

VOLUME XXXV

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

MARCH 2001

NUMBER THREE

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

Fellow PVSers:

The ski year is in full force and my tenure as President of PVS is winding down. It's been a learning experience for me to be in this position and I appreciate the opportunity you've given me. (But the farewell speech will come next time!)

While I'm closing out my term I've been considering my last acts as President. This is the chance for me to really make an impact. For example, I'm considering what PVS furniture I'd like to take with me into private life. Just a few things - I'm sure the donors meant them for me and not future PVS Presidents, right?

I also just heard that the thing you're supposed to do in this situation is grant pardons to those most deserving, so please let me know if you have anyone in mind whose crimes have been so heinous that only my pardon will save them. And don't forget to send money for my consideration so I can give it my full attention. Some crimes, however, are beyond redemption - like bad puns - so watch out, Kneel!

...see you on the slopes,

Nancy
Nancy



MONTHLY MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2001, 7:30 PM
HOME OF JOHN AND RAMONA MATTHEWS
9214 MIDWOOD ROAD
SILVER SPRING, MD; PHONE 301-589-7612

SEE DIRECTIONS ON NEXT PAGE.

Home of John & Ramona Matthews, 9214 Midwood Road

Silver Spring MD; Phone: 301-589-7612

Directions: Take Beltway Exit 31 south on Georgia Avenue (Route 97) toward Silver Spring.

After 7:00 pm: Get over to the left lane on Georgia Ave., go 0.3 mile, turn left at the second traffic signal into Columbia Blvd (Route 391). Note two Exxon gas stations on the far corners. Move into the turning lane in the middle of Georgia Ave. Street name shortly changes to Dale Drive. Go 0.6 mile, turn right on Midwood Road. Note mailbox on near right corner. #9214 is the second house on the right: white painted brick, red door, wide driveway (early arrivals can park two abreast, three deep in the driveway).

Rush hour (4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.): Left turns from Georgia Avenue are restricted. From the end of the beltway ramp stay on Georgia Avenue (Route 97 South) for 0.7 mile. Pass three traffic signals, and turn left at the second street after the third signal, Highland Drive. [Note church on the right, brick gateposts on the left.] At the fourth intersection, turn left on Midwood Road. #9214 is the fifth house on the left.

Rush hour alternative (4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.) and if approaching from the east: Use Beltway Exit 30, take Colesville Road (Route 29) south towards Silver Spring. Go to the third traffic light (about 0.7 mile), turn right on Dale Drive (Route 391). Go about 0.5 mile, turn left on Midwood Road (bottom of second hill; mailbox on far left corner). No. 9214 is the second house on the right.



BICYCLING GOURMET

Glen Echo to Georgetown (and return)

Thursday, March 22, 2001 10:30 AM



Starting Point: Glen Echo/Clara Barton Parking Lot [West side of Glen Echo; on MacArthur Blvd. near Goldsboro Road]. Ride will proceed along MacArthur Blvd Bike Path, C&O Canal Towpath, and Capital Crescent Trails to Georgetown/Washington Harbour (arrive approximately 11:45 AM). Those wishing to can proceed further to the FDR Memorial. Planning on returning to Washington Harbour at 1:00 PM for a sit-down lunch at Tony & Joes waterfront pub/restaurant (outdoor tables, weather permitting). Total distance: 15-22 miles. [Short Towpath segment will not be used if muddy; any type of bike OK.] This ride is structured to accommodate all levels and is a good way to start out the season.

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



**TWO MORE CHANCES TO HEAR
RAMONA MATTHEWS PLAY!!!**

March 9 (Friday) CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT - 12:00 noon: At the noontime Friday Morning Music Club concert, Ramona Matthews's group, the Chesapeake String Quartet, will perform Prokofiev's String Quartet No. 1 in the Great Hall at Sumner School Museum, 17th and M Streets NW in Washington (across M Street from the National Geographic building). Two blocks from Farragut North Metro station. No admission charge. Info: call Ramona at 301-589-7612.

March 23 (Friday) 8:00 pm: The Chesapeake String Quartet, with Ramona Matthews on violin, will perform selections by Haydn, Beethoven and Prokofiev. Location: Schoolhouse at Great Falls Village, VA. Details: call Ramona at 301-589-7612. **Free, but donations accepted**



**WINE TASTING, DINNER AND OVERNIGHT
APRIL 7, 2001**

This is the second annual event at the Cope's home at Lake of the Woods near Fredericksburg. The event is limited to 20 people; check to seek if there are spaces. Room reservations this year have been made at the Hampton Inn. Those signed up should mail a check for \$60 made out to Don Cope and mailed to HC 75 Box 1780, 216 Mt Pleasant Dr., Locust Grove, VA 22508. Phone 540-972-9838.

PLEASE ADD THESE NEW ADDRESSES TO THE PVS ROSTER:

**MARYSE DELEVAUX
10492 B WEST FLORIDA AVE.
LAKEWOOD, CO 80232
303-989-4244**

**BARBARA & JONATHAN WILSON
721 9TH AVE., WEST
MOBRIDGE, S. DAKOTA 57601**

**HOWARD & JEAN HENSLEY
530 STANLEY AVE.
CLARKSBURG, W.VA. 26301
304-624-4367**

**DON & MARIJANE HARPER
138 ALWOODLEY RD.
WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23188**

**PENNY HANSHAW
P. O. Box 1388
OURAY, CO 81427
970-325-0731**

◆ *PVS Goes to the Theatre* ◆

Only 25 Seats Available. Act Now

*Ann Margaret in
The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*

A multimillion dollar new pre Broadway production. "Explodes Onstage" Playfully sexy, but never explicit. The show is PG, not R rated. "Ann Margaret shines." Now, this ground-breaking work is back. And we get it prior to New York PVS has special, group rate tickets at the National Theater for the smash, Tony Award Winning hit. We're going to the matinee, 2:00 pm performance on Saturday May 19. Tickets are \$69.00 each, that's 10% off the \$75.00 price (including \$1.50 per ticket handling). First come first served. Absolute deadline is March 20. Call Margaret Wyckoff at (301) 589-5532 now. And mail your check for \$69.00 per ticket, payable to her at 8100 Park Crest Dr. Silver Spring MD 20910. And let Margaret know if you want to join the group for dinner afterwards.

◆ *PVS Goes to the Theatre* ◆

Applicants who have fulfilled membership requirements and who will be voted on at the April meeting:

- Mike Hatanaka**
- Judy Dietrich Jones**
- Ray Jones**
- Carolyn Maurer**
- Eloise Strand**
- Michael Strand**

The Nominating Committee met on February 6 and nominated the following:

For President: Ned Flaherty

For two-year terms on the Executive Committee:

**Joan Flake
Eugene Sharer
Margaret Wyckoff**

The Committee consisted of Don Dillon, Charlotte Kline, Barbara Leonhardt, Ray McKinley, Mary Ward, and Marilyn Clark, Chair.

Additional nominations may be made by the signed proposal of any five active members presented to the membership at a business meeting at least one month prior to the April meeting.

PROPOSAL FOR CHANGES TO THE BY-LAWS:

Section III:

Paragraph B.

**Change "The President and three members" to
"The President, Vice President and three members"**

Paragraph D.

Strike "Vice President"

Paragraph H.

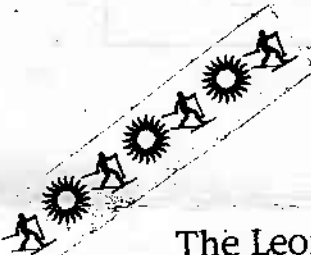
**Change "names of candidates at a business meeting" to
"names of candidates for President, Vice President, and Executive
Committee at a business meeting."**

**Signed: Mary Ellen Ward, Marilyn J. Clark, Donald E. Dillon, Charlotte R. Kline,
Barbara A. Leonhardt, Ray R. McKinley. Dated 6 February 2001.**

February Meeting Report

On a mild February evening 56 PSVers and guests met at the lovely home of Gene and Wilma Sharer in Potomac. The food was scrumptious -- ooh, those eclairs! Two "grazing stations" allowed plenty of access to the goodies. As you can imagine we all took advantage of that while sharing tales of the season's skiing so far and excitement over upcoming trips. Several people took advantage of the evening to visit the expansive deck, but we refrained from jumping in the pool.

Nancy McKinley was as efficient as usual in leading the business meeting. Ray McKinley was as persistent as usual in signing up the Sharer's to host the upcoming first annual beer tasting event. We will have another opportunity to visit this delightful place when the flowers will be blooming.Mary Ward



Steamboat Stories

The Leonhardts' pre-Steamboat party proved to be a harbinger of the quality of all activities to come — a very lively cocktail hour, followed by a sit-down dinner for forty — all prepared and served by Barbara and Fred. A fine beginning!

On arrival in Denver January 22 the DC group was joined by several friends from bygone years: Charlie from TX, Jacque from NY, Sue, Irene and Jack from AZ, Geoff from MA, and Nancy from CO. A joyful reunion!

This was supposed to be a ski trip, and it was, but it was so much more, socially and athletically. Our first memorable outing was a visit with friends of Sue Walsh, Jo and Jack Morrison, who live surrounded by windows, in a house facing mountains, in Steamboat during ski season and in Arizona off-season. A splendid cocktail buffet was served while PVS and Eers enjoyed the pleasure of refreshments, the beauty of the scenery and the cordiality of our host and hostess. By the time we said good-bye we were very good friends with the Morrisons and grateful for such a warm welcome to Steamboat.

The next morning, remembering what we came for, there was great activity.....locating, skis, renting skis, struggling into boots, etc. The majority took off for the slopes, but there were other pursuits: Carol, Dina, Margaret and Charlie opted for the balloon ride; Emmi and Bette chose the ice rink, where, with a coupon and a senior discount, the tariff came to zero. Later Carol found the snowmobile

ride thrilling, especially since her driver was "Chad," the World Champion Steer "Rassler." Margaret was so happy with her first massage that she went back again and again and again!

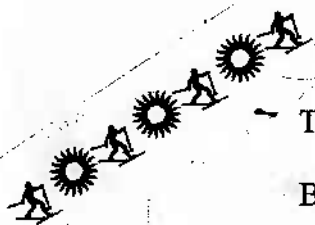
As promised, Fred led a group to Strawberrie Park where three springs, hot, hotter and hottest, kept us warm. In fact, we were so warm that our bathing suits became too heavy.....but who can complain about a little tasteful, underwater nudity among friends? The ride to and from over a twisting, turning, ice and snow-caked road was an experience. heightened by our humorous, speedy but excellent driver at the wheel.

Fortunately there was sufficient activity to counteract the sin of overindulgence at several get-togethers apres-ski chez Leonhardt, including a very convivial Super Bowl party, complete with beer and pizza, and excellent group dinners in town and the Grand's own "Chaps" and "The Cabin." In addition to aforementioned events, our leaders introduced two brain teasers, a crossword puzzle and a scavenger hunt for items and info. There were multiple prize winners, well rewarded but too numerous to list.

While all the extra-curricular activity was going on, be assured that the slopes were well visited by most of the 44 travelers. Our week ended without accident but not quite as early as expected. A four-hour delay in Denver due to mechanical difficulties gave Ellen the chance to strike up a game of "Musical chairs" with seat assignments. But all ended well tho in the wee hours.

Many thanks to Barbara and Fred for a trip well-planned, well-executed and well worth repeating!!!

.....Bette Walker



The Canyons Ski Trip

By Bill Hager & Kathy Quinden

Late Saturday afternoon, the PVSb (Potomac Valley Snow Bus) rolled up to the Grand Summit Hotel at The Canyons and disgorged its horde of skiers in search of legendary Utah. A relatively dry winter had left the Utah ski resorts without much of a base, and in sore need of fresh snow. Voila! The PVSb to the rescue! On Sunday, the weather gods were observed pulling moisture laden clouds in from the Pacific; Monday and Tuesday we skied on fresh powder, in falling snow (let's not quibble about the accompanying flat light). The clouds fled on Wednesday afternoon, giving promise of blue skies which was fulfilled wondrously on Thursday and Friday, bringing a sunny, ski-till-you-drop end to a delightful ski week.

There were highlights (and lowlights) throughout the week..

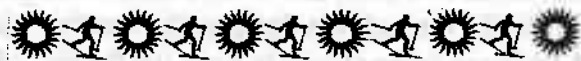
--Dinner Sunday at the Park City Grill, featuring delicious entrees and sinfully fattening deserts, offset by zero calorie salads. An unnamed distaff PVSer requested a doggie bag for her remnant of prime rib. Her move was not unobserved, and doggies were well fed all week. Trivia question for the night: how do you transport 42 PVSers in a bus seating 27? (Ask Ray and Nancy for the answer.)

--Valentine's Day dinner Monday at the Viking Yurt for the romantically inclined half of the group. A sleigh drawn by a snow cat isn't quite the same as a horse-drawn sleigh, but the slowly falling snow in the half-light of dusk added its own magic. Dimitri willingly accepted two more deserts from those who had to fit into their ski outfits the next morning, then altered his appearance the next day in a vain attempt to claim innocence.

--Dinner Tuesday at the Sage Grill was the consensus best meal (if you discount the hot snacks prepared by Nancy during happknee hour). The owner (and renowned chef) nearly rejected our large group, but relented and even provided special PVS menus. We reassured her by behaving much better than usual.

--Peripatetic PVSers: many skied at nearby Park City and Deer Valley. An informal poll clearly suggested that each area offered its own unique attractions, with no single standout. There were also excursions to fabled Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons, where Solitude was a special treat, and Alta, like Deer Valley, offered blissful respite from sliders (an apt name for snow boarders).

--Did you hear about Suzanne Boisclair's rendez-vous with Billy Kidd? Did you hear Betty Lawrence say that "living is my secret to life"? Did you realize that the mountain tour on the first day departed without the Trip Leaders? How about Sue Lyon, making her first ski trip with PVS in 17 years, and her first ever to the Rockies! And the repartee winner at the wrap-up special awards ceremony (drum roll, please): Ray commented that some PVSers come on their ski trips because of the awards; Nancy shot back that some don't come, for the same reason!



**MANY THANKS TO MARVIN HASS FOR DOING A
SUPER FEBRUARY TOOT!!**



THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

Caveats! The world is loaded with them. So let me start with one. The Knee is back from a great week of skiing in the Canyons and two business trips, and he is contemplating a run for President. Thus, attention to PVS goings-on has been less than normal. So if this column isn't up/down (pick one) to its normal level, I'm sorrknee. (I should have written the preceding as a footnote, but it would have been interpreted as a kneenote and my copy of "Strunk and White" simply doesn't tell where kneenotes are correctly placed.)

When he came to office, Pres Bush created an Office of Faith-Based Initiatives to oversee religious organizations running social welfare. The Knee can "kick that up a notch." Herewith my new program for *Faith-Based Learn to Ski*. One starts on skis down the straight and narrow, leaning only slightly to the right or left. And you pray to God that you don't fall!

Up until fairly recently--OK it was 1978--PVS used to have our February meeting with nighttime skiing at the Charnita ski area (now Ski Liberty). Bringing back those "good times," this year was Bill Matzkin. Before the meeting, Bill spent the day skiing at Liberty. His thoughts--the ice appeared to have been left over from the seventies!

Going back a bit further, 67 years ago, on Jan. 14, 1934, the first ski lift in America went into operation at Woodstock, Vermont. It was a 150-foot long rope tow powered by the rear axle of a Ford Model A truck. Well, at least we have made some progress. Liberty now uses a 1981 Datsun!!

Wilma and Gene Sharer, hosts of the Feb meeting, prepared for it the previous week with a 6 day Caribbean golf trip--using a 1981 Datsun golf cart!! In case you didn't ask, the gorgeous forsythia blooming in the house were neither silk nor bought. Wilma forced them from bushes in their yard.

A potential great deal: In January, Janet and Bob Marx, Tony Drago and Marty Rine all skied in Steamboat as part of the Elderhostel program. OK, so the lodging was a dorm room--in Grand Junction.

No, they had a kneet experience. Marty was surprised that virtually no one skiing at Steamboat on January 20 knew that it was Inauguration Day.

After an extended stay in Poland, Howard and Jean Hensley are back home for some months. Hope to see them soon. Perhaps they have stories of life where many names end in ski.

Last month's computerized TOOT prompted several questions about our TOOT logo. It was designed over 30 years ago by PVS founding father-person (I'm always gender correct) Hank Thomas.

Last Month Ray Garrett went in for a routine physical. He was immediately sent to the Emergency Room with a high heart rate and an extremely low blood pressure. Nontechnically, the heart's electrical path was shorting out. A minor ablation/cauterization process resolved the problem. Ray is now feeling better than in 6 mos. Right on!

Houses are selling; and PVSers are moving away. In January, both Penny Hanshaw and Don and Kathy Dillon put their homes on the market. Both Excomer's homes sold immediately, at full price, and both have left the area. Penny sold hers to a "retired couple" from a computer company. They were 36 years old! She is now enroute to Colorado. Don and Kathy stayed in their home through their Telluride pre-trip party. It ended at 6:30 pm on February 3. The moving truck showed up at 7:30 pm! Don and Kathy are now in their Delaware beach home, awaiting the completion of their new abode in one of my favorite places, South Bethaknee. We'll miss their active participation.

Whilst at PVS demo day at Wisp last month, both Jack Peoples and Serge Tria bought new pairs of skis. Right on! And left on!

Ubiquitous PVS--again: Emmi Plowman and Marianne Cook were discussing travel plans. Both were visiting Austria in March--on the same day and plane. They are now seat mates. And the PVS crew going to the Canyons ran into Trudy and Mike Santoro collecting skis at the Salt Lake City Airport. Santoros were headed to Park City.

It was a pleasure to see Texan Charlie Gordon at a recent meeting. He was visiting here because of a work ankneeverserknee. (See caveat!)

CALENDAR

- March 20 ... Monthly meeting at the Matthews', pp 1 & 2
- March 22 ... Bicycling Gourmet, Glen Echo to Georgetown, p. 2
- March 27 ... ExCom at Sheldon Drews'
- April 7 ... Wine Tasting at the Copes', p. 3
- April 17 ... Annual Business Meeting at the Klines'
- April 19 ... Annual Bike Ride to Mt. Vernon and back
- April 24 ... ExCom at Mary Ward and Jim Slack's
- April 29 ... Spring Fling at the Pook's Hill Marriott
- May 15 ... Monthly meeting at the Leonhardts'
- May 19 ... PVS goes to the theater, p. 4
- May 20 ... Canyons Post Trip Party
- May 22 ... ExCom at Sally Finan and George Welti's
- June 19 ... June Meeting at Bette Lawrence's
- June 23 ... PVS Spring Dianer at the Colonnade

JULY Olney

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