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*Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.*  
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

NOVEMBER 2012

[www.pvskiers.org](http://www.pvskiers.org)

[info@pvskiers.org](mailto:info@pvskiers.org)

### President's Message:



It all started with right turn on red. Drivers now believe they have free rein to ignore all traffic and safety regulations. Not that we didn't have impatient, dangerous drivers on the road before – they have always been there. Yet, I believe that we are in a different realm today. Every time I return home safely, I am not only thankful, but also amazed.

I realize that right turn on red saves time and gas. But, left turn on red? That seems, in the minds of many drivers, to be the logical consequence of right turn on red. If right turn on red is fine, let's just make it twice as good by adding left turn on red.

Then we have the drivers who believe that passing a red light well past the time the light has turned red is also a fine idea. The idea of even stopping on a yellow light seems never to occur to drivers anymore. And stopping for a pedestrian in a cross walk – please!! Although DC law requires drivers to stop for pedestrians in any cross walk, any pedestrian who tries this maneuver risks life and limb. Further, the cars that do stop run a substantial risk of being hit by the tailgating drivers who keep barreling on, unaware of the crossing pedestrian. As a pedestrian, make sure before you cross that no car has the bright idea to run a red light. Quite recently, I

was crossing the street at a light – fortunately, I did not cross immediately after the walk sign came on, as a driver made a very fast left turn on red many seconds after I had the walk sign.

We also have the drivers who decide to turn into moving traffic, requiring drivers to slam on the brakes to avoid an accident. I have also had the experience of drivers in the right lane, without warning, deciding to cross over the moving traffic in the left lane to make a left hand turn. Then, of course, there are the impatient tailgaters who persist in closing in on you, no matter how much you signal them to slow down and keep their distance. This is a big problem in DC where we have quite a few traffic cameras, very low speed limits, and very expensive tickets. Invariably, the Maryland and Virginia drivers, who do not seem to be aware of the location of our traffic cameras, will push up against the DC drivers who know the camera locations, and are accordingly watching their speed.

### **PVS Monthly Meeting**

Tuesday, Nov. 27, at 7:30 PM

Ski Center with the latest in equipment and  
ski news from **Brian Eardley**

2300 Fordham Rd. NW  
Washington, DC 20016  
202-966-4474

<http://www.skicenter.com/hours.aspx>

**Directions from I-495 inner loop and American Legion Bridge.**

**From Beltway and River Road –**

Take River Rd. southeast toward Washington, DC for 3.5 miles, then right at Little Falls Pkwy (traffic light at end of commercial section, just past a Citgo gas station), left at 1st light (Massachusetts Ave.), then right at 3rd light (49th St), 1/2 block and left into the gated parking lot.

**Directions from I-495 outer loop. From Beltway and Connecticut Ave. –**

Take Connecticut Ave. south toward Washington, DC for 2.6 miles to Chevy Chase Circle. Take 3rd right off of circle (Western Ave) and go 2 miles to the next traffic circle (Westmoreland Circle). Go 3/4 of the way around and get off on Massachusetts Ave. toward Washington, DC. Go right at 2nd light (49th St), 1/2 block and left into the gated parking lot.

**Directions from Key Bridge (Take GW Parkway to Key Bridge, if coming from I-395).**

From Key Bridge - Go left onto M Street. After 1/2 mile, keep to the right where the street name changes to Foxhall Rd. Go 2 miles until it ends at Nebraska Ave. Go right, take Nebraska Ave to Ward Circle (at American Univ). Get into the outer part of the circle and go 3/4 of the way around, taking Massachusetts Ave. headed northwest. Go 3/4 of a mile until you see Crate & Barrel on your left. Make the next left at 49th St. then 1/2 block and left into the gated parking lot.

For those of you who have driven in Manhattan, where most of the vehicles on the road are taxicabs, the above scenarios may seem like the norm. With full disclosure, I will not drive in Manhattan, and I am a nervous wreck even being in a car there with someone else driving. I always thought that driving in the DC area was far more civilized, even with the challenges of our traffic circles. We may not be as crazy as Manhattan, but we are fast approaching.

You might argue that the lack of safety etiquette on the road is simply a function of the busyness of our lives and the overcrowding of our roads. Clearly, those factors are important. Yet, I contend that opening the door to right turn on red has only augmented the inclination of drivers to push against and beyond the limits.

What does any of this have to do with skiing? Not much, you might think. Yet, on the ski slopes, we have some similar problems – the skiers who go at breakneck speed, irrespective of other skiers in their path; skiers who, without warning, change direction and ski into fellow skiers; skiers who stop right in the middle of a busy slope; and snowboarders, who often don't have much control and will plow into anything and everything.

Both as a driver and a skier, you can avoid many problems by being alert and cautious, and following the rules. In skiing, it is particularly important to be aware of the skiers and snowboarders who are both uphill and downhill, and to try to stay out of the way of any skiers or boarders who seem to have limited control. Take lessons, not only generally, to improve your technique and confidence, but also, specifically, to learn techniques to extract yourself from challenging situations. If you don't own a helmet, buy one.

I wish everyone safe driving and skiing, and I am looking forward to a wonderful ski season.

*Cara Jablon*

## Coming Event

Join PVS for the  
Eclipse Chamber  
Orchestra's concert  
Sunday, December 9  
at 3:00pm



In its 21st season of world-class performances, Eclipse Chamber Orchestra offers audiences an eclectic pastiche of music. Once again the critically acclaimed ensemble, composed of musicians from the National Symphony Orchestra, will play its subscription season at the **George Washington Masonic Temple in Old Town Alexandria, VA**, one of the D.C. area's most intimate concert venues. Please join PVS to enjoy the upcoming concert, only 1 of 3 performances in the season. We've been going to Eclipse concerts for 20 years and always hear a spectacular concert! [www.eclipseco.org](http://www.eclipseco.org)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2012 at 3 PM**

Elisabeth Adkins, Leader

Antonio Vivaldi: Concerto for 2 Flutes

*Carole Bean and Alice Weinreb on flutes*

Vivaldi: Concerto for Violin and Cello

*Heather LeDoux Green, violin and David Teie, cello*

Johann Sebastian Bach: Concerto for Oboe and Violin

*Nicholas Stovall, oboe and Elisabeth Adkins, violin*

Bach: Brandenburg Concerto #3

A reception follows the concert in the Great Hall.

Price – Seniors - \$20; Others - \$25. Tickets purchased at the door.

Please RSVP to Ray and Nancy McKinley at 703 527 7216 or at [raymckin@gmail.com](mailto:raymckin@gmail.com) by December 8 to let us know you're coming.

**We'll see you there!**

## Ski Trips:



# Steamboat Springs

*Trip lead by John Lyon and John Holt*  
**February 2 - 9, 2013**

The [Potomac Valley Skiers](#) in conjunction with BRSC invite you to attend a week of skiing in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. [Steamboat Springs, Ski Town USA](#) has a base elevation of 6,900 feet, ideal for anyone who has difficulty adapting to high altitude (sleeping below 7,500 feet keeps the headaches away). Besides offering 2,965 acres of trails and glades with a large variety for all levels of downhill skiers, Steamboat has a wealth of other activities. These activities include cross-country skiing, snowshoe tours, snowmobile tours, ice skating, soaking in the natural mineral hot springs, winter fly fishing, the winter driving school center, hot balloon rides, winter horseback riding, dinner sleigh rides, day spas and shopping in Steamboat Springs. In addition, this is the 100th anniversary of Steamboat Springs and there will be lots of additional festivities.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** The **STEAMBOAT GRAND** is a premier hotel a short 100-yard walk from the high-speed gondola with complimentary ski storage slope side. It has an outdoor heated pool and two hot tubs, sauna, full service spa and fitness center, in-room coffee makers and flat screen TVs, and wireless internet. Restaurants/cafes in the hotel: The Cabin Restaurant and Bar specializes in organic, natural and local fare; Grand Café is a casual Western theme like country store for grabbing a snack or coffee; and Bistro Bar is open pool side.

**THE COST IS \$2,045 PER PERSON**, based on double occupancy. The price includes:

**Lodging at the Steamboat Grand for Seven Nights**  
**Daily Breakfasts**  
**BRSC Welcome Party**  
**One PVS Group Dinner**  
**BRSC Dinner Dance**  
**Après Ski Parties Including One on Top of Mountain**  
**Pre-trip Party**  
**Five-day Lift Ticket**  
**Round Trip Air from Reagan National to Hayden**  
**Round Trip Ground Transfers and Tips**

A single supplement is \$685. Non-skiers deduct \$236. If airfare is not included, deduct \$466. Add \$32 to buy a 6-day lift ticket (5-day lift ticket is included).

**To reserve a place:** Please send a deposit of \$200 per person to John Lyon. See details below.

**Cancellation Policy:** There is no penalty for airline cancellation up to 95 days before the trip. There is no penalty for lodging cancellation up to 90 days before the trip. The trip leaders are continuing to work out further details regarding cancellation penalties.

**Trip Insurance:** \$140/person (group rate).

**Payment Schedule:** **A payment of \$1300 is due immediately. Final payment is due November 30.**

**For more information:** contact trip leaders John Lyon at [jslhiker@verizon.net](mailto:jslhiker@verizon.net) (703-590-2913) or John Holt [john.holt@nreca.coop](mailto:john.holt@nreca.coop) (703-915-6258). Also, see July '12 TOOT.



## **PVS & BRSC Eurofest 2013** **Chamonix, France**

**February 22 – March 2, 2013**

**Chamonix is the birthplace of modern winter sports since it hosted the first Olympic Winter Games in 1924, and Mont Blanc is the tallest mountain in Europe west of the Urals.**

Chamonix is simply one of Europe's premier ski and snowboard areas. On this trip size matters; please note the size of the Mont Blanc ski area – over 700 km of ski trails that surround our hotel that is located right in the center of Chamonix.

Chamonix is a huge winter paradise surrounded by seven superb ski areas and the most complete and varied terrain we'll visit this ski season. We will ski at Mont Blanc with 24 cable cars and 175 lifts. These cover 300 km of blue runs, 300 km of red runs, and 100 km of black runs. There are more than 42 km of cross country ski trails. Skiers can enjoy the easier slopes of Le Tour and the varied slopes of La Flegere, Le Brevent and Argentiere. Particularly famous is the 20 km run down the Vallee Blanche glacier from the Aiguille du Midi (3840 m) to Italy. This day long ski run requires advance booking with a guide, but is an experience you'll never forget.

Chamonix is also a bustling town which is full of atmosphere, with cobbled streets and squares, beautiful old buildings, a fast running river, and pavement cafes crowded with shoppers and tourists sipping drinks and staring at the glaciers above. Wander through the town and outlying villages and you will discover baroque churches and protestant chapels dating from several hundred years, hotels and palaces from the golden age, Art Deco facades, traditional farmhouses, colossal villas and chalets contrasting with modern constructions. It is this architectural diversity that contributes to Chamonix's unique and indefinable charm. If you like your snow and scenery on the wild side, give Chamonix a try.

- **Price: \$2,355 double occupancy. (Single Supplement + \$400; Trip W/O Air - \$900)**
- **Transportation – Very Simple (Easier than a trip to Vail):**
  - **Airfare: Round trip airfare direct to Geneva from Dulles Airport on United.**
  - **Ground: Round trip charter bus from Geneva airport to hotel in Chamonix (1 Hr).**
- **Lodging: Seven nights lodging, double occupancy at the centrally located (3 star) Hotel Alpina.**
- **Food: Full buffet breakfast and dinner included daily.**
- **Insurance: Emergency Medical and repatriation insurance provided at no extra cost.**
- **Sightseeing Day Trip Options**
- **Pre and Post trip extension are available.**
- **3 Blue Ridge parties with 6 drink coupons. Friday night party includes DJ for dancing.**
- **2 Wine and cheese gatherings with the PVS trip leader, plus ski tips from Mount Liberty.**

### **Ski Day Trips outside of Chamonix:**

- **Courmayeur:** Through the Mont Blanc Tunnel to Italy.
- **Verbier, Switzerland:** One day out of the six-day Mont Blanc ticket may be used at Verbier. Although there is enough skiing in the region to ski two weeks without skiing the same run twice, this could be a once in a lifetime chance to ski the prestigious Verbier. Charter buses will be provided for the day for those who are interested.

**For more information: [Dick.Comerford@verizon.net](mailto:Dick.Comerford@verizon.net), (H) 703 777-9374, (C) 571 426-3098.** For further information, see July '12 TOOT.

# **Potomac Valley Skiers Trip to the Canyons Resort in Utah**

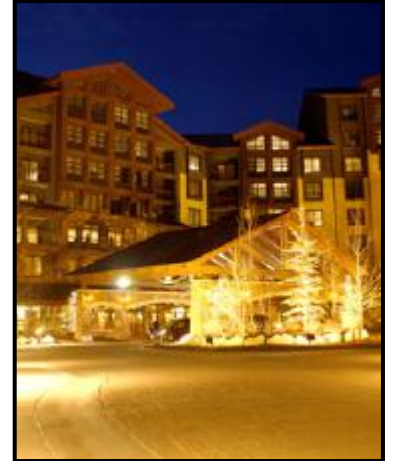
**Sunday to Sunday, March 17-24, 2013**

**Trip leaders: Liz Warren-Boulton and Reg Heitchue**

We will stay at the elegant Canyons Grand Summit Hotel (<http://www.canyonsresort.com/grandhome.html>) with ski-in and ski-out access located in the center of the Canyons Resort in Utah. The hotel's condominium suites provide complete kitchen and living room amenities with two bedrooms that accommodate two people in each.

**Package price of \$1,980 (based on a group size of 20 to 24 people) includes:**

Roundtrip air from Dulles on United Airlines (subject to change)  
Roundtrip group charter bus Salt Lake City to the hotel  
7 nights lodging in double occupancy bedroom suites  
Welcome party provided by the hotel; private mountain tour  
Pre- and post-trip party; après ski parties  
(Land package only \$1,388; single supplement \$1,259)



Discounted group lift tickets are additional and will be available at great prices.

## **The Canyons Ski Resort:**

The Canyons (40 minutes from the Salt Lake Airport) has recently been described as “the new big kid in Park City.” Since 1997 the Canyons has developed and expanded into Utah’s largest ski and snowboard resort and the 5th largest resort in the United States. The resort encompasses eight separate peaks over a span of 3.5 miles and provides a 3,190 foot vertical drop; peak altitude 9,990 feet; and base altitude 6,800 feet. There is plenty of superb skiing for everyone at all levels. Start the day on the Orange Bubble Express, a high-speed quad with enclosed cabins and heated seats – what a treat. We also plan a ski day in fabulous Deer Valley (7 miles away) and another in Park City (4 miles).

A few paces from the hotel are fun après ski venues as well as a group of fine restaurants including award winning “The Farm” as well as several great on-mountain lunch cafeterias and restaurants. For those who don’t ski (and those who do) the Canyons Spa and Health Club located in our hotel offers a wide range of rejuvenating therapies. The historic and charming mountain town of Park City is a short complimentary bus or van ride away where many beautiful art galleries, boutiques, and fine cafes and restaurants await your attention.

**Contact Liz at [elizawb@gmail.com](mailto:elizawb@gmail.com) or Reg at [heitchu@yahoo.com](mailto:heitchu@yahoo.com) .**

For further information, see July '12 TOOT.



## SKI TALK

November 2012

The fall meeting of BRSC was held at the [Wintergreen Resort](#) in VA on the weekend of September 22-23, with the meeting taking place on Saturday the 22nd. The Richmond Ski Club was host. We did not have a PVS representative at the meeting.

### Major Decisions Reached:

2014 Eurofest: Cortina, Italy, March 7-15. Tour Operator, Bob McErlean of Holidaze.

2014 Western Carnival: Vail, Colorado. Tour Operator, Effie Rubinstine of Sportours.

2015 Eurofest: Myrholhen, Austria, is planned.

2015 Western Carnival: Mt. Bachelor, Oregon.



### Spring 2013 Meeting:

The next meeting will be held at Maggianos in Tysons on May 4, the day after the Paul Weber Ski Show. The Ski Club of Washington DC will be host.

### Local Skiing:

John Smith has agreed to coordinate the local ski trips to Ski Liberty and Whitetail. We hope there is snow this year and we can have a few good days of local skiing. The Ski Club of Washington does Ski Performance Enhancement Days at local resorts where you can have group lessons to improve your skiing. As a member of BRSC we can take advantage of these lessons. You can check out the BRSC website ([skicouncil.com](http://skicouncil.com)). The workshops are scheduled as follows:

Ski Liberty, January 6

Ski Roundtop, January 20

Ski Liberty, February 3

Let me know if you have any questions.

If you have not yet signed up for a club ski trip, please read the fliers and sign up as soon as possible.

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



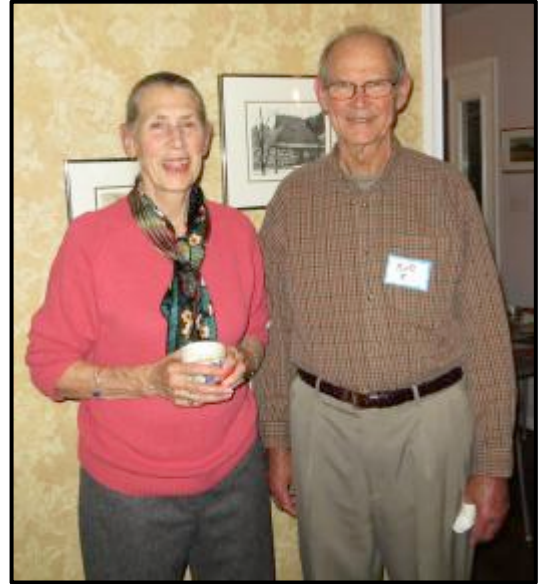
## Past Event

***October 16, 2012***



Bob and Karen Knopes graciously hosted 21 PVSers for our October meeting at their home in Fairfax Station. They served a variety of goodies, including wine and cheese. It was nice to have former PVS President Dottie Villers visiting. She reports that she has joined a ski group in North Carolina and will be skiing with them this season.

Cara kept the meeting brief because of the Presidential debate that evening. Upcoming meetings, events, and ski trips were announced, and Carolyn reported that Dave Warthen had successful hip surgery earlier that day. Everyone sends our good wishes to Dave for a smooth and speedy recovery.



*(Note Bob's bandaged thumb - non-ski related accident)*



*(Dick Commerford with Bob)*

Dessert was served, including Karen's very special homemade brownies (using a family recipe from her childhood).

After dessert Bob and Karen offered to let us stay and watch the debate.

**Thanks to the Knopes for a delightful evening.**

--David DeVilbiss





# Members' Corner

By J. David Warthen, Jr.  
[dwarthen@verizon.net](mailto:dwarthen@verizon.net)



## “Dem Bones, Dem Bones, Dem Dry Bones . . .”



This past month, the possibility of orthopedic surgery became a reality to this skiing author. I had a left, anterior hip replacement on 16 October, after dealing with my very arthritic hips for 2.5 years. Yes, there came a day when my very skilled, conservative, orthopedic surgeon said, “I recommend a total hip replacement.”

However, I had the choice of continuing with ever decreasing range of motion, pain and poor mobility, or I could bite the bullet, and move forward for a

healthier future. After seeing my wife tackle a total knee replacement with a favorable outcome 3 years ago, I decided to move forward with the same surgeon for my hip replacement.

As our PVS Membership ‘matures’, the possibility of osteoarthritis of our joints can alter our comfort and mobility, as well as affect our ability to enjoy our favorite sport. It has often been said that if one lives long enough, osteoarthritis will become evident. Hopefully, that will not be your plight, but if it is, your options in these days of advanced medical technology are amazing. Cara has frequently mentioned issues with her knees, along with options, which allow her to continue her pursuit of the perfect mogul run.

I learned that total hip replacements can be done by anterior, lateral, or posterior approaches. Fortunately, I qualified for the anterior approach

due to a long-standing 3 times per week regimen of cardiovascular/weight-lifting training, and a 2 times per week regimen of swimming. With this anterior approach, no muscles are severed from the femur, as they are in the lateral and posterior approaches. Therefore, recovery is faster. Hopefully, I will experience a quick recovery. The anterior approach requires an orthopedic surgeon trained in that specific method, along with a special orthopedic operating table for the hospital operating room.

Based upon my experience, and my ever present, white coat syndrome, I encourage each of you to consider the options available to you in this day of medical advances, if you have to face joint replacements. I can truthfully say that the experience was not what I imagined. I would not describe it as pleasant, but it certainly was tolerable as I consider the benefits.

I thank many of you who have offered encouragement, a listening ear, and notes to me, as far back as February, when issues of hospital coverage were being challenged due to errors within Social Security and Medicare. If you find yourself in similar situations concerning hospital coverage, stand firm for what is right.



Perhaps 2014 will be a return to the slopes.

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### **TOOT Distribution to 147 Members:**

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

### **Thanks to:**

-TOOT Content/Proof Editor – E. Thayer

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--D. Warthen – Electronic TOOT

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**NEW: Click on the “Past Events” button on the PVS Website to see ‘Guest-friendly’ summaries of events.**

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**Election Day**



**November 6, 2012**

# BIKE AND BARGE BELGIUM

September 28-October 6, 2012



Dick and I had been thinking about going to Belgium this fall when we saw a Bike and Barge trip on the **BRSC** website sponsored by the Ski Club of Washington (SCWDC). It sounded like a great way to see the country and it was.

There were 23 people in the group including the group leader. We flew to Brussels and were bused to Brugge, where we met the 12-cabin barge MS QUO VADIS. The crew consisted of a captain, a cook and one other person who was deckhand/sous chef/waiter/chambermaid and whatever else was needed. In addition, our guide, Tom, accompanied us on the barge. He not only led the bike rides each day but also led walking tours through the various towns. Bicycles were provided by the barge and we biked approximately 25-30 miles per day. We started out around 9am and would meet the barge at the end of the ride at the next town. The terrain was mostly flat. Most impressive was the bike trail system throughout the countryside and cities. Cars really do share the road with bicycles. Here are some of the highlights:

**BRUGGE:** We were able to spend most of the first day on foot exploring the magical city of Brugge. The city is surrounded by canals, with swans gliding through the water. It was a Saturday and the town was filled with people enjoying the medieval buildings; the museums; the marketplace; and a gourmet food fair that took over the main square in town. The next day we started our ride along the perimeter of the city where we saw a number of windmills and proceeded on to the North Sea town of Knokke.

**KNOKKE:** This is a fashionable seaside resort on the North Sea. It has numerous cafes and a 12 kilometer long sandy beach and dunes. It also has many highrise apartment buildings and it reminded us of Ocean City.



**GHENT:** We ended our second day of bicycling in Ghent. This is now our favorite city in Belgium. It reminded us of St. Petersburg with its canals and historic buildings. We locked the bikes in the town square and Tom took us on a walking tour of the city. We saw the Cathedral and the Castle of the Counts of Flanders. We walked along a canal with endless cafes, we sampled the chocolate, had a Belgian waffle and bought mustard sold from a large wooden vat. We were also able to see the Adoration of the Mystic

Lamb polyptych panel painting in St-Baafskathedraal. We then biked a mile or so to the barge, had dinner and went back to town for an evening of carousing with Tom, the captain and the cook. The lighted buildings were magical. We topped off the evening with a beer at Cafe Galgenhuis, the smallest pub in Ghent, where prisoners were brought to await their execution.

**DENDERMONDE:** We biked to this city, which lies at the confluence of the River Dender and the Scheldt. We stopped at the town square and Tom entertained us with acting out the famous legend of a horse that was drowned here. A depiction of the horse sits on the peak of the Town Hall. We also visited the history museum and explored the town.

**ANTWERP:** It rained the day we arrived in Antwerp so we used that as an excuse not to bike and to visit the city. The captain dropped us off close to the center of the city before he docked in the marina area. Antwerp is an important diamond center and fashion capital, and that is reflected in the trendy restaurants and shops. We had a memorable lunch of moules frites; we visited the Rubinhaus, home of the Flemish painter Rubins; the Chocolate Line candy shop; the diamond district; and we wandered through many narrow streets and spacious squares.



**BRUSSELS:** The barge arrived in Brussels early afternoon and docked next to the Royal Belgian Yacht Club. We opted to skip biking that day to have more time to spend in Brussels. Tom took us by tram to the center of town and we spent several hours exploring this beautiful city. We started at the Grand-Place which is a UNESCO world

Heritage site. The gilded facades, which surround the Grand-Place, are stunning. We explored the back streets and saw the famous mannequin pis. Of course we stopped in a chocolate shop and a café before returning to the barge.

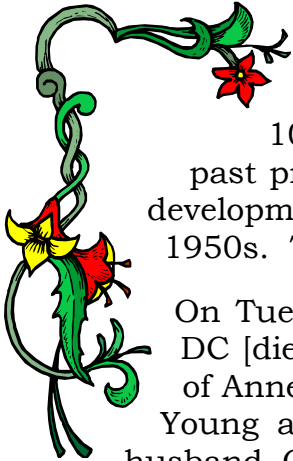


**MS QUO VADIS:** A really pleasant surprise was the barge itself and the very friendly welcoming crew. The Captain not only commanded the vessel but he also entertained us on the keyboard and the guitar. We had happy hour and gourmet meals each evening. One night we had a beer tasting; in true Belgian style each brand of beer came in its own unique-shaped glass. The last night there was a special Captain's Dinner, capped off with baked Alaska for dessert.

We biked four of the six days and saw a number of major cities, castles, cornfields, cows, sheep, horses, flowers and out of the way parks. It was a memorable trip.

*Rosemary and Dick Schwartzbard*

## In Memoriam



**Gorman P. Young** died on October 9, 2012, just six weeks shy of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was a member of PVS from 1974 – 2009. He was also a past president of the Ski Club of Washington, DC. He was instrumental in the development of “The Drift,” a one-rope tow ski area near Canaan Valley in the early 1950s. The Washington Post ran the following obituary on October 17, 2012:

On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, Gorman P. Young, age 99, of Washington, DC [died]. Beloved husband of the late Caroline H. Young; devoted father of Anne Y. Griffith and her husband Lawrence of Baltimore, MD, James G. Young and his wife Sarah of Rogers, AR, and Nancy Y. Silbert and her husband Charles of Ridgefield, CT, loving grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of eight. Gorman spent his career in real estate in the Washington DC area. He was a volunteer with the Sibley Senior Association. He was a past president of the Ski Club of Washington, DC, a member of the Potomac Valley Skiers and the Canoe Cruisers Association. He loved travel and spending time with his family.

**A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, November 17 at 2 p.m. at Metropolitan Memorial Methodist Church,  
3401 Nebraska Avenue, NW. 20016**

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Gilchrist Hospice Care, 11311 McCormick Rd., Suite 350, Hunt Valley, MD 21031.

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*Bill Anderson remembers that Gorman loved skiing in Europe and did for many years. He was born in New York City and met his wife at Duke University, NC. Because his wife did not ski, he would take her on a cruise after ski season.*

*Ellen Burgess remembers Gorman as “always the gentleman.” He went out of his way to talk to people and went “the extra mile” to help them. Ellen says he was always gracious and had a way of making her feel like she (and others) was a friend.*



## **Funeral for Sheldon Drews**

October 11, 1930 - May 11, 2012



*Sheldon's daughter Deena called Charlotte Eddy regarding information for Sheldon's funeral.*

["http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Sheldon-Drews&lc=7526&pid=157672464&mid=5107739&locale=en-US](http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Sheldon-Drews&lc=7526&pid=157672464&mid=5107739&locale=en-US) (Read complete obituary)

Interment with full military honors will be in Arlington National Cemetery on Thursday, November 29, 2012 at 9:00 AM.

Friends and acquaintances wishing to attend are asked to assemble at the Administration Building inside the cemetery before 8:30 AM.

Immediately following the interment a reception will be held at the Ft. Myers' Officers Club. If you are able to attend, please advise us at the following email address – [shel.drews.rsvp@gmail.com](mailto:shel.drews.rsvp@gmail.com)

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to:

National Air and Space Museum Wall of Honor.  
Sheldon Drews Memorial  
600 Independence Ave SW  
MRC 321 PO Box 37012"





# THE KNEE

by Ray  
McKinley

[RaysKnee@gmail.com](mailto:RaysKnee@gmail.com)

Welcome **K**neophiles. Here we are in November. It's time to again think about skiing, and of course the elections. But as you read this, I'm not thinking about either. Rather, the **K**nee and Nancy are in the city of Samarkand in Uzbekistan on a tour of the Silk Road. You know the saying "Tashkent today ski tomorrow."

Could the economic downturn be good for skiing? Marvin Hass sent my **K**nee-mail an article about it. In 1933, with one in four Americans out of work, President Franklin Roosevelt created the Civilian Conservation Corps as part of his New Deal to reinvigorate the US economy. The aim of the CCC was to address national environmental needs.

In the western and southern US the organization built roads, parks and irrigation systems. However, the Vermont supervisor was a fanatical skier, and used his "CCC boys" to cut ski trails through the forests of Mount Mansfield above Stowe, Vermont. Others chopped routes on Mount Washington. They exist and are skiable today. Perhaps President Obama can do the same today for skiers. What a legacy! How 'bout adding runs at Braddock Heights? (How many have skied there? I haven't.)

A reminder that the **K**nee can get your e-mail. Please tell me all sorts of foibles about other PVSers by using my **K**nee-mail. It's [RaysKnee@gmail.com](mailto:RaysKnee@gmail.com). Also, each month it's up just below my name in the logo. The **K**nee never reveals his sources.



The Lyons in winter: Sue Lyon will be going on a cruise out of Baltimore with a group of her neighbors. Going a bit farther, John Lyon will be headed for Africa. John and a group of friends from the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club will spend 5 days scaling 19,000-foot Mount Kilimanjaro. John hopes to "get high with a little help from my friends."

You all missed a great meeting at VEEP Bob and Karen Knopes' Fairfax Station home. There was lots of good conversation and food. Interestingly, there was no one at the meeting from Maryland. For some, getting to Knopes wasn't half the fun. Jean van der Tak and Liz Warren-Boulton carpooled from DC, got lost, and spent 90 minutes on the road. Yuck. The November meeting will make up for some of this. At the Ski Center, it will only be three blocks from Jean's DC abode.

Up from Carolina to Pittsburgh for her 50<sup>th</sup> (sic) college reunion, former PVS Pres Dottie Villers was a welcome visitor. Dottie is now Pres of the Cape Fear Ski and Outing Club.

In ski news, Dick Comerford said that Arapahoe Basin, CO had opened on October 17—first in the nation. We also found that Dave Lerner had completed his move to Park City and was rarin' to get on the slopes.

David Payne sent me a great item on a traditional type of skiing in the Sierras. They ski as they did in 1867--on 15 foot-long wood skis bound to boots with leather straps. Sounds like fun. Imagine trying to check them on an airline--or riding a high speed quad. David hasn't tried them—and the **K**nee certainly isn't a candidate!

Several PVSers are recovering: Jack Sloan had a heart valve replaced and is now back home recuperating—having, of course, cuperated earlier. Dave Warthen had only a short hospital stay after his hip replacement surgery. The Doctor told Dave he was in such great shape that they could do a simpler procedure of moving the muscles away, rather than cutting through them. Right on!

Our October host, Bob Knopes, had his thumb in a cast after a fall required four stitches. That's really thumbthing!

Dick Comerford had a shorter annual trip to Munich's *Oktoberfest*. After one day of "festing," Dick was over beered, and moved on.

Ellie Thayer and Jack Chapman go to interesting European locales for Thanksgiving. This year they'll spend T-Day in nearby European Quebec. Let them eat *dinde*!

**2012 PVS Calendar:**

- Nov 27 Tue Monthly Meeting: 7:30 PM (Ski Center, Washington, DC)
- Dec 04 Tue ExCom: 7:30 PM (Rosemary & Dick Schwartzbard, Arlington, VA)
- Dec 09 Sun Eclipse Concert: 3 PM (McKinleys)
- Dec 18 Tue Monthly Meeting: Holiday Party 7:30 PM (TBA)
- January and February Monthly Meetings will be on Sundays at 2:00 PM. (Places, TBA)



**Ski Trips:**



- Feb 02-09, 2013: PVS & BRSC Steamboat Springs, CO  
(John Lyon & John Holt)
- Feb 22-Mar 02, 2013: PVS & BRSC Eurofest, Chamonix, France (Dick Comerford)
- Mar 17-24, 2013: The Canyons, UT (Liz Warren-Boulton & Reg Heitchue)

**Capital Golden Skiers:**

PVS and CGS have enjoyed participating in several of each others' events. They are a fun group. This is a list of CGS upcoming events. More information is available at [capitalgoldenskiers.com](http://capitalgoldenskiers.com).

- November 13, 2012 (Tuesday) –An Evening of Bridge (VA)
- November 15, 2012 (Thursday) –Sugarloaf Mountain Hike (MD)
- November 17, 2012 (Saturday) -*Cantorial*, Little Theatre of Alexandria, (VA)
- November 18, 2012 (Sunday) –Dance at the Elks Lodge (VA)
- December 11, 2012 (Tuesday) –An Evening of Bridge (VA)
- December 16, 2012 (Sunday) –Dance at the Elks Lodge (VA)
- December 19, 2012 (Wednesday) -Planning Meeting (MD)
- December 19, 2012 (Wednesday) -Holiday Luncheon (MD)
- December 30, 2012 (Sunday) -Special Exhibits & New Year Concert Nat'l Gallery of Art (DC)

**Useful Ski "Links"**

- Potomac Valley Skiers..... [potomacvalleyskiers.org](http://potomacvalleyskiers.org)
- Capital Golden Skiers..... [capitalgoldenskiers.com](http://capitalgoldenskiers.com)
- BRSC Sanctioned Trips..... [skicouncil.com/tripsbydate.htm](http://skicouncil.com/tripsbydate.htm)
- DC Ski Online News..... [dcski.com](http://dcski.com)

**Officers, Board Members, & Chairpersons**

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| President – <i>Cara Jablon</i>                                         | EXCOM:                            |
| Vice President – <i>Bob Knopes</i>                                     | First Term:                       |
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| TOOT Content/Proof Editor – <i>Ellie Thayer</i>                        | <i>John Holt</i>                  |
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