountains. Deposits are totally refundable until August 15.

## *PVS Chamonix 2002*

Friday, 8 March through Saturday, 16 March, with optional extension to Lyon and nearby wine regions.

PVS will be joining other Blue Ridge Ski Council clubs for six days of skiing in legendary Chamonix, France. This traditional European area with over 70 pistes in six major areas, provides ample skiing for all abilities. We will be staying at the 3-star Hotel Alpina, a lively modern hotel near to town attractions and lifts.



In addition, we are investigating an optional 3 or 4-day extension of wine-tasting and exploring in the Beaujolais and Cotes-du-Rhone regions outside Lyon, France. These areas date their wine production back to Roman times. (We will, however, be sampling somewhat younger wines!) Lyon itself is a natural for PVS as it bills itself as the gastronomic capital of the world – whether you choose Michelin 3-star fare or the humble “bouchons” serving local specialties.

Prices are not yet firm, but we are estimating \$1390 for the base trip, which includes breakfast and dinner in Chamonix with special BRSC & PVS events during the week but does not include lift tickets.

Reserve your space now with a check payable to “PVS Chamonix 2002” in the amount of \$200 per person. Deposits are fully refundable until July when details are made final. Mail to Jim Slack or Mary Ward. For more information call Jim & Mary at 703-754-8814.

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### PAST EVENT

## **19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SPRING FLING By Charles Huggins**

**PVSers had a corporate table for 10 at the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Spring Fling held at the Pooks Hill Bethesda Marriott Hotel on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 300 people attended the event. The silent auction had skis, softball equipment, tennis rackets, posters, and clothing items to bid on. Jack Peoples concentrated on ski gloves, but was out bid near the end.**

**The buffet dinner consisted of roast beef, turkey breast, two kinds of pasta, green salad, rolls, and pastries.**

**Fred Zedeck did his usual super job as auctioneer. Bob and Jan. Marx were the high bidders on a trip to Crystal Mountain Resort 75 miles from Seattle on Mount Rainer. The live auction raised \$34,750, and adding this to the silent auction the event raised just over \$50,000 for Disabled Sports USA.**

March 15-30, 2002, join Nancy and Ray McKinley for

## *A Grand European Ski Extravaganza and Sailing Holiday*

- *A Week in 4 Star Luxury in Méribel, the Jewel of the 70,000 acre Les Trois Vallées in the Midst of the Spectacular French Alps*
  - *5 Day Cruise Amongst the Picturesque Greek Isles, 2 Days in Athens*
  - *Plus A Spectacular 2-day Add-on in Historic Istanbul, Turkey!*
- **Do both weeks, or either week by itself (call us for options).**
  - **This trip follows, and can be coupled with, the BRSC trip to Chamonix.**

Méribel is arguably the **world's greatest resort**. Perfectly situated in the center of *Les Trois Vallées* area of France – the largest **interlinked ski area in the world**. It has over 70,000 acres--some 15 times the size of Vail! There are over 230 lifts, 600 km of slopes, and endless off-slope possibilities. Ski all three of the gorgeous valleys, or take a day off for super shopping. Skiing is perfect for beginners, intermediates and advanced skiers. It has superb off-piste skiing, and a lift system as near perfect as possible. Lift tickets are not included. They average \$24 per day, 20% off over age 65, half price over age 70, free over 75. In Méribel, accommodations are at the **Four Star Le Grand Coeur Hotel**, on the slopes, in Méribel's best location. They include full daily breakfasts and gourmet, multi-course dinners.

- *Le Grand Coeur Hotel is part of the Relais & Chateau group which includes the Inn at Little Washington!*
- *Le Grand Coeur's restaurant, where we have our meals, is amongst the highest rated in Méribel.*

Our second week is in **Greece**. 2 nights lodging at the Hotel Stanley, downtown Athens with breakfasts and tour of the **Acropolis** and Athens included. Depart Athens Monday on Royal Olympic Cruise Lines in **upgraded cabins**. Visit Kusadasi and Ephesus, fabled Turkish sites, as well as the most famous Greek Islands, **Mykonos**, Patmos, Rhodes, Crete, and Santorini. On our return, we have a **tour to Delphi** with lunch. Too soon, March 30 we return to the United States.

- **SPECTACULAR PACKAGE TO TURKEY:** A special 2 night add-on in Istanbul with air from Athens to Istanbul, lodging in the 4 star Taxim Plaza, a day tour of Istanbul, the world famous bazaars, **Haggia Sophia** and lunch. Return April 1.

**Package Price:** Estimated \$2900 pp (maximum), two per Hotel Room/Cabin Includes all gratuities for baggage handling & port taxes. Price is dependent on air price. Turkey add-on price about \$375.

**Only 30 spaces available.** To reserve, send your check for \$250 to Ray McKinley (refundable through July) at 2326 North Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207. Please call us for more information at (703) 527-7126.

### WELCOME TO NEW PVS MEMBERS

Mike Hatanaka  
Judy Dietrich Jones  
Ray Jones

Carolyn Maurer  
Eloise Strand  
Michael Strand

new address

- > Kathy and Don Dillon
- > 27 October Glory Ave.
- > PO Box 1389
- > Ocean View, DE 19970-1389
- > Phone: 302 537 7878
- >

## PAST EVENTS

YUP, YOU'D BETTER BELIEVE IT! Nine of us PVS cowhands hightailed it on over to that best little whorehouse in TEXAS the other day and y'know we had a helluva good time---!

Now that I've got your attention with that introduction, I do want to report that nine staid, very proper PVSers attended the revival of the musical comedy "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" at the National Theater. We took in a matinee performance on Saturday, May 19. The show, starring Ann-Margaret (as the Madam) was quite enjoyable with good songs and singing and excellent, vibrant dancing. We had a "fun time". Ann-Margaret, somewhat past her prime, still has great stage presence even with somewhat reduced physical activity.

After the show, and after getting past the crowds attending the chili food festival that had taken over Pennsylvania Avenue, four of us proceeded to the Les Halles restaurant (about a block away on Pennsylvania Avenue) for a nice, relaxed dinner--a benefit of dining after the show.

Finally, we must thank Margaret Wyckoff for "doing" the tickets and reservation and obtaining choice orchestra seating. She also selected an excellent wine for dinner!

...Nat Seeman

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And oh! what a night it was!

At the May meeting that was. The people kept coming and coming--and the food kept coming and coming! The people finally totalled 77 and they all found parking places somewhere. Of the food only three crackers, two cookies, and two onions were left after the last of the guests exited!

Barbara and Fred Leonhardt, always wonderful hosts, surely outdid themselves this time with a myriad of crab and assorted other puffs, egg rolls, meatballs, spinach balls. Everything delicious. Too bad for the folk who stood on the gracious desk admiring the view and the spring weather--they found much food had disappeared when they reentered the house.

Prexy Flaherty introduced the members of ExCom and the Board. Reports were heard from the various trip leaders--only uncertainty about energy prices seems to hold up final arrangements. So big has been the response for the Snowmass trip, there will be an effort to put together a December trip to Steamboat. And again to the Sheraton!

Thank you Barbara and Fred for another exceedingly special evening in your home.





## THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

OK it's June, but I still have ski stuff (a technical term). 2

weeks ago, in Las Vegas, I drove 35 miles and up some 6,000 feet to the base of Mt Charles, a ski area set amongst 4-foot-diameter pines. The lifts were closed but the runs were covered with snow. And (young) people were hiking up to ski down.

Having *seen* skiing in late May, I couldn't claim the title of latest skier--but it has changed hands. Last month I reported that Dave Lerner skied last--April 2 at Whistler. Betty Lawrence (more on her below) called to put in a bid--she skied at Vail on April 15. Her record was intact for all of 2 hours, as the selfsame Dave Lerner claimed it back. Dave skied at Araphoe Basin on April 19. It's not too late! Araphoe Basin, Whistler, Mammoth Mt. and Tahoe all are planning to be open 'til July 4. I'd call first!

I am breaking a confidence by telling you what follows. However, so many have asked, and there is so much incorrect information, that I feel I must. As many of you know, PVS' *grand dame* Lu Beale has had significant sight in only one eye--and that eye has macular degeneration. Like Marianne Cook, Lu goes for experimental laser treatment to prevent further degeneration.

The morning after a treatment several weeks ago, Lu awoke and could see only fuzzy blobs. Her treatment had ruptured a vessel which hemorrhaged and clouded her eye. Today, Lu cannot read, or play cards, or drive. Being Lu Beale, she doesn't want to talk about it, to receive cards, or especially sympathy. She is upbeat, coping, and developing new skills. There is still hope. The blood could clear itself out in a few months, or it could be drained surgically. Please don't tell Lu you saw this. She cannot read this herself, so if she finds out, I'll know you told her--and I'll never tell you nottin' again!!

On the positive vision side, Rachel Abraham had secondary cataract surgery. It

worked perfectly; her vision is now better than 20-20, and she is back doing wonderful computer-based art in full force! Right on!

Marianne Cook is back from a lengthy visit to Austria. Despite a fractured wrist, she plans to return there in late June.

Speaking of late June, the longest day of the year is June 22. Then it's all down hill (to coin a phrase) to winter. But patience is essential. After all, nine women can't make a baby in one month.

Late, June--the world simply whizzes by. Albert Einstein understood it. Time is relative (not like your mother-in-law). As you get older time moves faster (also not like your mother-in-law).

Let me update you on Betty Lawrence. You should come to the June meeting at Betty's; it will be our last ever there. Two days after the meeting, her house goes on the market. She is having a new house built in South Bethaknee--near Don and Kathy Dillon. Betty has also bought a trailer, in case her new home isn't ready in time. She will also spend considerable time in Colorado, where her daughter now lives. Betty, all of PVS will miss our hostess with the mostess!

At PVS' trip to see "Whorehouse," as usual, Nat Seeman was, ahem, nattily attired.

Stolen moments... While Jack Peoples was having dinner in Georgetown with a friend, his car was stolen--making it a very expensive dinner!

While we are having spring here, Barbara Wilson reports the average May temperature in her part of the Dakotas is in the 40's. Brrrr. She warmed up a bit by vacationing in New Orleans.

New member Carolyn Maurer is back from several weeks biking in Europe. Aside from trekking through the tulips in Holland, Carolyn also biked in Italy and London. Biking across the Channel was a real trip highlight!! Bike on!

Our Arizona contingent, Irene and Jack Ragen were in town for a graduation. They visited, amongst others Lu Beale and TOOT editor, Jessma Blockwick.

After years of wanting to, Bob Harmon is now taking fencing lessons. Great! The Knee kneads a 6 ft chain link. Me and my *rapier* wit!

**CALENDAR**

- June 19 .... Monthly meeting at Betty Lawrence's, pp 1 & 2**
- June 21 .... Bicycling Gourmet, Middleburg, p. 2**
- June 23 .... Spring Dinner, p. 2**
- June 25 .... Hike at Riverbend Park, p. 3**
- July 26 .... Bike Ride on C&O Canal, Great Falls to Seneca**
- July 26 .... ExCom at the Flakes'**
- July 14 .... Annual All-Ski-Trips Party, p. 3**
- July 24 .... ExCom in Annapolis with Pat Tengel and John Smith**
- Aug. 2 .... Golf at Leisure World, p. 3**
- Aug. 5 .... Summer Theater at Olney, p. 4**
- Aug. 10 .... Beer Tasting and Picnic at the Sharers', p. 4**
- Aug. 24 .... to 26, Weekend at Blue Knob**
- Aug. 28 .... ExCom at the Flahertys**
- Sept. 15 .... BRSC picnic with other ski clubs**
- Sept. 22 .... Oktoberfest at Mary Ward and Jim Slack's**

**PVS Website: <http://www.homestead.com/pvskiers>**

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