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Greetings PVSers,

I am excited to begin my term as PVS president and am especially delighted to be working with such an able and hardworking team of ExCom members and club officers. We have just had our first ExCom meeting together, and it was enjoyable as well as productive. Kerry Hines will now be serving as vice-president, and the remaining year of his term as ExCom member will be filled by Mary Beale. We owe special thanks to Mary, who is already doing a great job as PVS secretary and has agreed to continue in that role.

Dave Callaway and Sue Lyon will be continuing as ExCom members, and we welcome newly elected members Ellie Thayer, John Seabold, and Cara Jablon to the group. (Two out of three are lawyers -- OK, no more lawyer jokes at ExCom!) Mike did a great job in last month's letter of thanking the many PVSers who step up and help get the work done, so I will just add my two cents' worth.

With the temperatures in the nineties lately, it is difficult to think about skiing. However, it is NEVER out of season to think about skiing, and plans are already afoot for next year's PVS ski trips. ExCom has approved three trips so far (Snowmass, Jackson Hole, and Bormio, Italy) with the possibility of a fourth. You will be hearing more about them in the months to come, but we also have non-skiing activities coming up this summer, including the All Trips party, the Wolf Trap picnic and a hike or two. I urge everyone to consider leading a PVS event in the coming year. It's a lot of fun, and we're always looking for new event leaders and new ideas.

I look forward to working with everyone in PVS and welcome your input and ideas at any time. On a more serious closing note, I just want to say that we all hope that all goes well for Bob Marx with his bone marrow transplant and that he will have a complete and speedy recovery and be back with us as soon as possible. Good luck, Bob!

Best wishes,

Dottie

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, May 19th at 7:30 PM

at Pat and Jim Vagonis

*11925 Ledgerock Court
Potomac MD 20854
(301) 838-5545*

Directions:

From Virginia - From I-495 N., take River Road exit towards Potomac. Proceed 3 miles turn right at light onto Falls Road. Go another 2.3 miles and turn Left onto (**see almost there...**)

From Silver Spring - From I-495 N, bear right towards I-270 N. Take 1st exit and turn right onto Old Georgetown Road. Make left at next light onto Tuckerman Lane, proceed 3.7 miles. Turn left at light onto Falls Road, proceed 0.3 mi, turn right onto (**see almost there...**)

From Gaithersburg - From I-270 S. take Falls Road exit towards Potomac. Proceed 2.3 miles and turn right onto (**see almost there...**)

...Almost there: Glen Road (not S. Glen Rd), go another 0.7 mi. and turn right onto Gregerscroft. Make 3rd right onto Ledgerock Ct. We're towards the end of the court on the right. #11925 - (Phone 301-838-5545 if you're lost!)

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Coming Events

PVS HIKE, WAKEFIELD/LAKE ACCOTINK PARK, ANNANDALE

Wednesday, May 20, 10:00 AM

Meet between 10:00-10:15 at the 1st parking lot on the left closest to the ball field as you enter Wakefield Park from Braddock Road.

RSVP: To participate in the hike or just join the group for lunch, please call **Sue Lyon** not later than **May 18** at 703-609-2679

Hike: This is a great opportunity to hike with fellow PVS'ers on mostly flat terrain, 4 to 4 ½ miles around Lake Accotink.

Lunch: We will lunch at Kilroy's Restaurant in the Ravensworth Shopping Center, 5250A Port Royal Rd. Springfield, VA 22151, across from Wakefield Park. The manager can accommodate us but needs to have a head count by May 19th.

Directions: Take the Capital Beltway I-495 to exit 54A Braddock Road West, Rt. 620 which bears to the right. Then stay straight onto Braddock Road, and turn right at the 1st traffic light into Wakefield Park. We will meet at the 1st parking lots on the left closest to the ball field. . There is a small building with restroom facilities at the ballpark. The morning of the hike, you can reach me on my cell ph. @ 703-609-2679.

Sue Lyon

SUMMER PICNIC AND SHOW AT WOLF TRAP

Mark your calendars for August 19 for a fun summer evening at Wolf Trap. It will begin with a happy hour and picnic at 6:30 PM in the Wolf Trap picnic area. Following that, we will see a unique show, "Face of America: Glacier National Park." This is another episode in Wolf Trap's critically acclaimed, multimedia, artistic, adventure series. It features *The Sun Road*, a new ballet. Giant HD video projections of the dancers at Glacier will intertwine with the ballet on-stage and music. We have reserved front orchestra seats for this event.

If you would like to go, please contact Dottie Villers: dottievillers@yahoo.com, (703) 476-9259 – home or (703) 217-6986 – cell. The cost is \$38. This includes the discounted cost of the ticket (\$34.20) plus expenses for wine, beverages, picnicware etc. (\$3.80). More information will be available in the June TOOT.

!!! Wanted - Wanted - Wanted !!!

Your Ideas for Summer Activities

PVS members have regularly organized participation in a variety of non-ski summer activities such as theater, concerts, local events, trips, hikes, bike tours, outdoor activities, etc., and we are looking for SPECIFIC IDEAS for this summer.

So we need your thoughts, plans, desires, offers, and help to generate a non-ski program of interest that contains a variety of activities for you and other PVS members.

Communicate your ideas via e-mail, telephone, letter, or other convenient means to Ray McKinley raymckin@gmail.com or other members of EXCOM.

Members Corner



Roster Changes:

Jessma Blockwick: jessma@indra.com
Reg & Jean Heitchue: 703-861-9190 (w)

Roster Corrections:

Changes in postal or e-mail address, telephone number, method of TOOT distribution, version of TOOT format, choice of Hotline, desire to volunteer, etc. should be reported to Dave Warthen, dwarthen@verizon.net

TOOT Distribution to 175 Members: pdf: 78; USPS: 42; MS-Word: 31; Emb. Text: 3; and Text (Att.): 2.

New PVS Active Members:

On 21 April 2009, four Applicant Members were approved for Active Member status at the Annual PVS General Meeting at the McKenna's. They were Ingrid **Dallaire**, Bob and Louann **Eadie**, and Angie **Hale**. Bios of these new Active Members appeared in the February and March 2009 TOOTs. Congratulations are extended to these new PVS Active Members.

Celebration of Life Party:

On 1 April, 20 plus PVS members gathered at the Gelb family home to celebrate the life of **Mike Hatanaka**. Mike would have been 80 on this date. PVS supplied the food, thanks to Mary Beale's organizational skills, for a group of Mike's friends, totaling almost 60. Dottie Villers, acting President of PVS, thanked the Gelbs for opening their home for this celebration. She spoke of Mike's kindness and how much he meant to his PVS friends. On behalf of PVS, Dave Warthen presented to the Gelb family, a photo album containing 38 pictures of Mike's adventures with PVS from 2001 to 6 days before his tragic accident. The album was created for and dedicated to the Gelb Family, in appreciation for their special care and love of Mike. A duplicate album, with cover letter of condolences, was to be sent to Mike's brother in Japan. An open invitation was extended to the Gelbs to join PVS.

During the buffet, hosted by the Gelb family, there was a continuous TV slide show, created by Robert Gelb, of Mike's adventures on and off the ski slopes. There were also numerous photos of Mike and friends posted around the home. PVS thanks Mike's extended American family, the Gelbs, for their faithfulness to Mike for over 30 years.

New Arrival at the Beale Home:

Life continues with a new arrival at the Beale household 18 April. **Daisy** is a 2-month-old, miniature, short-haired, female dachshund. Daisy was born in Callaway, MD, at Callaway Kennels, <http://ckpuppypals.com/>. Be careful viewing this website, or you may end up with a cute little friend at your house, too. PVS wishes Mary many years of happiness with her adorable Daisy .





Caroline & Alan Gelb



2009-2010 TRIPS – Sail &/or Ski



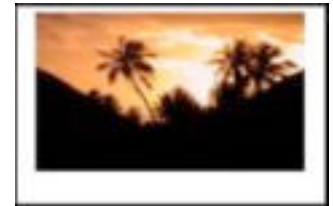
Tahiti and South Seas Cruise – May 28-June 12 2009 Join Reg Heitchue and Nancy & Ray McKinley

They're the most alluring and beautiful destination on earth--Tahiti and French Polynesia, the legendary isles of the South Pacific. Now home of the 360' Star Flyer - the consummate mega-yacht sailing experience for a mere 170 passengers. Below is just a bit of what we'll see as we sail in quiet luxury to such legendary locations as Bora Bora, Moorea, Tahaa, Raiate and 5 other spectacular South Pacific Isles. Star Flyer is as fleet as the wind, a true clipper ship, yet a modern cruise ship in every way, created for comfort-loving passengers who also love the traditions and romance of the legendary era of sailing ships. Star Flyer is 360 feet long and carries just 170 guests in pampered comfort. Life aboard is blissfully relaxed, like traveling on a private yacht. You'll never feel confined, as our ship offers pleasingly spacious cabins, gourmet meals and expansive teak decks with ample space for relaxing and play. Our Fabulous 14 Day Cruise Vacation Includes - R/T Airfare, Wash DC to Tahiti - 3 Days with breakfast in Tahiti, double occupancy - 11 Day Sail Cruise on the Star Flyer including all meals - baggage handling - bus gratuities - pre trip party. Space is limited. Please send your check for \$400 per person payable to Reg Heitchue, 11990 Market Street, Unit 1015, Reston, VA 20190. Please call for more information 703-437-7611 heitchu@yahoo.com.



Prices: **\$5957 per person Double, \$7939 single** Based on airfare of \$1804. Land only \$4153

NOTE: THIS PRICE INCLUDES A \$1000 PER PERSON EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT !



Snowmass 2010

Wednesday, January 13 through 20, 2010

- We're returning to Snowmass!! The developer has delayed plans for renovation of our beloved Snowmass Mountain Chalet! Join us again in 2010 for this PVS favorite.**
- Snowmass offers direct access to 3,100 acres of slope-side skiing just outside the door.**
- With interchangeable lift tickets and free bus service to Aspen Highlands, Ajax Mountain, and Buttermilk ski areas, the skiing terrain totals more than 5,000 acres.**
- Slopeside lodging at Snowmass Mountain Chalet includes a daily family-style breakfast and daily soup lunch, greatly appreciated by trip participants and other guests, many of whom return year after year. This small hotel, with its welcoming staff, is unique for its convenience and friendly ambiance.**
- The trip will include group dinners, après-ski parties, and other activities available in the Aspen environs.**
- Approximate trip cost is \$2,072, details to be announced when air transport is arranged.**
- For more information:**

- Contact trip leaders Carolyn and David DeVilbiss at 703-370-4865 or
- To reserve: -- Send deposit (fully refundable till August 1) of \$250 per person to:
- Carolyn DeVilbiss at 4508 Peacock Avenue, Alexandria VA 22304 AND
- Note "PVS-Snowmass 2010" on the memo line.

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Two more SKI TRIPS for 2010 have been approved by ExCom

Jackson Hole February 18-25, 2010

Dottie Villers and Marty Rine

Staying at the Alpenhof Lodge in Teton Village located next to the lifts for easy ski-in, ski-out access. In addition to unbelievable skiing, the trip will include all breakfasts, two dinners, apres ski, and fantastic day-trip options.

Bormio, Italy, March 6-14, 2010

Dick Comerford will be leading a PVS contingent as part of the BRSC Eurofest.

Bormio is a medieval town from Roman times. The combination of challenging Alpine skiing, apres ski relaxation, and the aesthetics of a medieval Italian town provide all the ingredients for a trip to be remembered.

More information will be coming in the June TOOT. Start planning now for your 2010 ski season.

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PREVIOUS EVENTS

Annual Meeting on April 21

...Hosted by Sherri and Tom McKenna

On the evening of April 21st, forty-four members, two applicant members, and one guest enjoyed the comfortable setting for the PVS annual meeting - the beautiful Rockville home of Sherri and Tom McKenna - and the delicious food and drinks that our hosts provided. President Mike Strand expressed his thanks for the assistance and support he received during his tenure as PVS President, and orchestrated the discussion of upcoming activities, the introduction of the four applicant members, and the introduction of the Nominating Committee's slate of candidates for PVS Offices and EXCOM members. Mike guided the assembled members through the formal voting process of electing 3 new members to EXCOM, a new President, and a new Vice President. Four Applicant Members, who had met admission requirements for full Active Membership, were also approved. The completion of these formal activities launched the club into its 44th year under President Dottie Villers, who successfully edged out all competition and secured the office of PVS President for the coming year. Dottie presented Mike a memento for his service as PVS President and expressed the gratitude of the membership for his efforts over the past two years. The discussion of events and activities included the expected ski trips for the 2009/2010 season - Snowmass in January, Jackson Hole in February, and Bormio, Italy in March - and the May 20th '09 hike around Lake Accotink.

Many thanks to Sherri and Tom for their hospitality!



THE KNEE

by Ray McKinley

RaysKnee@gmail.com

Wow, after quite a few April showers early in the month (over three inches at Chateau **Knee**), and four 90 deg plus days at the end it's time for May. May, abloom with the vibrant colors of spring, causes the **Knee** to wax poetic (not his skis). Rhyme comes to mind. And I become, once again... poetknee.

*'Tis May, 'tis May, the lusty month of May
And skiers, skiers everywhere,
Have put their skis away.
To go rollick in the hay.
And perhaps to ski another cold day.
In a month that begins with a "J."
Enough already! Alright! OK!*

Luckily, the **Knee** doesn't wax poetic very often.

Sadly, May is also the end of the ski season. The Knee isn't aware of anyone who skied later than the Taos Group. Did you? Please let the Knee know if the latest you skied. Use my Knee-mail—address is above.

Knee New ExComer John Seabold and wife Donna Hambric skied in Fernie, British Columbia in March. They got there by flying to Calgary and taking the Canadian Pacific 3 hours west. John said that Fernie is much more a mining town than a ski town with scant in the way of grooming. After Fernie, in 2010 John and Donna plan to ski in Clydie...

As most know, Cara Jablon makes jewelry. She got started some 10 years ago when she took in some costume jewelry to be repaired. Repairing was expensive. So Cara took some courses. The jewelry business took off and eventually led Cara to retire from being a lawyer. She is soon off to China for 15 days. The **Knee** asked what she thought of **Red China**? Cara retorted (which was difficult since she is retired from torting) **Red China** goes fine with a yellow tablecloth. (The **Knee** never claims to have new material.)

Here's a kneet knew **Knee** feature. It's called "Ask the **Knee**," where you ask the **Knee** your most perplexing ski-related questions. Our first question: Why, late in the season, is there snow on the ski runs but not elsewhere? Simple, early in the season, when snow is abundant, it is collected and stored in a snow bank. Send your questions to my **Knee**-mail address.

Times are tough, even in PVS. Treasurer Dick Laeser last month noted that many had not collected funds due to them for hosting meetings, etc. This month Dick wrote 9 checks, the most in his tenure as treasurer. Whoops, with numbers up, that should be his elevenure. Dick and Sandy Laeser are also traveling to the former Soviet Union. They will visit Uzbekistan and China, as they explore the famous Silk Route.

Others are traveling to Russia. Joan and Glade Flake will be in St Petersburg at the end of a Baltic cruise which will also include Tallin in Estonkneeia. They are going with an NRA group including Newt Gingrich and Oliver North. Even the **Knee** wouldn't make that up!

Jack Chapman and Ellie Thayer and Dick and Rosemary Schwartzbard will be touring architectural highlights in Moscow and St. Petersburg. They plan to see some of the early work of the famous USSR architect Frank Lloyd Wrightsky—or in this forum it's Wright-ski.

Here is the **Knee's Swine Flu Update**. You should avoid at all costs the following activity:



Reminds the **Knee** of a happening on the PVS trip to Park City. At the buffet table, there was an exotic looking hand sanitizer. John Brunelli put the sanitizer on his steak. John said it helped him come clean about eating beef.

Bad News: The morning after hosting the PVS meeting, Sally Finan awoke to hear water running. The bottom had fallen out of the hot water heater. It left quite a mess in the basement. Yucko—to use a technical term.

Fred Leonhardt is a semi-official grandfather. When their French renter had a bouncing baby, Fred was everywhere helping with supplies and all manner of goodies. Barbara finalknee put her foot down when Fred bought the baby a full set of golf clubs and a lifetime Golf Club membership. Congrats also to Mary Beale who is a new mommy. It's to Daisy, a new long-haired miniature dachshund. Right on.

Calendar and Information

Local Event Calendar				Ski Trip Calendar	
May	1	Fri	Ski Trip Expo	Jan	13-20 2010 Snowmass (<i>C&D. DeVilbiss</i>)
May	2	Sat	Spring BRSC Mtg PVS host	Feb	18-25 2010 Jackson Hole (<i>Villers/Rine</i>)
May	19	Tues	Monthly Mtg (Vagonis)	Mar	6-14 2010 Bormio, Italy (<i>D.Comerford</i>)
May	20	Wed	Lake Accotink hike (S. Lyon)		
May	26	Tues	ExCom (Hines)		Sailing Trip
Jun	16	Tues	Monthly Mtg (Keel)	May 28 – Jun 12, 09	Tahiti and French
Jun	23	Tues	ExCom (Telephonic)		Polynesia. (<i>Reg Heitchue</i>)
Jul	12	Sun	All-Trips Party (Jablon)		
Jul	28	Tues	ExCom (Thayer)		
Aug	19	Wed	Wolf Trap (Villers)		

PVS Roster information updates

Change of postal or e-mail address, telephone numbers, TOOT email format, etc.

Call David Warthen (301) 774-2653 or send e-mail message to dwarthen@verizon.net