



TOOT



Volume XLI No. 7

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc

June, 2005

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

www.potomacvalleyskiers.org

info@potomacvalleyskiers.org

President's Message

Fellow PVSers:

Another month has slipped by, and to quote a headline, published just a little prematurely, in SKI magazine: Summer's Here, together, somehow, we'll get through this. Indeed, if summer is here, and surely soon it really will be, can winter be far behind? As members of this august club, while some of us are naturally impatient to see that first snowfall again, we should be patient for this to happen because of the wonderful array of events we have planned already for the intervening period.

What you see in this issue of Toot isn't all yet. At our May ExCom meeting I have requested our not otherwise already heavily committed ExComers and Chairs to avail themselves to champion additional club activities, to include our popular museum and garden visits, more performances, and collective outings. The latter will, I hope, populate our fall programs when the weather turns again to comfortably accommodate outdoors activities.

For now we also have no fewer than five sanctioned ski trips to contemplate and reserve for. To my knowledge this is an unprecedented variety of exciting trips for which we owe much thanks to our constantly exceptionally performing trip leaders and our ever vigilant ski-trip committee. Don't let another year go by without availing yourself of this riches of superbly run trips to most desirable venues the ski and see world have to offer.

Lastly let me remind you that your officers and Excom members are looking always for your comments and suggestions so that collectively we all get "the greatest bang" from our membership in PVS. It's to that end that we need members' participation and cross-fertilization of actionable ideas and agreeableness to step forward and implement.

Have a great summer, enjoy the music, the trips, and the rest of our programs.

David

June Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, June 21, 2005 7:30PM

Home of Bob and Karen Knopes

9607 Laurel Oak Place

Fairfax Station, VA 22039

(703) 690-2039

Come join your fellow PVSers and celebrate the beginning of summer.

DIRECTIONS

From DC. - Take Route 395 south. Exit on Route 644 West (OLD KEENE MILL ROAD) at Springfield. Proceed about 5 miles on Old Keene Mill, turn LEFT onto LEE CHAPEL ROAD (Route 643). Follow Lee Chapel to OX ROAD (Route 123). Turn LEFT onto Ox Road, then left onto SOUTH RUN OAKS DRIVE. Make an immediate left onto OAK HOLLOW LANE. LAUREL OAK PLACE is the 2nd sign-posted street to the RIGHT. We are the 2nd house on the right on the private road at the end.

From MARYLAND - Take the Braddock Road West exit from 495. At fifth stop light turn left onto Burke Lake Road. At the fifth stop light turn left onto Lee Chapel Road (Route 643). Follow Lee Chapel to Ox Road (Route 123). Turn left onto SOUTH RUN OAKS DRIVE. Make an immediate left onto OAK HOLLOW LANE. LAUREL OAK PLACE is the 2nd sign-posted street to the RIGHT. We are the 2nd house on the right on the private road at the end.

Please park in the cul de sac before entering our private road.

Local and Regional Events

Brandywine Valley Tour

June 4-5, 2005

Past deadline date: Check with Nancy McKinley at (703) 527-7126 or by email (nmckinley@convera.com) for any last minute possibilities due to cancellations.



BICYCLING GOURMET

Virginia Hunt Country

Sunday, June 19, 2005 10:30 AM
Starting Point: The Plains, Virginia



Starting Point: Proceed 33 miles on I-66 from the Beltway to Exit 31 (The Plains). Turn right at exit ramp onto Rte, 245 and proceed 1.1 miles into The Plains. Turn right onto Rte. 55 and then almost immediately left onto Loudon Ave (Rte 626 – sign to Middleburg; gas station on corner) and proceed only 200 yards to a railroad crossing. Turn left here (do not cross tracks) and park on road along side the railroad tracks

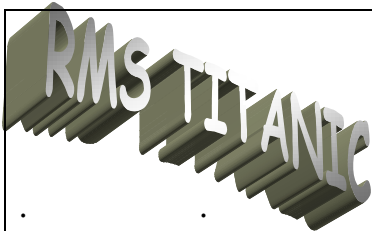
Route: Join us on this scenic route on country roads with very little traffic. Start in village of The Plains, where there will be an eleven mile loop followed by an optional five mile gradual uphill with return to The Plains for picnic lunch (bring your own, purchase takeout in the Plains, [and maybe bring a little extra to share]).

Leaders: Marvin Hass [mhass@mailaps.org] (703) 751-4737 and Betty Byrne (202) 483-4048.

Note: Starting time listed above is when cyclists actually depart; please arrive earlier to allow sufficient time to set up your equipment. Latecomers: Leader will leave map on rear window wiper of Chrysler minivan.

Previous Ride Review: Finally, rare good weather for a great May 26 ride along Chesapeake Bay.

Next ride: Thursday July 21 C&O Canal Towpath



On Thursday **June 23**, PVS will have a trip to Baltimore to see a special exhibit of RMS Titanic artifacts. We will have lunch in the Inner Harbor.

Call **Dave DeVilbiss** at 703-370-4865 or **Pat Vagonis** at 301-838-5545 for details.



Saturday July 16 All Trips Party at the Sharers

Find out about the various ski trips for 2006 on a lazy Saturday afternoon. Here is your chance to meet the trip leaders. Details in July TOOT

Local and Regional Events

SUMMER MUSIC AT STRATHMORE



We are fortunate to be able to repeat and enlarge our previous years' enjoyment of free concerts on the Strathmore lawn. Thanks to the new and fabulous concert hall, Strathmore offers a two part program consisting of Summer Serenades Outdoor Concerts, followed by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra in the Music Center. PVS will attend two performances. In brief, they are:

July 14: Chris Norman Ensemble-Summer Serenades on the lawn at 7pm, then the **BSO in the Concert Hall at 8pm** with Mark Wigglesworth conducting a varied program including the

Dvorak Cello Concerti played by Ilya Finkelsteyn.

The lawn serenade is free, the BSO part is \$ 10 for a reserved seat.

July 28: Michael Bard Classical Guitar Trio-Summer Serenades also on the lawn at 7, and then again **the BSO with Jeffrey Kahane conducting and the Baltimore Choral Arts Society** in a program including Bethoven's Ninth.

We'll be meeting on the lawn at about 6:30 on each date; bring your own picnic and seating, low beach chairs or blankets. If you wish to attend the BSO part, please send a check for \$ 10 for each person, made out and sent to John Smith, 8174 Inverness Ridge Road, Potomac, MD 20854. Indicate which program you are attending. Any questions, call John at 301 299-8378. Program details are at www.strathmore.org

The deadline for reserving BSO tickets, for both concerts is June 24

If you haven't seen and experienced the incredible acoustics of this great concert hall, do take advantage of this exceptional opportunity while also enjoying the company and friendship of your PVS friends.

David Abraham

PVS Finger Lakes Wine Tour

AUGUST 25-29, 2005

Deadline date passed, but check with David or Susan Payne. phone (607) 292 3701

email: vineyard100@worldnet.att.net for any vacancies due to cancellations.



Crabfest Saturday, September 3, 2005

This great event is back after an absence of about 5 years. It will be held by Betty Lawrence at her newly renovated Vienna (VA) home. Traditionally, Betty orders bushels of crabs and the rest of us bring salad, dessert or uncrabby food which can be grilled.

Rain date, Sunday, September 4th

Watch for the detail in future Toots.

Left: Crabfest Sept. 2000

Sheldon Drews displaying his technique at extracting the good stuff.

Local and Regional Events

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY Of the Founding of **POTOMAC VALLEY SKIERS**

Saturday, the Fifth of November Two Thousand Five
At Six O'Clock PM

BOLGER CENTER
9600 Newbridge Drive
Potomac, MD 20854

Featuring
Camaraderie, Dinner, Entertainment

Reception – 6:00 to 7:00 o'clock with Hors D'oeuvres and Cash Bar
Dinner and Program – 7:00 to 9:00 o'clock.

RSVP. Early reservations are imperative. \$59/person

Check payable to Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

Mail to: Rachel Abraham

6201 Hollins Drive

Bethesda, MD 20817-2348

Inquiries: (301) 530-7612 email: rhabraham@aol.com

SPECIAL REQUEST: Please send photos for retrospective PVS slide show to info@potomacvalleyskiers.org or to Rachel (address above) or bring to any meeting.

Monthly Meeting Review May 17, 2005



The May monthly PVS meeting took place in the delightful (Cleveland Park, DC) town home of applicant members Joe Jevcak and Liz Warren-Boulton. Attendance was about forty including Sheldon Drews, who hasn't let a recent quadruple heart bypass surgery problem interfere with attending this event. Maryann Cook came in a taxi and several arrived by Metro. Sunbird Sue Walsh is now back from AZ for the summer. Burr Schuler brought his brother who is visiting from Illinois. The meeting was conducted by Ray McKinley in the absence of the club president and VP. The new applicant members were introduced and we hope they will be able to participate in future club activities. Applicant Liz not only excelled as meeting hostess, but skis superbly as well. Finally, the status of future local events and ski trips were reviewed. While the Brandywine and Finger Lakes trip deadlines have passed, there is possibility that anyone wishing to go on might be able to do so because of cancellations. The five ski trips for 2006 certainly do look very appealing. PVSers are urged to consider and sign up for these pronto if interested as space is limited.



ExCom Meeting Review: May 24, 2006. The ExCom discussed various matters relating to PVS including future local events and trying to fulfill the desires of the members. In addition, PVS is in the process of changing its incorporation from DC to VA. **Copy for TOOT: toot@potomacvalleyskiers.org**

2006 Ski Trips

SNOWMASS 2006



PVS is again heading to Snowmass and the Mountain Chalet (see photo on left), January 19 through 26, 2006. Join us for this perennial favorite. The trip will feature slope-side lodging with access to the extensive Snowmass trail system, and free bus service to Aspen Highlands, Ajax Mountain, and Buttermilk ski areas with interchangeable lift tickets.

A stay at the charming Mountain Chalet includes a daily family-style breakfast and lunch. Plans are being arranged that will include group dinners, après ski parties, air fare, lift tickets, and more. We are currently working on flight arrangements into Aspen.

For more information:

Contact trip leaders Carolyn Maurer and David DeVilbiss at 703-370-4865 or by email at carolyn.maurer@verizon.net.

To reserve:

- Send deposit of \$250 per person to:
Carolyn Maurer at 4508 Peacock Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304 or carolyn.maurer@verizon.net
- Note "PVS-Snowmass 2006" on the memo line.

Telluride 2006

Telluride, Colorado, February 2-9, 2006

A first class trip with 7 nights lodging at the ski-in/ski-out Wyndham Peaks Resort and Golden Door Spa at the Mountain Village, which includes access to the 42,000 square foot Spa and Ski Valet. An all Western experience! All taxes and daily maid service fees included. A Velvet Glove welcome wine and cheese orientation party included with a five day ski pass. Sixth day ski pass optional for an extra fee. Two group dinners, two après ski parties, pre and post trip parties and hotel baggage valet included. We depart on United Airlines #399 Washington Dulles 6:15 AM, arrive Denver 11:31 AM; depart Denver 8:55AM # 6293 and arrive Montrose 9:57 AM. Roundtrip van to Telluride and return to Montrose. (The Telluride airport is closed 60% of the time for weather in February.) We depart Montrose on United flight #6293 10:30 AM on the 9th and arrive Denver 11:31 AM; then depart Denver on flight #316 at 12:30 PM arriving Dulles 5:50 PM.

All the above for \$1,988 per person, double occupancy. Land only price \$1,588. Trip insurance is highly recommended; rates are not yet available. A minor price adjustment is possible based on potential airline fuel surcharges. Trip leaders are making a survey trip to Telluride in June. The back bowl(s) have now been connected to the front resort by lift. Gondola ride from the Village to the Town of Telluride approximately 13 minutes. Half of each slope is groomed; even the most difficult. Degree of difficulty approximately equal between green, blue and black. Join Gene and Wilma for this deluxe February Western ski experience. If you don't have a cowboy hat, get one!

For more info, call Wilma Sharer at 301-975-9411 or email at wilma@sharerassociates.com.

A TRIP FLYER IS NOW AVAILABLE:

2006 Ski Trips

February 17-March 5, 2006, join **Nancy and Ray McKinley to Ski**

See Scandinavia, Ski Lillehammer

Join us on a 17-day, 4 or 5 Country Scandinavian see and ski tour. This trip will be suitable for skiers and nonskiers. Fly from Dulles to Oslo with **touring in and around Oslo including a visit to the Viking Ship's Museum with 3 preserved Viking long ships from the 9th to 13th centuries.** We'll also visit the Edvard Munch museum and see his paintings—including "the Scream," and many of Oslo's other sights.

Thereafter it's off to the home of the 1994 Winter Olympics, picturesque, charming Lillehammer, Norway. We'll stay in the quaint downtown area, on the *Storget*, the pedestrian mall. Skiing will be at *Hafjells*, location of the Olympics ski events. **Hafjells has over 15 miles of runs, high mountain slopes and sheltered forest terrain, powder runs and packed slopes for all levels. It has 9 lifts and over a 2,800 foot vertical.** We may also ski Kviteseid some 40 mins. away, where the 1994 Olympics held the downhill and Super-G. Nonskiers will visit Lillehammer's museums including the Olympic Museum and the "*Volksmuseum*" where 200 buildings, some from the 15th Century have been brought, completely furnished, and assembled into "villages." Or there is the opportunity for cross country skiing, snowshoeing or hiking.

Then we're off to Scandinavia's 14th century capitol, Stockholm, built on 14 islands, centered on the fortress *Gamla Stan*, now a warren of narrow, cobbled streets lined with shops and boutiques. An 11-day package, leaving after a day in Stockholm, will accommodate those wishing to join the BRSC Val Gardena trip. We remain and tour Stockholm's attractions including the restored 16th century warship, Gustav Vasa, and historic old town.

From Stockholm, we are still considering options. We will certainly take an overnight cruise on one of the huge ships where we'll all have private suites. We'll cross the Baltic Sea either to Tallinn, the capital of Estonia; Helsinki or Copenhagen. Tallinn is a beautifully preserved medieval city including 29 12th Century watchtowers, topped by pointy red roofs. In Copenhagen, Hans Christian Anderson's city, we will visit the Dutch Renaissance Rosenborg Castle and the Carlsberg Museum and Brewery. Helsinki, Finland is the newest of the Scandinavian capitals, founded in 1550, and completely rebuilt in 1812.

INTERESTED? Call us (703 527-7126) to say which cities/countries you would like to visit.

We expect the 17 day trip will cost around \$3,000. Prices and details of which countries we visit will be finalized after our visit, in early June. **Due to the logistics of this trip we have only 30 spaces.** To reserve, send your check for \$350 per person payable to Ray McKinley (refundable through Aug 1) and send it to McKinley's, 2326 N Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207. Please call us for more information at (703) 527-7126.

March 3 - 11, 2006

Val Gardena

Dick Comerford will be leading the PVS part of BRSC's Eurofest trip.

Tel: (703) 777-9374 dick.comerford@adelphia.net

Nestled beneath the towering pink spires of the Dolomiti peaks, the **Val Gardena** offers an ideal mix of the Italian and German cultures. The valley stretches down from the peaks to a pastoral alpine valley, opening finally into the main thoroughfare near Bolzano and the Brenner Pass. The three villages of the **Val Gardena**—Selva, Ortisei, and Santa Cristina—each bring a unique personality to the valley's culture. **Val Gardena** has been voted as **one of the** most beautiful ski resorts in the world.

Skiers come from around the world to take advantage of the extensive terrain of the renowned Sella Ronda, a 26-kilometer (16-mile) circuit of trails and stunning views skiable in a single day by even the least proficient intermediate skiers. Great skiing will be available to everyone, with more than 1180 km ski runs along with 464 ski lifts, and some of Europe's best snowmaking and grooming.

PVS is joining the Blue Ridge Ski Council (BRSC) to take advantage of this winter enchantment! BRSC is expecting over 300 participants, for what should be a cost effective alternative to an expensive European vacation. PVS will be staying in a separate **** hotel that is well known for its good food and wellness center. Through the BRSC program there will be special get-togethers, tours and programs for non-skiers. **HOWEVER**, all the details and options of this trip have not yet been finalized. Please watch Toot for all the details when they are available. There is still time to do some customization to the trip; I am interested in hearing people's interests.

2006 Ski Trips/Calendar



March 27-April 3, 2006



Extend your ski season by discovering (or rediscovering) Winter Park, Colorado. This is an immense ski area that is one of the closest resorts to Denver. Winter Park has a 3,060' vertical, 20 lifts (8 high-speed quads), and 2,770 skiable acres. Terrain is well varied with a wide choice for every skiing preference.

Lodging details were still being negotiated at press time. We will stay at the base with ski in/ski out lodging. Price will be about \$1300 for those 69 and under, or about \$1200 for those 70 and above. The price includes air transportation to Denver, ground transfers to the resort, and luxury lodging well as all breakfasts, 3 dinners and after-ski parties.

Call Dave Lerner at 703-281-6923 for more information.

CALENDAR (2005-06)

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| Aug 25-29 | | Finger Lakes Wine Tour | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Oct 1 | Sat | Oktoberfest at Slack/Ward's | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nov 5 | Sat | 40 th Anniversary Party at the Bolger Center (evening) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan 19-26 | | Snowmass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Change of postal or e-mail address:

Call Wilma at (301) 975-9411
or send e-mail message to
wilma@sharerassociates.com

E-mail Notice

If you want to start receiving Toot electronically, or change the e-format you receive, please let me know.

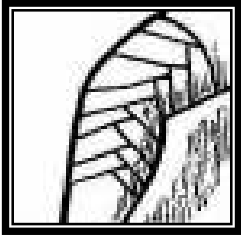
Thanks, Jan = jebbmarx@aol.com.

CURRENT PVS BOARD & OFFICERS - 2005-06

President - *David Abraham*
Vice President - *Mike Strand*
Secretary - *Jessma Blockwick*
Treasurer - *Ray Jones*
Membership - *Wilma Sharer*
Events - *Ray McKinley*
Mid-week Events - *Dave DeVilbiss*

Webmaster - *Marvin Hass*
40th Anniversary Chair - *Rachel Abraham*
Ski Trip Cmte Chair - *Bob Marx*
TOOT Editor - *Jan Marx*
TOOT Mailer - *Marilyn Clark*
Meeting Records - *Sara Huggins*
Historian - *Jan Marx*

First Term:
Charlotte Eddy
Burr Schuler
Dick Schwartzbard
Second Term:
Marilyn Clark
Dave DeVilbiss
Sharon Mulholland



THE KNEE

By Ray McKinley

The Knee has moved up in the world! Not that I'm counting, but since September of 1979, my logo has had the Knee rotated 90 deg clock-wise. It's as if I was in bed with my leg in the air. After 25+ years, and with the help of our TOOT editor Jan Marx, I'm out of bed with foot on the ground. A slow recovery, but Whoopee!

As you read this, the Knee and Nancy are flying back from Scandinkneevia getting ready for our ski trip there this coming winter. And, boy, are our arms tired!

A tip of the ol' Knee Cap to Ski Trip Chair Bob Marx. For the first time in memorknee, PVS this winter will offer five ski trips. Bob called Dick Comerford, who ran wonderful trips to Steamboat several years ago (OK, so it was 15-20 years ago!). Dick will run the PVS trip, part of the BRSC group, to Val Gardina, Italy. Ciao!

From the Knee's PVS Always Means Four Star Dining Department: The ski trip committee, because Chairman Bob Marx' house wasn't recovered from water damage, met for a meal. They met at the Silver Diner. *Bon Appetit!*

Suzanne Boisclair was one of the club's late season skiers. She went with the World Bank to Borneo, Italy.

Is the skiing population getting older? You bet your sweet bippy. The May issue of Ski Magazine had a full page ad for, of all things, Viagra! How can it possibly be?

ExCom news: Mike Strand, newly elected PVS VEEP, has resigned as a member of ExCom. He has been replaced by Sharon Mulholland. Congrats to both. Further, club secretary, Dottie Villers, because of a new job with oodles of travel, has also resigned. Former TOOT editor Jessma Blockwick will replace Dottie and will now be doing our minutes. And Jessma promises to do them in seconds!

Some insider news: There are two versions of TOOT each month. No, they aren't PG and X rated. Each month TOOT editor Janet Marx assembles everything for our color, e-mail version. And TOOT is shipped out in two different versions, a Word version and a PDF version. Bob Marx then converts it from

html (which the Knee believes stands for "His TOOT Munches Lettuce") into a text (which spies tell me stands for "TOOT's Extremely Xenophobic Text") version, which is printed and goes out via Snail-Mail through the US Postal Service.

A dozen PVSers attended the annual commercial ski group show, near White Flint. (A strange name. Will there soon be other Malls named Green Flint and Black Flint Mall? And a discount Mall named Skin Flint.) After the show there was a drawing for Door Prizes. (With nary a door given away.) However PVS came away as winners! Pres David Abraham won a weekend ski pass to the BelAire Ski area, in NY (which none of the PVS contingent had ever heard of). Nancy McKinley won a baseball cap from the same area. Expect to see both of these great items as door prizes at our 40th Ankneeversary Party—where they also, as of today, have no doors to give away.

Charlie Huggins and the Knee won T-shirts. These were upgraded gifts as others merely received S-shirts. David Lerner won a Snowshoe Polo shirt, Sara Huggins a ski vest and Eloise Strand won a baseball cap. Right on!

Since the Knee has now been around for more than 25 years, here is the first installment of a new feature—as we were a Quarter Century Ago. The following is from the June 1979 Knee. Do these events bring back any memorknees?

"On an overcast and drizzling Monday, May 14, 1979, Lu Beale and Adele Waggaman loaded down with ski equipment, climbed Mt Washington and skied down Tuckerman's Ravine. Thus unless someone is planning a trip to Chile this summer, they can claim to be PVS's latest skiers of the 1978-1979 season."

"Pres Marilyn Clark has apparently changed her tune from anti to pro Eastern Ski Association. Could this have anything to do with a visit to her office by the Association's Director? Or were they really talking about sailboats?"

"It was a pleasure to see Carol Parmenter at Don and Pat Cope's International Dinner. Some of us were able to visit Don's basement and see his newly completed replica of a medieval torture device. It's called a whine rack. Great for stretching your wine!"

"The Knee doesn't normally answer reader's questions. However, last month, Mort and Angela Kuff posed a plaintive question, which I must answer. 'In England, *en lieu* of a loo, you use your shoe. That's what you do, you use your shoe. Oh pooo.'"