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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.  
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[www.pvskiers.org](http://www.pvskiers.org)

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: *Off the Beaten Trail***

Thanks in large part to our hard-working Ski Trip Committee, PVS is sponsoring three trips this year to all-purpose, varied terrain, well cared for ski mountains – Snowmass, Sun Valley and Steamboat Springs. Those who participate will not only have good skiing opportunities, but also access to good restaurants and non-skiing activities. I hope that many join one or more of these trips. Under the aegis of John Smith, PVS provides members with extensive local skiing.

I highlight below other unique, but not necessarily all purpose, ski areas that PVS members may want to consider. They are, unlike Steamboat, Vail, Snowmass, Park City, and Sun Valley, places that broadly meet PVS club needs to which we tend to sponsor trips. They are off the beaten trail, quirkier and distinct - off-piste in a sense. I caution that my descriptions are based upon memory, websites, Google and Wikipedia, which are not necessarily current or accurate, but the areas are worth a try.

**1. Taos: Taos is special.** Its founder, Ernie Blake, was a Swiss Jew. He worked for United States intelligence during World War II, assisting in the interrogation of leading Nazis, including Hermann Göring and Albert Speer. Some of Taos's ski trails have names that relate to Ernie's personal history and to his values. Four runs, Stauffenberg, Oster, Tresckow, and Fabian, refer to German officers, who attempted to assassinate Hitler in July, 1944. Another run, Niños Héroes, is named for the Mexican cadets who fought against the Americans' attack on Chapultepec Castle during the Mexican War.

After coming to the United States, Ernie wanted to create a perfect ski area. Surveying possible terrain in a small Cessna, in 1973 he found a suitable mountain, later named Taos after a Native American village. Taos means "place of red willows."

Taos was and is in northern New Mexico close to nowhere. Not only its distance but also its steepness made it a highly risky investment.

In front of the mountain was what is now called Al's Run, a steep mogul trail that leads to the top of the mountain. When it was first being developed, besides walking if one could, the only way to get to the top was to take a Poma lift or T-bar up Al's Run. The lift pulled passengers along the ground at twice the speed of a modern lift. It was even known to lift small people completely off the ground in certain spots, leaving them spinning in the air.

The story goes that Ernie used to be able to always get skiers down or he thought he could. One day he was taking up three women. He warned them, if any fell off the bar, they all had to get off lest they be strewn in different places on an excruciatingly difficult run. As was to be expected, one did fall off and the others got off. Ernie could not get them down. Just then, Ernie's son came speeding by. "Quick Ernie said, tell your Mother to make a pitcher of martinis and bring it to me. One of the women said, "We're Methodists (or Baptists or whatever – the religion and the number of women vary with the source). We can't drink." (cont. on page 2))

**December General Meeting  
Holiday Party**

**Tuesday, December 11, 2018, 7:30 PM**  
At the home of John & Blanca Hotaling  
2807 North Beechwood Circle  
Arlington, VA 22207-5225  
703-525-4092, [jhotaling@me.com](mailto:jhotaling@me.com)



**Bring a dessert or appetizer:**

**A-O surname, appetizer**

**P-Z surname, dessert**

**(No door fee)**

**See page 2 for directions**

### **Directions to December Holiday Party at the Hotalings:**

--**2807 N. Beechwood Circle** is in north Arlington off of Military Road. To drive to Military Road from the beltway (from either direction), take the George Washington Parkway toward Washington. Take the Chain Bridge exit (Rt. 123N) and merge onto Chain Bridge Road. The road will dead end with Chain Bridge on the left and Glebe Road to the right. Turn right on Glebe Road and, near the top of the first hill, follow signs to Military Road, a right exit (you will be on N. Richmond Street), take a left on North Old Glebe Road and then another left onto Military Road. Proceed about 1.2 miles and turn left onto N. Beechwood Circle. Follow the same directions from Glebe Road if crossing Chain Bridge.

--If **coming from the south**, you may reach Military Road from the George Washington Parkway going north, Glebe Road going north, or Lee Highway going west. From the GW Parkway, take the Spout Run exit; take a right at the light onto Lorcom Lane, take a right at the 2nd light onto Military Road. Proceed about 1.2 miles and turn right onto N. Beechwood Circle. From Lee Highway, turn right onto Military Road, proceed about 1.3 miles, and turn right onto N. Beechwood Circle. From Glebe Road go north almost to Chain Bridge. Exit right onto Military Road and proceed about 1.1 miles and turn left onto N Beechwood Circle.

--The house is the **second driveway** on the left (do not go into the circle). John and Blanca ask that the **driveway be reserved for handicapped and walking impaired guests. Others should park on Military or Beechwood and walk up the driveway.** John cell: 703.867.4900 and Blanca cell: 703.585.4047.

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“You drink, or you die,” Ernie replied.

The martinis worked to make the women less fearful and more flexible. They made their way down.

Inspired, Ernie planted martini pitchers all over the mountain – at least until his lawyers found out. To this day, after a week of lessons, skiers are taken into the trees to drink from a hidden martini pitcher. At the bottom of Taos is the Martini Tree Bar.

Taos is a steep and difficult area. With its difficult terrain, Ernie’s goal was to make skiers better than when they arrived, a tradition that continues today. Led by Ernie, Taos encourages skiers to go for at least a week, taking lessons every day. Ernie felt that the ski school was an integral part of the Taos experience, making better skiers. The mountain does have plenty for experts but also for non-experts to ski. The proof is that I have skied at Taos. (I do not report how many people it took to get me out of a certain mogul field.)

Taos has a unique flavor. A former ski instructor from the beginning, Jean Mayer, has created the St. Bernard, an old-fashioned inn at the base of the mountain, which purveys special lunches, dinners and insights into Taos’ history. Taos is an art colony with Native American influences and is near where Georgia O’ Keefe held sway. It was also a notable historical transfer point. Kit Carson is recognized by a local museum.

Taos is also of geological interest. Buried beneath a plateau is an enormous tear in the Earth’s upper surface, 20 miles across and several miles deep. This rift, the Rio Grande Rift, continues to be active. It has cleaved Northern Mexico, Texas, New Mexico, and half of Colorado over a distance of over 800 miles.

Because it is such an interesting ski area and so different scientifically, historically, artistically, culturally and visually, a Taos visit deserves consideration. Its lessons are comparatively inexpensive and superb.

**2. Bromley Mountain: Part of the Green Mountains in Southern Vermont**, Bromley is in Bennington County, seven miles east of Manchester. It was founded by Fred Pabst Jr., the grandson of Captain Frederick Pabst, the founder of Pabst Blue Ribbon beer.

Bromley is not the type of place that most PVS members would think of going. It is relatively small and was somewhat rickety fifty years ago. Yet Bromley’s personnel were and appear to continue to be exceedingly accommodating. People were nice. SKI Magazine’s October, 2014 issue ranked Bromley within the top three “Kid Friendly” mountains in the East on their list of Top-Ranked Eastern Ski Resorts. Bromley has open slopes, unusual for Vermont, including 47 trails, including 6 glades and 3 freestyle terrain parks. Beginner to expert trails are served by 10 lifts. The Long Trail and Appalachian Trail go over the mountain.

Why is Bromley on my list? It sells itself as a friendly. It has nice slopes. Additionally, I remember the massage-like sensation going down the bottom slope, feeling as if I were skiing over golf balls, which I attribute to unique grooming of Vermont snow. A warning: trees line the path of the main lift, but just before its end, the tree cover ends. Unless things have changed, when it is cold and windy, skiers face colder winds than they would in February along Lake Michigan’s banks in Chicago and Evanston. Taking the lift, however, is not only invigorating, but it also gives bragging rights. Or it may just be cold, very cold.

Bromley is near Manchester with its fine galleries and bookshops, fantastic scenery, the Reluctant Panther and the Chanticleer restaurants (See President’s Message, May 2018). Bromley is not Killington, Stratton or Okemo. But unless things have changed, if one wants a friendly and comfortable ski area in Southern Vermont, Bromley is worth a try.

**3. Sun Peaks:** Sun Peaks is deep into British Columbia, sufficiently deep so that during winter skiers are unlikely to suffer a straight week of rain as happens further west at Vancouver’s Whistler Mountain. Sun Peaks is Canada’s second largest ski area. One can get to it by car or van from Vancouver International Airport or from Kamloops Airport and traveling 45 minutes north. This should explain Sun Peaks’ location to TOOT readers who have Google access and know creative ways to use it.

Sun Peaks is peaceful. When PVS last went to Sun Peaks, we stayed at Nancy Greene's Cahilty Hotel and Suite. There is not much there, but it has all one needs, bringing visitors to nature. Nancy Greene was a preeminent Canadian Olympic skier. She and her associate still take guests to ski the mountain or to the living room to converse.

Sun Peaks is a beautiful area. I found memorable its long runs through far spaced trees, my kind of tree skiing. I note that when driving to Sun Peaks, I saw a harsh example of global warming's effects. Mountain pine beetle insects' devastated forest trees because there were no longer sufficient consecutive freezing days to stop the insects.

Those looking to ski in nature and beauty cannot go wrong at Sun Peaks.

**4. Kirkwood Mountain: Kirkwood is a snow paradise.** It has one of the highest average snowfalls, 472 inches, second only to Sugar Bowl Ski Resort in the Sierra Nevada. Although in California, Kirkwood is isolated. It is in the Eldorado National Forest, approximately 33 mi south of South Lake Tahoe. It claims that unlike other resorts, it "offers a secluded mountain setting with a lifetime of progressive terrain to explore and discover, unmatched snow quality and quantity, short lift lines and wide-open slopes along with a true sense of place and a welcoming community for family and friends." However, be warned, skiers who attempt to drive without chains from the Reno-Tahoe Airport even in a van with snow tires may be turned back – as we once were. Although it is isolated, Vail Resorts, Inc. acquired Kirkwood in April, 2012. Kirkwood remains off the beaten trail, but it now has big resort ownership. I may write a subsequent column on antitrust.

**5. Deer Valley:** one of a kind. **Deer Valley offers amenities unlike any other ski area,** such as fine luncheon cafeteria dining, free ski valets, free parking shuttles, boutique shopping and even classy rest rooms with gold-looking (perhaps more than looking) faucets. Lunches are really, really good: at what other ski lodge cafeterias can one get well-carved London Broil, steak or roast beef for lunch and other comparable food choices? Deer Valley is upscale-different compared with its all-purpose and more pedestrian neighbors like Park City and the Canyons. I have joked that if a snowflake falls on a skier's jacket as he or she approaches the ski base from the parking lot, an attendant will dutifully wipe it off. However, I am not sure that this is a joke. Deer Valley attendants will carry skis from the curb where skiers are dropped off to the ticket booths, perhaps removing customer incentives to look too closely at lift ticket prices.

Deer Valley Resort is a well-groomed, skiers-only resort in the historic mining town of Park City, Utah. Rated the number #1 ski resort in North America for five years running by SKI Magazine readers, along with Alta and Mad River Glen, Deer Valley is one of three remaining American ski resorts that prohibit snowboarders.

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) built the first Deer Valley ski trails and other facilities during the winter of 1936-1937. During 2002 Winter Olympics, it hosted the freestyle moguls, aerial, and alpine slalom events. Thus, Deer Valley may not be totally off the beaten trail, but it offers such well-manicured, varied skiing to make it off beat.

**6.. Solitude: Solitude's name describes Solitude's atmosphere.** Like Deer Valley, Solitude resides near Salt Lake City. But it too is different. According to its website, "[U]p here it's quiet...[Y]ou take a moment to breathe, to hear the quiet. You needed this." According the Solitude, it has 77 runs, three bowls, and a vertical drop of 2,030 feet across 1,200 acres for every ability level.

What most attracts me about Solitude its wide, adjacent, steep bowl-line open runs (various degrees of steepness) facing downwards in the front of the mountain. Skiers selecting these runs for the difficulty that they desire and going down them is fun. At the bottom is a less crowded plaza than other Salt Lake City resorts with a variety of lodging, restaurants and shops.

Solitude developed early those electronic passes, which skiers hope will work.

Unless one can ski over the mountains from Deer Valley (I cannot), the drive to and from the mountain through the Big Cottonwood Canyon forest in the Wasatch mountains is beautiful. When the weather is bad, the drive is slow and beautifully harrowing.

For those who think that I just write these columns, I have two muses. The first, Ellie Thayer, usually notes editorial essentials such as whether in drafting I really meant to leave off "nots" in political commentary. The second is Kerry Hines, who points me in important directions. As to Solitude, he noted how could I have not discussed the fact that it is probably the closest of Salt Lake City ski resorts to Salt Lake City restaurants and culture? Solitude itself has good eating places *and* it is (relatively) close to La Calle. Going to La Calle is like entering a French estate, replete with nature, animals, wandering peacocks and fine French dining, including wonderful duck, rack of lamb and wonderful popovers. It is even worth a trip from Deer Valley or Park City. Kerry also highlights locals' advice: to escape crowds ski Solitude on weekends when families especially those with children may be scared away by the steepness of the front bowls. In fact there are moderate ways to get down.

Alterra Mountain Company has purchased Solitude. Alterra, now one of the biggest skiing networks in North America, is also Deer Valley's new parent company. Again, independence? Antitrust?

**7. Reader's Favorite:** We all know a place, unique, off the beaten trail that is worth a try.

**Coming Event**

# Potomac Valley Skiers

## Pre-Trip Luncheon on Saturday, January 5th

### Snowmass Pre-Trip Luncheon....

For Snowmass skiers, there will be a pre-trip luncheon to meet other trip participants, review plans for the trip and talk skiing!

Saturday, January 5, 2019

1:00 p.m.

11677 Fox Glen Dr., Oakton, VA 22124

Directions: From 495: I-66 West. Take Exit 60 to Rt. 123 North. Left at 2<sup>nd</sup> light on Jermantown Rd. Right at 2<sup>nd</sup> light on Oakton Rd. At the 1<sup>st</sup> light bear Right to follow on to Waples Mill Rd. Right on History Dr. (across from the school). Right on Fox Glen Dr. to 11677 on the right.

Please RSVP at [KathyLakeHomes@yahoo.com](mailto:KathyLakeHomes@yahoo.com) or 703-625-2715

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**Coming Event**



The **Fantasticks** at Little Theater of Alexandria  
<<http://www.thelittletheatre.com>>

Join PVS on Sunday, January 20, at 3PM for a performance of "The Fantasticks" at the Little Theater of Alexandria. LTA is one of the oldest community theaters in the region, founded in 1934, and has a long record of excellent productions. Its theater on Wolfe Street in Old Town is three blocks from busy King Street, so there is ample street parking available.

The Fantasticks is a long-running musical, which has stood the test of time. Come and hear "Try to remember"!

To join the group, send a check for \$34 to Shirley Rettig, 604 Princess St. Alexandria, VA by December 22, and also let her know if you would like to join the group for dinner afterward at one of Old Town's many restaurants (to be determined).

**Shirley Rettig, 703-836-0147**

## SKI TALK

### December 2018

#### Equipment:

Since going to the Sun and Ski meeting and hearing about the new boots and skis, I have decided that this is the year to turn in my old (12 years) ski boots for new ones. The old boots are stiff, heavy and difficult to get in and out of. Newer boots are lighter, warmer and much easier to get on and off. So the research began. After reading the reviews, I went to Sun and Ski and tried several boots. I bought a pair, but returned them after walking around in them at home. More research, more trips to the store and finally I found what seemed to work for me. I bought a pair of Rossignol Pure Pro 80 with a fur lining. They feel snug. My custom footbed works in them and Ryan, from Sun and Ski, is doing some customizing on the boots so I will be more balanced over my skis. According to the experts, ski boots are even more important than skis. If the boots do not fit well you will have no control of your skis.



It is important to choose boots with the right amount of flex so you can get over the skis with your shins in contact with your boots. Flex in ski boots refers to how difficult it is to flex the boot forward. It ranges from very soft (50) to race stiffness (130). As we age our muscles are not as strong, so you might want to opt for a softer flex. I settled on 80. Ryan recommended 70 or 80 for me. Of course, a larger person or a male might want stiffer boots. At any rate, I will find out in Snowmass how they work.

#### Ski Tips:

You might want to re-read my column from December 2017 that has my favorite ski tips (<https://tinyurl.com/y9rxoc7c#page=3>). I keep referring to it. Remember that balanced skiing starts from the feet and flows up to the rest of your body. Focus on your feet; flex your ankles; point your knees; keep your shins in constant contact with your boots and always look ahead.

A few more tips that I have found helpful are:

- **Let the Ski Do Its Job:** If you find yourself twisting your upper body to hurry through the scary part of the turn, stop! Your ski is designed to make a nice round turn so let it do its job. As you start, tip the skis and allow the sidecut to get you in a speed-controlling ARC, then gradually steer across the hill. This removes the need to involve the upper body.
- **One Step Ahead.** Always be thinking and looking one turn ahead. Then you can anticipate what is coming.
- **Build up to it.** Start out slowly on your first day of the season. Ski a quarter of a run without stopping and then half and continue to increase. This is particularly important out west where you are just getting used to the altitude.
- **Stay in Shape.** Exercise regularly.
- **Have fun.**

So far there is plenty of snow at Snowmass and more is predicted. As of the end of November almost half of the lifts were open and there was a 29" base. It should be a good year. You may even be able to get a few runs in locally before going out west. John Smith will be letting us know when the local slopes are ready for us. As of this date, the local resorts are hoping to open by mid-December.

Rosemary Schwartzbard, [rosemaryschw@gmail.com](mailto:rosemaryschw@gmail.com)

## Ski Trip



# Potomac Valley Skiers

2019 Snowmass, Colorado Ski Trip

Wednesday – Wednesday

January 9 – 16, 2019

## Trip Details

Once again we will be staying at the [Snowmass Mountain Chalet \(SMC\)](#), which offers a convenient ski in, ski out location. Check the web site at [www.mountainchalet.com](http://www.mountainchalet.com). The “**Land Only**” package includes: transportation to and from Aspen airport (7am -11pm); 5-day senior lift pass ([good for all four ski areas in the Aspen complex, free shuttle bus](#)) with option for extra days; 7 nights lodging (double occupancy); daily breakfasts; daily soup-lunch; luggage-handling; a welcome reception, an “all guest” hotel sponsored party, a pizza party and a farewell group dinner to celebrate our trip. Additional nights at Snowmass are an option **based on availability**. Trip insurance is available through Encompasse Tours and is [highly recommended](#). For trail information check [www.aspensnowmass.com](http://www.aspensnowmass.com).

**The basic package at \$1,650 includes a 5-day lift pass for skiers 65 and over. Skiers under 65 will have to add \$104.00.**

<u>Costs:</u>		<u>Price</u>
Basic Snowmass Package (65 and older)		\$1,650
Under 65	add	\$ 104
Single Supplement	add	\$1,044
Extra hotel night (pending availability)	add	\$ 310 per room per night
Non-skiers	deduct	\$ 248
Extra ski days (65 and older)	add	\$ 70 for a <b>6-day senior pass</b>
	add	\$ 120 for a <b>7-day senior pass</b>
Under 65	add	\$ 188 for a <b>6-day pass</b>
Silver Pass (70+ skiing 8 or more days)	add	\$ 184

## Payment Schedule

\$300 deposit is due with application.

Second payment of \$750 is due **August 15th**.

Final payment is due **September 15th**.

## **To sign up please send:**

(1) the [Application form](#) -- one per person or one per couple residing at the same address

(2) a [Deposit of \\$300 per person](#) and/or your **payment due**, and

(3) the [signed Waiver of Liability Agreement](#) by each party taking the trip

Checks should be made out to **Kathy Lake** and mailed to 11677 Fox Glen Drive, Oakton VA 22124 (put [PVS Snowmass 2019](#) on the check memo line).

Kathy and Barry Lake are the trip leaders. For more information, feel free to contact us at

703-625-2715 or [kathylakehomes@yahoo.com](mailto:kathylakehomes@yahoo.com)

Application and waiver - [http://pvskiers.org/ski\\_trips/Snowmass2019+Waiver.pdf#page=3](http://pvskiers.org/ski_trips/Snowmass2019+Waiver.pdf#page=3)

## **The Mountain Chalet**

The **Snowmass Mountain Chalet** is an independent lodge, managed on-site, with easy access to the slopes. Each of the 64 rooms has either 2 queen beds or 1 king bed, **depending on availability**. All rooms have: hair dryer, TV, small refrigerator, etc. The lodge has a nice lounge on the main floor with chairs, game tables, fireplace, and large windows overlooking the slopes. There is an elevator, exercise room, outdoor pool, a hot tub and laundry facilities. A full breakfast is served family style each morning. A complimentary soup lunch is served from Noon to 1:30 PM. The lodge has no restaurant for dinner. However, the Snowmass Mall, on the level above, and hotel area below (via the small gondolas) has diverse restaurants at all price levels. Bus service stops are nearby for trips to a nearby grocery store, into the town of Aspen, to other Aspen ski areas, and to Glenwood Springs.

## **Trip Insurance**

**Trip insurance is recommended.** Travel Guard is available through our travel agent, Encompasse Tours, at [Encompasse.com](#). (The insurance link will connect you to Travel Guard.) The insurance provides coverage for accident, illness, injury, or death to attendee or immediate family member. There are several plans available, depending on your situation. You will have more reimbursement options by purchasing shortly after sending in your trip deposit. Please read carefully before choosing. And, be sure to save all receipts concerning your trip!

## **Cancellation Policy and Fees**

If it becomes necessary for you to cancel your trip, the trip leaders will try to minimize your losses, although some fees are mandated by the hotel and tour operator. All cancellations must be in writing. [We strongly urge you to purchase trip insurance](#) (see above).

**Please take the time to ensure the information you provide is correct, and take note of deadline dates!**

**Cancellation fees are as follows:** *Dates and costs are consistent with requirements and penalties imposed by vendors per contracted agreements.* LAND Only Package: \$300 after September 28th until December 1st; after December 1st, cost is entirely non-refundable.

**If you are a “single” participant** requesting space on a PVS-endorsed ski trip and need a roommate, we recommend each of you purchase insurance to cover both of you if one of the roommates cancels. Otherwise, you will be offered the choice of one of the following three options:

- 1) Helping the trip leader find a replacement trip participant who will fill the space vacated; **or**
- 2) Staying on the ski trip by paying the “single supplement” **or**
- 3) Canceling from the ski trip and paying all currently due penalties.

Ski Trip

# Come ski with PVS at Sun Valley, Idaho

Blue Ridge Ski Council (BRSC) Western Carnival

February 2 - 9, 2019

**ROOMS STILL AVAILABLE**

**ROOMS STILL AVAILABLE**

Bald Mountain – Top Elevation: 9,150 feet, 100+ Trails, 10 Lifts + Gondola, Mountain Dining



**We now offer a lower package price INCLUDING United Airline Flights in and out of Sun Valley.**

**Sun Valley Lodge Apartments**

Two Bed/Two Bath, One King/2 Twins **\$1,700 /pers.\***  
Single Supplement add \$648

**Sun Valley LODGE Rooms**

Single Supplement add \$890 **\$1,940 /pers.\***

**Sun Valley INN Rooms**

Single Supplement add \$682 **\$1,725 /pers.\***

\* Deduct \$400.00 for the package without airfare

**PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- Seven nights lodging as presented
- Baggage handling
- BRSC Welcome Reception
- BRSC Après Ski Western Barbecue
- PVS happy hours and dinner
- BRSC Final Farewell Dinner and Dance
- BRSC NASTAR Race
- Mountain tours
- Five of six-day Sun Valley lift tickets

-Guests have access to all resort amenities including outdoor pools and the new Sun Valley Resort SPA.

-All properties are a shuttle ride to the slopes.

-WiFi is available throughout the resort.

-Seniors 65+: Deduct \$5.00 from package price above for package with a 5-day lift pass.

-Add \$30.00 to package price for a 6-day pass.

**Application and Waiver –**

<[http://pvskiers.org/ski\\_trips/SunValley2019+Waiver.pdf#page=3](http://pvskiers.org/ski_trips/SunValley2019+Waiver.pdf#page=3)>

**TRIP DEPOSITS:**

\$300.00 deposit per person due with sign-up----->\$500.00 per person due August 15, 2018

\$500.00 per person due September 31, 2018----->Final payment due October 31, 2018

Deposits and final payments should be made to Inge Lesjak;  
please mail to: Inge Lesjak 8123 Kingsview Ct., Springfield, VA 22152

**LOOKING FOR A SINGLE MALE SKIER TO SHARE ROOM**



## **AIR: United Airlines (Subject to change)**

IAD/DEN/SUN 2/2 #1950 8:30am - 10:37am #5697 11:35am-----1:40pm  
SUN/SFO/IAD 2/9 #5962 2:00pm ---3:11pm # 517 - 4:20pm -- 12:24pm

### **Download Winter Trail Map & Guest Guide**

<http://d26zlhfpekbmm.cloudfront.net/files/pdf/SV Winter Trail/Map 2017 18.pdf>

**Mountain Base Amenities: Lockers/ Ski Storage, boot dryers, lounge, bathrooms, affordable tuning and repair service**

Sun Valley LODGE Apartments provide privacy and comfort while being close to all amenities at the Lodge: heated pool and sauna, bowling alley, dancing. These apartments come in two-bedroom units; each has a large bath, gas fireplace, living room, kitchen, refrigerator and a dining table.

Sun Valley LODGE 2 Queen Suite or LODGE King Suite have been newly decorated and include a fold-out sofa in the sitting area, spacious bathroom with soaking tub, walk-in shower and double sink vanity, built-in dressers and a convenient ski closet. 2 TVs, a safe, refrigerator, and free wi-fi.

Sun Valley INN Deluxe Rooms are available with either one King Bed or two Queen Beds. The bathroom features a marble tub, vanity with sink plus bathrobes. There is a TV with a DVD player and pay-per-view, plus a refrigerator and high-speed internet access.

**BLUE RIDGE SKI COUNCIL EVENTS** – be sure to bring your neck wallet to each event.

WELCOME RECEPTION, **Monday** 6:00pm – 8:00pm at the Sun Valley Conference Center

BRSC NASTAR RACE, **Tuesday** Warm Springs 10:00am – 1:00pm

APRÈS-SKI PARTY, **Tuesday** 3:00pm – 5:pm at the River Run Lodge.

FINAL FAREWELL DINNER and DANCE, **Thursday** evening 6:00pm – 10:00pm

Upscale buffet and Sun Valley's top-rated service. Dance the night away at Sun Valley's Conference Center

PVS DINNER downtown, restaurant/time TBD

**If you have any questions, please contact Inge, PVS Trip Leader at [Lesjak.inge@gmail.com](mailto:Lesjak.inge@gmail.com)**

## Ski Trip

### *Return to Steamboat Springs, Colorado, March 9-16, 2019*

We are conducting a Steamboat Springs ski trip that we hope will excite PVS Skiers. PVS frequented Steamboat Springs for many years. We now return. Steamboat Springs has varied terrain for all skiing levels; a large, well-kept mountain; long runs; 18 lifts, 165 trails, 2,965 acres; a historic town; unique restaurants; art, Western stores, antiques, museums; free ski area/town bus service.



#### **Included trip highlights are:**

- **ROUNDTrip NONSTOP AIR: Dulles to Hayden, March 9, 9:15 am--11:34 am; Return: Hayden to Dulles, March 16, 1:00 pm--6:31 pm.**
- **AIRPORT TRANSFERS TO GRAND HOTEL.**
- **STEAMBOAT GRAND HOTEL – 7 NIGHTS, 2 PER ROOM – HIGH END HOTEL - POOL, SPA AND SAUNA, FULL SERVICES, STORES AND AMENITIES - WALKING DISTANCE TO GONDOLA, LIFTS AND PLAZA FOOD, DRINK, SHOPS AND ACTIVITIES.**
- **SKI TRANSFERS FROM GRAND TO SKI STORAGE NEAR GONDOLA.**
- **LIFT TICKETS – 5 DAYS.**
- **PRE-TRIP PARTY; WELCOMING PIZZA-TYPE INITIAL GET-TOGETHER; GROUP FAREWELL DINNER; HAPPY HOURS.**
- **ESTIMATED COST - \$2,700 per person. MINIMUM PARTICIPATION NECESSARY TO GUARANTY AIR AND LIFT TICKET GROUP ARRANGEMENTS.**
- Trip details and changes in trip coverage and pricing to meet individual needs are available, such as non-participation in air or different lift ticket arrangements and scheduling.

We seek trip cohesion, including coordinated group skiing and activities opportunities, as desired, in what should be a peak ski weather week. Steamboat offers daily no-charge skiing opportunities with volunteer guides, skiing possibilities with Billy the Kid and discounted lessons. It has a renowned children's program for any with younger family members. We shall advise group participants of non-skiing recommendations, including special Steamboat restaurants like Café Diva, Bistro CV, the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Steakhouse (grill your own steaks) and the Laundry. The trip is being actively coordinated by Doug Horstman of Encompasse Tours. For details please contact us ([rcjablon@aol.com](mailto:rcjablon@aol.com); [robert.jablon@spiegelmc.com](mailto:robert.jablon@spiegelmc.com)) and see Trip Addendum below.

*Bob and Cara*



## *Steamboat Springs PVS March 9-16, 2019 SKI TRIP Addendum*

PVS' Steamboat Springs ski trip will be between March 9 16, 2019. The trip's timing should allow for both good weather and good skiing conditions. As we state in the Steamboat Springs ski trip flier, with the help of Doug Horstman of Encompasse Tours, trip participants will have lodging in the Steamboat Grand, a superior hotel within walking distance of the ski slopes and plaza; non-stop air fare at a group rate; Hayden airport shuttle service; discounted ski tickets; and, most important, PVS member participation. Currently, nine people are committed. Additional attendees are invited and welcome.

The Grand Hotel has a near monopoly of what it calls "beautifully appointed" hotel rooms proximate to gondola square and the ski lifts. We have guaranteed two additional rooms to the five that are now committed. If the Grand has any vacant additional rooms available, it is obligated to make them available to PVS so that we can further increase our room reservations, but this additional vacant room availability is not guaranteed. **WE ARE LOOKING FOR A SINGLE MALE SKIER TO SHARE A HOTEL ROOM.**

We have 26 reserved air reservations. We can cancel space through November 30, 2019. We need ten reservations by people who will fly on the group fare to guaranty the group rate (including those with upgrades, but not including those who pay with frequent flyer tickets). If we are short, participants may have to book air transportation on their own or may have to pay a higher price. Airport shuttle service to and from the Grand will be provided in any event.

We need 20 participants to hold the group lift ticket pricing, but we need not specify final arrangements until February 1, 2018. Obtaining individual lift tickets, if necessary, should not be a problem.

Initial payments for new participants are \$600, which covers Grand Hotel deposits and is credited against Grand room rates. Additional payments will not be due until November 20, 2018.

The Steamboat Springs ski mountain has interesting, varied, well-serviced terrain in a unique Western town. We are working to achieve a successful trip.

*Bob and Cara*

  
THE STEAMBOAT  
GRAND



November 11, 2018 Monthly Meeting at Sun & Ski



The November monthly PVS meeting was held at the Sun and Ski Shop in Seven Corners. In addition to PVS members, several applicant members and guests were in attendance: Sally Diakova and Nick Young, Sheryl and Dave Uleplic, and Mike (friend of Marna). After enjoying a repast of cheeses, meats, marinated mushrooms, artichokes, and olives, home baked cookies and wine, PVS members learned about the latest in ski equipment and attire from Joel, the store manager.



Technological changes in skis and boots are trickling down from the high-end equipment to the more basic. In general, the trend is to lighter equipment. There is a change in shape from the “traditional” parabolic ski to what Joel describes as a “5 or 4 point radius.” In essence, this means that there is a slight change in the



shape of the skis, such that there is less difference between the diameter of the center of the skis compared to the tips and tails. The result is a ski that is very maneuverable and will turn like a shorter ski, but maintain its stability. Joel showed the group a very light Solomon ski with a carbon fiber flaxseed weave; this ski has a “cored out” tip and tail to make the ski easier to ski.



To my eye, most of the skis on display had quite wide tips as well as a wide center diameter (at least 85 cm). The theory is that the wide tips are better for variable snow – they will allow the ski to plow through choppy snow and stay on powder. They, however, are not likely to work well in moguls; a ski with a narrower center, such as 78-80 cm, is needed for this type of skiing.

Another major trend is to purchase skis and bindings separately, as opposed to buying a complete “system.” Joel believes that a flat, rather than a raised binding (on a plate), performs better. He noted that if you purchase wider skis, you should get wider bindings. Bindings are now compatible with the Gripwalk system.



Most of today’s boots are heat moldable, which gives skiers a much better fit. One of Joel’s favorite ski boots is a high-end \$649 Nordica. This boot is lightweight and the shell is heat moldable. He also pointed out a \$399 Solomon, a \$299 Atomic, and a \$449 Dalbello boot; all of these have moldable shells. The Dalbello boot has a three-piece shell, which makes getting in and out of the boots easier. Because of the moldability, boots, in general, fit better than in previous years. Apparently, neither Lange nor Technica have moldable shells.





Lightness is also the trend in helmets. Traditional helmets have a hard plastic shell glued to a foam mold (I know this is correct because I had a helmet last year that separated from its core). A new helmet design (Mippes) has a shell that is suspended within the helmet and rotates around the head; this technology is supposed to lessen the force of an impact. Joel pointed out that all helmets are designed for a single impact – a damaged helmet must be replaced (hopefully, the skier will survive to purchase a new helmet). He showed us a high-end \$275 Smith adjustable venting helmet that is made of green “tubes” arranged in a pattern; this helmet is very light, but strong.

With goggles, the news is magnetic-held lenses that are easy to change (price \$150 and up). The goggles come with two lenses – one for sunny conditions and the other for low

light. Each brand has its own proprietary lens type, e.g. Giro uses Zeiss lenses, Oakley has Vivid lenses, Smith has

Chromopop. These lenses are not just tinted, but contain pigments injected into the lenses. As a result, the lenses have much more contrast and allow the skier to see more detail in the snow. The Giro and Smith goggles have little tabs that prevent the lenses from popping out in a fall.

Ski clothing is also getting lighter and thinner, with the use of more high-tech synthetic insulation. Fabrics are also becoming more stretchable. Joel showed us a

stretchy, lightweight outfit made by Strafe that he uses; he claimed that this clothing was more waterproof and breathable, although he acknowledged that the outfit was not particularly warm.

With all of this talk of ski gear, I am looking forward to the beginning of the ski season and more snow in the West than we had last year.



*Cara Jablon*

# Members' Corner



J. David Warthen, Jr.  
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## Happy Hanukkah & Merry Christmas!!!

It is hard to believe that the holiday season is upon us already. What happened to Fall? Time flies with an early snowfall.

Are you signed up for ski trips for 2019? Snowmass, Sun Valley, and Steamboat Springs are available. Still time to sign up!

The Holiday Party is only a week and a half away and the first PVS Ski Trip is only 5 weeks away. Have you planned on what appetizer or dessert you will be bringing to the Holiday Party; are your skies ready for the slopes? Tick tock, tick tock, time is flying by.

## TOOT Distribution to 147 Members:

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### **Thanks to:**

- TOOT Coordinator - E. Thayer
- TOOT USPS – J. Read & L. Triau
- TOOT Layout Editor - J. D. Warthen
- TOOT Electronic - J. D. Warthen

### **Roster Changes:** (contact [dwarthen@verizon.net](mailto:dwarthen@verizon.net))

-see the November 1, 2018 Roster

### **End of the Year Thank You:**

This issue of TOOT is the last publication for 2018 and marks 53 years of our TOOT archives:  
< <http://www.pvskiers.org/newsletter/newsletter.html> >.  
Each issue is available for viewing on the PVS web site, in case you have not explored our friendly site. Also, there is a mechanism, listed under Prior Year TOOTs, for searching the archive for a specific article via keywords. Thanks go to our webmistress, Mary Ellena Ward, who continues to amaze us with her cybertechnology. The PVS website is a beauty of color and organization.

A special thank you goes to our TOOT contributors for volume 53. Writing an article for the TOOT can be a royal pain in the TOOT, during our busy lives, but it is much appreciated by the TOOT Staff. Your promptness is greatly appreciated every month. TOOT is the tie that binds us together each month and keeps us from not showing up for something on the wrong date and time.

Ellie, we thank you for keeping the TOOT Staff honest and on time. Jan, what would we do without you? Your faithful service over years and years is commendable as a Layout Editor. And Kerry, your expertise as a Layout Editor has grown by leaps and bounds. We appreciate your service on the staff, for you are one of the slaves too. ;-)

### **Honoring Past Members Who Have Left Us This Year:**

Marianne Arden Cook - February

[In Memoriam](#)

Keith Warren Lyon – July

[In Memoriam](#)

Glade F. Flake – December

[In Memoriam](#)

Margaret Wykoff has been in the hospital and is now recovering in rehab. Margaret, we hope that you will be home soon and fully recovered.





**In Memoriam - Glade F. Flake  
(Age 94)**

Died Monday, November 19, 2018. Born in Sydney, Australia, Mr. Flake was the son of Valerie Burns and Wilson C. Flake.

Glade attended Scots College in Sydney, Australia. Upon graduation in 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Army serving in the Pacific Rim during World War II. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill through the G.I. Bill. Beginning in 1951, Glade was assigned to the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Corps. He was stationed in Germany, San Francisco, Korea, and Washington, DC. Glade retired from the U.S. Army as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1969. He established his private practice specializing in Military Defense Law in Chevy Chase, Maryland where he practiced law for the next 30 years.

Glade had two passions in his life: skiing and boating. He was a member of the Annapolis Yacht Club, the US Ski Patrol, and the Potomac Valley Ski Club. He skied mountains located all over the world: U.S., Canada, South America, New Zealand, Australia, and Europe. His greatest joy was knowing all of his grandchildren inherited his passions for skiing and boating.

Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Joan, of Potomac, Maryland; their four children: Anthony, Robert, Jennifer, and Jacqueline; and their nine grandchildren. A graveside service will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.



*Published in The Washington Post on Nov. 25, 2018*



### PVS Calendar 2018

Dec 01 Sat "Billy Elliot" at Signature Theatre, McKinley, Shirlington, VA, 2:00 PM  
 Dec 11 Tue Monthly Meeting/Holiday Party, Hotalings, Arlington, VA, 7:30 PM  
 Jan 05 Sat Snowmass 2019 PreTrip Luncheon, RSVP to Lakes, Oakton, VA, 1:00 PM  
 Jan 20 Sun Fantasticks at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, VA, Rettig, 3:00 PM

### PVS Ski Trips 2019:



January 9-16, 2019  
**Snowmass, CO** (Kathy & Barry Lake)

February 2-9, 2019  
**Sun Valley, ID** (Inge Lesjak)

March 9-16, 2019  
**Steamboat Springs, CO** (Cara & Bob Jablon)

**Useful Ski "Links"**  
[Potomac Valley Skiers](#)  
[BRSC Sanctioned Trips](#)  
[DC Ski Online News](#)  
[Best of Times Ski Club](#)

### **ExCom**

<p><b><u>Officers:</u></b>          President – <i>Bob Jablon</i>          V. President – <i>Janet Marx</i>          Secretary – <i>Ellie Thayer</i>          Treasurer – <i>Dick Schwartzbard</i>          Ex Officio -</p> <p><b><u>Board Members:</u></b>  <u>First Term:</u>  <i>Melissa FitzGerald</i>  <i>John Holt</i>  <i>Barry Lake</i>  <u>Second Term:</u>  <i>Inge Lesjak</i>  <i>Nancy McKinley</i>  <i>Tom Tycz</i></p>	<p><b><u>Chairpersons:</u></b>          Ski Trip Committee – <i>Rosemary Schwartzbard</i>          Events – <i>Ray and Nancy McKinley</i>          Membership Records – <i>Dave Warthen</i>          Membership PR Reps – <i>Inge Lesjak &amp; Marianne Sophonis</i>          TOOT Coordinator – <i>Ellie Thayer</i>          TOOT Layout Editors – <i>Jan Marx, Kerry Hines &amp; Dave Warthen</i>          TOOT (E-Distribution) – <i>Dave Warthen</i>          TOOT (USPS Distribution) – <i>June Read &amp; Liz Triau</i>          Webmaster – <i>Mary Ellena Ward</i>          Meeting Records – <i>Sue Lyon</i>          Historian – <i>Jan Marx</i></p>
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**Reminder:** It is club policy that contact information in the club's roster not be used for promoting personal business, for advertising, or for personal financial gain without the advance permission of the individual member to be contacted. Membership contact information shall not be distributed outside PVS.

