

Volume 48
Number 9

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

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2013

www.pvskiers.org

info@pvskiers.org

President's Message:



Welcome to the latest edition of TOOT! It continues to maintain its original purpose of sounding the horn about PVS happenings. TOOT was originally mimeo'd and mailed to our 30 members. We've come a long way to this all-electronic, color document. You might not know it, but this newsletter, along with PVS, has been in existence since 1965 making this issue officially Volume 48, Number 9. That means we've been producing TOOT for the 48+ years of PVS existence! How many ski clubs can claim that kind of longevity?

I bring this history up to give some background to the kudos I'd like to offer to those who make this newsletter possible for all of us to read. We have a very dedicated staff of PVS perfectionists who publish our TOOT month after month. This is no mean feat! And the salary for this work is not much – well, actually, it's zero... We thank them all!

Here's how this mammoth undertaking is accomplished:

Ellie Thayer, PVS Secretary and former VP, keeps track of the goings-on and sends a notice in the middle of every month to all those folks who've volunteered (or have been volunteered) to host a meeting, event or ski trip or who will be creating another sort of article for the TOOT. Our regular columnists, Ray McKinley (The Knee), Rosemary Schwartzbard (Ski Talk), and Dave Warthen (Members' Corner) put together monthly fascinating tidbits. Ellie reminds us all of the deadline and collects every piece as it comes in. Then the real fun for her begins! Ellie, with her eagle eye, edits out all of our mistakes in grammar and typing and makes our content readable for us all. Let me tell you, she's amazing at finding those little (and big) distracting errors.

All of these journalistic gems then head off to one of our three layout editors who take on the role in turns: Dave Warthen, Jan Marx and Marvin Hass. Each then tirelessly pulls it all together into one document. They photo-shop pictures that don't quite measure up and they poke and prod and fit all the pieces of the puzzle together. They manage the calendar and make a final check of the TOOT before sending it off to Dave Warthen who works his magic on final formatting in Word and PDF (and one last long critical look) before he pushes the "send" button every month. Seven volunteers print off the TOOT in hard copy and send it to each of 8 long-time PVSers who are unable to access TOOT on email, so thanks to these folks as well.

So that's how we get the gossip and find out what's up with our club. When you next see Dave, Ellie, Jan or Marvin, give them a high-five or a high-ten for the great work - we *heart* them! And if you have a talent, consider offering it up to PVS. Contact a member of ExCom. For instance, you could host a meeting or, if your home doesn't work well for hosting a meeting, consider signing up to help someone who's volunteered to host. It would be greatly appreciated by all.

Don't forget: ski trips are filling up fast so make your decision and sign up now!
See you on September 17 at Leonhardts' at our upcoming monthly meeting.

–Nancy McKinley

September General Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2013, 7:30 PM

At the home of Barbara & Fred Leonhardt

606 Firehouse Lane

Gaithersburg, MD 29878

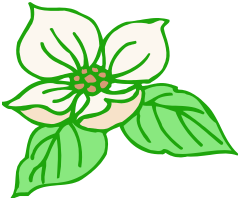
fbleonhardt@starpower.net, 301-963-8111

Come and join fellow PVSers at this monthly gathering in the Kentlands area. We will be celebrating the end of summer, anticipating the upcoming ski season, and enjoying the Leonhardts' hospitality.

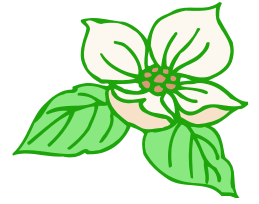
Directions:

- Take Interstate 270 North to exit 6B (West to Darnestown).
- Follow Route 28 West, making no turns for 5.2 miles (measured from the bottom of the I-270 ramp).
- At the signal, turn right onto Tscheffely Square Rd (the main Kentlands entrance).
- At the 3rd stop sign, right onto Leekes Lot Way, an immediate right onto Firehouse Lane (7th house on the right).
- Carpooling is advised.





In Memory of Dick King 11/21/28 - 7/5/13



Richard H. King passed away at the age of 84 in Albuquerque, NM on July 5, 2013 after a lengthy illness. Dick was the last of eight founders, including Brooke Armat, Bill Stecher, and five other Potomac Valley Skiers. Dick, Brooke, and Bill were an unlikely combination: Brooke was a lawyer, Bill a physician, and Dick a federal security officer. What brought them together was their mutual love of skiing.

Dick is survived by his wife, Julie, who is an honorary member of PVS. Later in life he became a member of the Duke City Barbershop Chorus, a life member of Amity Lodge, and an avid golfer, bowler, and metal-detecting hobbyist.

Dick was born in New England. And despite his vociferous claims that it wasn't the case, he never really lost his New England accent.

Dick King was a skier. In 1964, Dick was among several individuals who joined the National Ski Patrol. They had bonded on a 1963 European flight in which the wholesaler absconded with all of the funds for the land package. There they met many others who would help form the nucleus of PVS. Dick, Bruce Harstad, and Bill Stecher rented a room at the Old Bedford Hotel for the entire 1964-65 ski season while they patrolled at Blue Knob and created the concept for PVS. In 1965 PVS became an organized club and held its first formal meeting on November 16.

Former PVSer, Pat Cope, recalls that Dick nearly saved her life in 1963, skiing in France. Pat fell, got a concussion and was dazed on the slopes. Dick King found her and skied down the mountain with her.

Early October 1966 Dick left for his first sojourn in Saigon. In May of 1968 he returned via Cervinia, Italy for a little spring skiing and went back to skiing and patrolling – his great loves. In 1970, while at the Pentagon, Dick met Julie who was to become the love of his life. Dick returned to Saigon in 1972 and re-met Julie – love bloomed. Julie's tour was up – she returned to the U.S. Dick followed. They married here and both returned to Saigon for a final tour. Dick introduced Julie to skiing in 1974 taking her to the USSA ski week at Sun Valley, Idaho.

Dick retired from government and started a second career with Martin Marietta in Denver; he and Julie moved there in 1979. They moved back to Maryland in 1981 and Dick became the editor of TOOT. He had a mild heart attack in 1983, from which he fully recovered. However, he couldn't go above 10,000 feet, precluding most Colorado skiing. Dick gave a great opening speech at PVS's 25th anniversary party in 1990. He and Julie returned to Albuquerque in 1992.

We give a fond farewell to a founding father of Potomac Valley Skiers.



**Dick King in Chamonix, 1963.
Photo by Pat Cope**

--Ray McKinley

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE PVS WEB SITE

ExCom has received numerous requests for simplification of the login mechanism that we use to maintain privacy of user information that may be contained in the TOOT and in the ExCom minutes. It has now been simplified. Users can now log in using any one of the following three usernames:

member
Member
MEMBER

The password is:
TOOT

TOOT is all uppercase. Old usernames and passwords still work, so there is no need to change the way that you log in if the old login method was working for you.

-Dave Lerner, Webmaster pvskiers.org

Coming Event:

Fort Myer Officers' Club for Dinner and Dancing, September 7, 2013



Joe Jevcak is sponsoring a "Dinner and Dancing" get together for PVS members at the Fife and Drum Room of the Fort Myer Officers' Club on Saturday, September 7, 2013, at 6:30pm. Ft. Myer has a highly acclaimed dining room overlooking the lush landscaping surrounding the pools and stunning views of Washington. Dinner is served from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Music (trio) and dancing from 7pm. Entrees range from \$10 to \$30. Attendees should email Joe Jevcak at joejev@rcn.com with the names of guests by September 7 for reservations. All guests must present a picture ID at the Fort Myer Gate. Dress is "Dressy;" men wear jacket and tie. E-mail Joe with any questions.

Directions 1. **West Gate** – Exit Washington Blvd at 2nd Street and enter Fort Myer at the Hatfield (Main) Gate. Turn at the first left, Sheridan Avenue, and drive to the end. Turn right on Jackson Avenue and turn right at the second driveway, entrance to the parking lot. Officers' Club is across the street.

Directions 2. **North Gate** – Drive south on Fort Myer Drive / N. Meade Street to the end. Turn right on Marshall Drive and enter Fort Myer at the Wright Gate. Drive up the hill on Jackson Avenue to a top sign. Turn left at the second driveway, entrance to the parking lot. Officers' Club is across the street.

Coming Events:

***Cruise to Watch the Start of
the Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race, October 17, 2013***



PVS members will board the Catherine Marie yacht (pictured) for a 3-hour cruise on the Chesapeake Bay to watch the start and some of the race of about 30 schooners (sailing vessels with 2 or more masts) as they sail toward the finish line in Portsmouth, VA, <http://www.schoonerrace.org>. The cost of the cruise is \$49 per person. If you wish to join us, contact Barbara Leonhardt, 301-963-8111 or fbleonhardt@starpower.net; payment is due upon making the reservation and please send your check to 606 Firehouse Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20878. Cancellations can be accepted up to 7 days before the cruise and the cost will be refunded. We have just 20 tickets reserved. The cruise will start at 11:30 AM at the dock in Annapolis and will return at 2:30 PM. **Boarding starts at 11:15 AM.** There is fee-parking at the municipal

garage in Annapolis; carpooling is encouraged. There will be no food served on the cruise, but you are welcome to bring your own lunch (but not beverages). Beverages will be available on board for purchase. More details, such as a map to show parking location, will be sent later.

Further information: <http://www.pvskiers.org/jdwjr/Cruise.pdf>

A Culinary Experience at Culinaire

Tuesday, October 29, 2013 ----- Arrival between 11:45 and 12:15

Join us for a repeat luncheon performance at Culinaire Restaurant, the restaurant at the Art Institute (ai) of Washington's culinary school in Rosslyn. The culinary students, supervised by a chef instructor, cook and serve, and the guests dine and enjoy. The light and airy setting is on the 12th floor at 1820 North Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, Virginia, with large picture windows looking outward as well as large picture windows looking into the kitchen. If our party is large enough (23 - 35), then we can reserve the entire restaurant. Otherwise, we will reserve a set number of tables. Expect prices to be around \$20.00 to \$24.00 for three courses.

Tuesday, October 29 is the date; scattered arrivals between 11:45 and 12:15 are requested; and credit card is the only allowable form of payment. The building is across the street from the back exit of the Rosslyn metro. There is metered and garage parking available in Rosslyn also. Contact Ellie Thayer at ellie.thayer@comcast.net or 703 944 4653. The deadline for signing up is October 22, 2013.

Coming Event:



Join PVS for

A Trip to Historic Fredericksburg, Virginia Saturday, November 2, 2013

Experience a day back in time with PVS's Melissa FitzGerald, whose family was instrumental in resurrecting and preserving the legacy of historic Fredericksburg, Virginia. Ray and Nancy McKinley join Melissa in offering a tour of historic sites from the 1700s in Fredericksburg, just 50 miles south of D.C. The lovely old town on the Rappahannock River boasts 18th century and Victorian houses, is the site of three significant Civil War battles, and is where George Washington got his early education. Adding to its charm, the historic district of Fredericksburg is home to numerous galleries and cafes. Melissa will help make history come alive as she regales us with stories of Fredericksburg's illustrious past.

Choose to drive (or carpool) the hour's drive to Fredericksburg. Alternatively, take a peaceful train ride to the center of town on Amtrak from Alexandria leaving at about 8:00 am (round trip about \$50). We will meet at the Visitor's Center at 10:15 am and take a 75-minute (\$17) guided trolley tour of the highlights: Kenmore (Betty Washington's home), the Mary Washington House, the fascinating Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop, and the Rising Sun Tavern built by George's brother. After our tour, stop for lunch at La Petit Auberge or Eileen's café in the middle of town. Then plan to walk and visit some of the sites in more depth, or stroll the streets of shops and galleries.

If you come by car, you may visit Chancellorsville Battlefield (site of one of the bloodiest days in the Civil War) or relive on film the critical battles at the Fredericksburg Visitors Center where an excellent museum provides details. On your way back to Washington you may stop off at Belmont, the home and studio of Gari Melcher, one of the most celebrated American artists of the late 19th century.

To sign-up or if you have questions, please contact Melissa FitzGerald at 703-476-9259 or at thediehlhouse@gmail.com. We'll match carpool groups and have details of train transportation. Fees to enter some sites in the town of Fredericksburg are around \$5. The films at battlefields are free.

This will be a full day of historic delights – join us!

SKI TALK
September 2013



Now that you have signed up for ski trips next season, it is time to think about how you can make your travel experience more comfortable. There are several things you can do to simplify travelling. First, of course, is to minimize your luggage, pack in an efficient way and only take what you need on the trip. You might want to invest in some of the new technical ski clothing that is lightweight but warm. That way you will not have a lot of bulk in your suitcase. Also, you may want to consider renting skis, but we always recommend you take your own boots.



If you want to take your own skis, consider shipping by **Fed Ex**. Dick and I have been doing that for the past several years and it is efficient, cost-effective and easy. At least a week before you leave, take your skis in a ski case to your nearest Fed Ex office and ship them via "Ground." We ship two pairs of skis in one bag and it usually costs less than \$50 for a domestic trip. When we get to the hotel, the skis are in our room or in the ski room waiting for us. Be sure to take the Fed Ex forms for return shipment with you so that you can give them to the hotel.



Another way to make your trip more user friendly is to become a **Global Entry Member**, which was created by and is administered by U. S. Customs and Border Protection (CPB). This will allow you to come into the country from overseas trips through an automated kiosk and avoid the long customs/immigration lines. In addition, you automatically become part of TSA preferred fliers for domestic flights and receive expedited screening benefits. Participants use dedicated screening lanes for benefits which include leaving on shoes, light outerwear and belts, as well as leaving laptops and 3-1-1 compliant liquids in carry-on bags. Dulles Airport is one of the participating airports where you can go through the special lanes and avoid long lines.



To become a Global Entry Member you have to be a U.S. citizen; have never been convicted of a crime; and have never been found in violation of customs and immigration. The cost is \$100 for five years. Go to <http://www.globalentry.gov> for more information and the application. Once you apply, you will be contacted if you qualify for membership. Then you will schedule an interview and be fingerprinted. This may sound like a hassle and it is. However, once you experience avoiding the long screening lines and walking right through customs and immigration, you will be glad you applied!

If you have not signed up for a ski trip and are still considering it, please contact the ski trip leader and let them know. Also, they can answer any questions you have about the trips.

--Rosemary Schwartzbard, rosemaryschw@gmail.com

2014 Ski Trips	Date	Leader	e-mail	Home phone
Snowmass , Colorado PVS	January 15-22	Carolyn DeVilbiss & Louann Eadie	carolyn.maurer@verizon.net louann50@mac.com	703-370-4865 703-860-0318
Vail , Colorado PVS-BRSC	February 1-8	Inge Lesjak	skislovenia@aol.com	703-913-0759
Alyeska , Alaska PVS	February 25-March 4	Kerry Hines & Marianne Hines	klhines@erols.com mchines@erols.com	540-364-4810 540-364-4810
Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy PVS-BRSC	March 7-15++++	Dick Comerford	dick.comerford@verizon.net	703-777-9374

Snowmass 2014

Wednesday to Wednesday, January 15-22, 2014

We're going back to Snowmass!! Join us for a return trip to this "Old Faithful" ski resort. Once again, we will be staying at our beloved Snowmass Mountain Chalet. Reserve your space now for this PVS favorite!

- Snowmass offers direct access to 3,100 acres of slope-side skiing just outside the door.
- The skiing terrain totals more than 5,000 acres with interchangeable lift tickets and free bus service to Aspen Highlands, Ajax Mountain, and Buttermilk ski areas.
- Slope-side 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 airfare (or land only), van to and from airport, hotel gratuities, ski passes (at a great rate), pre-trip party, hotel apres ski parties, and group dinner to celebrate our trip!



Trip costs:

Full Snowmass trip package	\$1,965	
"Land only"	\$1,432	
Single Supplement	+\$711	(greatly reduced this year)



PVS has reserved 21 rooms. Those interested can now register by sending **\$300 to Carolyn DeVilbiss** at 4508 Peacock Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304 (note "PVS-Snowmass 2014" on the memo line)



Sign up early for the limited air spaces (good price, good schedule)!

***A male is looking for a roommate.
If interested, please contact us immediately!***

For more information contact trip leaders:
Carolyn DeVilbiss at 703-370-4865 h, 703-509-0189 c
(carolyn.maurer@verizon.net)
Louann Eadie at 703-860-0318 h, 703-203-0936 c
(louann50@mac.com)

Ski Trip:

**POTOMAC VALLEY SKIERS / BLUE RIDGE SKI COUNCIL
TRIP TO VAIL, COLORADO, February 1 – 8, 2014**

There are a few spaces left on this BRSC trip to Vail. We will be staying at the ski-in/ski-out Vail Cascade Resort and Spa which is a complete destination in itself, offering all the services and amenities you'd expect in a AAA Four-Diamond ski resort in Vail, Colorado. In addition to an award-winning spa and health club, fine dining and ski-in/ski-out accommodations, they provide a shuttle to Lionshead and Vail Village and Infinity edge outdoor pool and three outdoor hot tubs. **INFO / RESERVATION** Inge Lesjak, ingelesjak@aol.com



PACKAGE PRICE PER PERSON:

\$ 1,943.00 [from Reagan National Airport], double occupancy, Vail Cascade Resort & Spa

\$ 1,987 [from Dulles Airport], double occupancy, Vail Cascade Resort & Spa

Add \$ 788.00 for single supplement. Deduct \$ 445.00 for package without airline ticket.

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip airfare Washington, DC to Denver on United Airlines or Southwest including applicable tax as of 4/3/13
- Roundtrip group transfers with complimentary bottled water, Denver Airport to the Vail Cascade Resort & Spa with 45 minute grocery/liquor stop en route
- Seven nights lodging at the Vail Cascade Resort & Spa in rooms with one king or two queen beds
- Complimentary access to the top-rated Vail Cascade Resort Spa
- Five of Seven Day Adult Group Lift Tickets valid at Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone and Arapahoe Basin (Transportation to alternate resorts is available at an additional fee)
- Complimentary Mountain Tour on Sunday
- Wine & Cheese Welcome Reception at Charter Sports on arrival day
- Ten percent discount on ski/snowboard lessons

BLUE RIDGE SKI COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

- Sunday Night Welcome Reception, Sunday, February 2nd 7:00pm – 9:00pm
- Mid-Week Après-Ski Party Tuesday, February 4th 4:00pm – 6:00pm
- Farewell Dinner Dance Thursday, February 6th 7:00pm – 11:00pm
- BRSC RACE, Tuesday, February 4, 10am-1pm. Black Forest Race Arena



AIRFARE: UA (Subject to Change) or SOUTHWEST
2/1 # 467, 08:35am–10:43am DCA/DEN 2/1 #2019, 06:15am–08:20 IAD/DEN

Cancellation:
Penalties after 9/15/13
Full forfeiture after 12/1/13
(Submit in writing)

LODGING: Vail Cascade Resort & Spa,

- Gore Creek Restaurant, Fireside Bar
- Room Service, 24-hour front desk, Concierge
- Retail shops and Cascade Village Market and Cafe
- Business services, incoming faxes, in-room high speed internet access
- Access to Aria Spa & Club, the extensive sports, fitness and health facility
- In-room coffee and tea service
- Local telephone access, credit card and 800 access calls made from the guestroom

LIFT TICKETS:

- Five of Seven Day Adult Lift Tickets Included
- Add \$ 35.00 with final payment to upgrade to six of eight day lift ticket
- Deduct \$ 325.00 for the package without lift tickets
- Deduct \$ 20.00 for the five of seven day Senior ticket (Seniors 65+)
- Deduct \$ 10.00 for the six of eight day Senior ticket (Seniors 65+)

DEPOSIT: \$800.00/person, September 10, 2013;
\$500.00/person, October 10, 2013; final payment, December 10, 2013

Make payment to **Inge Lesjak** to reserve space on this trip 8123 Kingsview Court, Springfield, VA 22152

TRAVEL INSURANCE LINK: <http://www.travelsafe.com/travelinsurance/?ref=SPONJ01>

Ski Trip:

Alyeska, Alaska with PVS February 25 to March 4, 2014

Alyeska, Alaska <<http://www.alyeskaresort.com/>> is Alaska's premier ski area, located just 40 miles from Anchorage International Airport. Mt. Alyeska's base elevation is 250 feet and the total vertical rise is 3,200 feet. The summit is accessed by the Aerial Tram and provides a panorama of the Chugach Mountains, with water views in one direction and glaciers in the other. Alyeska offers a mountain experience for all levels of skiers and riders, with 1,500 skiable acres, 113 acres of snowmaking, and average annual snowfall of 650 inches. Ski terrain composition is 11% Beginner, 52% Intermediate, and 37% Expert/Advanced.



Accommodations are double occupancy deluxe rooms in the Hotel Alyeska with ski-in/out access. The hotel offers complimentary guest use of the saltwater pool, whirlpool, traditional sauna, and fitness room. The Spa offers an extensive variety of specialty and custom treatments.

Numerous activities available through the Hotel concierge: Heli & Cat skiing; excursions to Portage Glacier (weekends only), Whittier & Prince William Sound, Anchorage, the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center, Turnagain Arm; and arranging dogsledding, flightseeing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing. Possible Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) viewing with cooperative sun flares.

A day excursion to Anchorage for the opening ceremony of Alaska's premier sporting event, the Iditarod Musher (Dog Sled) Race, is included. Highlights of the day are: the ceremonial start of the Iditarod, dutch-treat lunch at the Glacier Brew House, tour of the Alaska Native Heritage Center, and the crazy "Running of the Reindeer."



Cost is \$1,550 per person for deluxe accommodations, round-trip air from Washington, bus transfers to and from Alyeska, Anchorage excursion, and pre-trip party. Flights to and from Anchorage are with United from BWI. Single supplement is \$645.

Options available for daily breakfast buffet, room upgrades, and trip insurance. Lift tickets are not included; costs for 70+ = \$10.00/day; 60-69 = \$45/day or \$180 for 5-of-6 day; adult = \$60/day or \$240 for 5-of-6 day.

We currently have 19 participants. We have a woman who is looking for a roommate. If interested, call or e-mail us as soon as possible. Trip Leaders: Kerry and Marianne Hines, mchines@erols.com, klhines@erols.com or 540-364-4810.

[Ski Trip:](#)

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO - 2014

PVS & BRSC (Blue Ridge Ski Council), March 7- March 15 +++++

PRICE - Approximately \$2,590 (Single Supplement - Approximately \$3,172)



Cortina is located in the Dolomites, the range that is included on the UNESCO World Heritage List for its extraordinary beauty and unique landscape. This World Heritage Site is widely regarded as being among the most attractive mountain landscapes in the world, one that you should not miss.

Cortina d'Ampezzo is a paradise for snow enthusiasts ranging from its early Olympic participation to its annual World Cup ski events. A location unrivalled by any other in the Alps, it offers a wide variety of slopes of every level of difficulty, with something to please everyone. Cortina is part of the Dolomiti Superski area, the world's largest skiing carousel that links 12 top ski resorts: one pass gives you access to 450 lifts and 1,220 kilometers of trails.

In addition to the beauty of the area and the vastness of its snow sports paradise, Cortina offers a taste of the good life with good food, great wine and the luxury of slowness and enjoyment. Soak up the international atmosphere on Corso Italia, the famous pedestrian street with classy shops, refined restaurants, art, culture, and tradition of Italy.

Included:

-Air between Washington (IAD or BWI) and Venice via Delta Airlines via JFK, and round-trip transfers between Venice and Cortina

-7 nights accommodations at a 4*+ Ancora hotel in downtown Cortina

-Full breakfast buffet and six 3-course dinners (Ancora is known for its great food)

-3 BRSC Parties: Welcome at the Olympic Ice Stadium; Après Ski at Tofana Ski Area by Cable Car; and Farewell Dinner Dance at OUR Ancora hotel with 4-course dinner, drinks, and dancing

-Après Ski wine and cheese with the trip leaders on days between the BRSC parties

-Regular trip insurance - option for trip cancellation insurance

-Fee-Based Sightseeing and Shopping Tours: Conegliano (+wine tasting), Bolzano, Innsbruck, Salzburg - more details are being developed - I have the individual prices - email me

Other Considerations:

Optional post-trip extension to Tuscany staying 4 nights in Florence at the 4* Hotel Athenaeum, daily breakfast, tour of Florence, Delta return flight from Florence - **\$550.00**

Optional 2 nights stay in a 4* hotel in **Venice** - TBD - email me

Want more information, send email with Cortina in the subject and I'll send you updated information, without obligation to signing-up: Dick Comerford, dick.comerford@verizon.net, 571-426-3098, 703-777-9374.

Members' Corner



By J. David Warthen, Jr.
dwarthen@verizon.net

Biennial Dues Period, July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015:

The new biennial dues period is progressing well. I thank all who have responded quickly with their renewal applications and remittance. I also welcome **41** Ex-CGS members as Active Members into PVS. Two months into this new biennial dues cycle, we have increased our membership to **182**, (152 Active, 6 Associate, 20 Absentee, 3 Applicant, and 1 Honorary).

Unfortunately, **25** PVS members have not renewed their memberships and are 60 days in arrears as of August 31. **Please send in your signed renewal application and remittance.**

Getting to Know New Members:

-----Bob **Kramer**, Sponsor-ExCom (CGS)-----

I love to ski. That is my passion. This past season I skied daily for 28 days straight at Vail, which is my favorite resort. I first started skiing at age 39. I long ago gave up Eastern skiing...after just one US western experience.

I use CADS while skiing. It is what I call a "knee stress mitigation system," invented and sold by Walter Dandy, of Avon, CO, at Vail and Beaver Creek. It really works wonders in overcoming the knee issues many of us have.

I also like biking, hiking, travelling, theater, classical music and opera. I enjoy working out at the crack of dawn several times a week at the Bethesda YMCA.

I am still a member (until we disband) of Capital Golden Skiers, and have been their webmaster for several years.

I am of course retired. I am an alumnus of George Washington University with a Mechanical Engineering degree, followed by a Masters degree in Engineering Management. I worked for NASA, as a research rocket manager, and also in the Apollo program. In the Navy Department, I worked as a program manager for warship maintenance, modernization, and logistic support (e.g., guided missile destroyers, aircraft carriers, battleships), and weapon system acquisition, primarily the TRIDENT submarine sea launched ballistic missile weapon system, from its inception. I also worked for the Energy Department in a nuclear reactor development program, and in technology development to support nuclear waste cleanup.

-----Marilyn **Siegal**, Sponsor-ExCom (CGS)-----

Started skiing at age 42 and never stopped till 3 years ago when I fractured my hip in a fall on skies. I am a silversmith and create jewelry with lots of bling. I have sold to stores and have done commission work.

-----Marianne & Clare **Soponis**, Sponsor-ExCom (CGS)-----

Hello, Potomac Valley Skiers!

My sister Clare and I look forward to meeting you and becoming part of your club. I've been lucky to have shared a table with some of you at the 2013 Blue Ridge Ski Council Steamboat Springs events, so I know what good conversationalists and dancers you are!

I've been skiing for quite some time, both in the USA and Europe. Before the knees began protesting, I considered myself an enthusiastic intermediate skier. I've been a member of Capital Golden Skiers for about 5 years and was the newsletter editor there for about 3 of them. My non-skier sister, Clare, joined our club and enjoyed the social events, making many friends along the way!

We enjoy travel, cooking, theater, baseball and the cultural side of Washington, DC where we live.

-----Mary Margaret **McGrail**, Sponsor-ExCom (CGS)-----

Ballroom dancing is my passion.

Hiking and skiing follow in fashion

Traveling to new places

Meeting new faces.

These are the things I like to do

And so I say - Nice to greet YOU!

Roster Changes: (dwarthen@verizon.net)

-Frank **Adamthwaite** (ZIP code)

22315-6009

-Elizabeth **Stutz** (address)

P.O. Box 63

-David & Susan **Payne** (address)

800 North Tamiami Trail, #1701

Sarasota, FL 34236-4024

-Jacques **Hadler** (e-mail)

jhadler@webb.edu

-Philip J. & Eugenia **Ufholz** (e-mail)

pu1888@aol.com

-Dorian **Janney** (e-mail)

dorian.w.janney@nasa.gov

-Robert **Magill** (e-mail)

robertmagill@hotmail.com

-See last page of TOOT for new members.

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-TOOT Content/Proof Editor – E. **Thayer**

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-D. **Warthen** – Layout Editor & Electronic TOOT



***FIREWORKS
AND GOLF AT
MASSANUTTEN!***



Inge and Sam Lesjak graciously invited all comers in PVS to join them for a golf and fireworks outing at their Virginia mountain ski home at the Massanutten Ski Resort over the 4th of July holiday. Inge and Sam arranged for a gung-ho group to enjoy a luscious dinner at their home followed by spectacular fireworks at the resort. The next day's tee time on the golf course saw Inge, Dietrich Roesler, and John and Gisela Storm braving the occasional sudden showers (followed by brilliant sunshine) to make for a splendid day of golf. No one was announced as the winner of the golf game – and we suspect there may not have been any score keeping involved!

Nancy and Ray McKinley joined the tired golfers for an afternoon of snacks and conversation before Inge, an accomplished chef, created another culinary masterpiece for all to enjoy for dinner. The holiday excursion ended much too soon. Inge and Sam made a delightful summer mountain holiday for their PVS ski and golfing buddies.

Many thanks to both of our wonderful hosts!

--By Nancy McKinley



SUMMER FEST - July 28, 2013

On a hot Sunday afternoon close to sixty people congregated at the beautiful home of Cara and Bob Jablon in Northwest Washington. The party was a celebration to welcome the new PVS members from Capital Golden Skiers and to discuss the ski trips for the next season.

The afternoon started with an array of delicious appetizers including shrimp, smoked salmon, pate, cheese, mini hot dogs wrapped in phyllo and lots of wine and soft drinks. The most popular wine was the Portuguese Vinho Verde that had a bubbly crisp taste. Perfect for a hot afternoon. One new member recalled first tasting it years ago in Portugal.

After enjoying the food, wine and excellent conversation, we had the club meeting and discussed upcoming events. Then, each of the trip leaders gave a presentation of their trip. First, Carolyn DeVilbiss and Louann Eadie discussed Snowmass and how it is the comfort trip for the club. Many new members agreed and showed interest in signing up. Inge Lesjak then discussed the Vail BRSC trip, which is rapidly filling but there is room for a few more. Kerry and Marianne Hines discussed Alyeska, our adventure trip. Although this will be the first time PVS is going to Alaska, some members had been there and talked about how beautiful the hotel is. The highlight, however, is attending the opening ceremony of the Iditarod dog race. Last but not least, Dick Comerford discussed the BRSC Cortina trip. Being a club that loves to ski but also loves to eat, we were focusing on the Ancora Hotel in Cortina, which is supposed to have an excellent chef who will prepare our three-course dinners each night!! Skiing in the Dolomites is also fantastic.

After the ski trip presentations, barbeque from Red, Hot and Blue was brought out. We indulged in pulled pork and beef brisket plus potato salad, cole slaw and fruit! The biggest problem was saving room for dessert. The desserts were spectacular – chocolate cake, strawberry cheesecake, and fruit tarts.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was the tour of the house led by Bob Jablon. Bob and Cara have collected art, pottery, and artifacts from around the world. Their house is like a museum. Bob told many stories of where and how they collected their art. Often they were surprised when a piece of fragile pottery arrived in one piece from a remote part of the world.

This was a unique afternoon combining the camaraderie of people who love to ski, who love to eat, and who have travelled around the world. We at PVS are making new friends with our new members from CGS. The two groups are highly compatible. It should be a fun ski season as we all continue to do the things we enjoy together.

We especially thank Cara and Bob Jablon for opening their lovely home to us and providing a delicious array of food and wine.



--Rosemary Schwartzbard

STEAK AND SWIM - Saturday, August 3, 2013

Kerry and Marianne Hines hosted PVS's oldest, continuous (almost) event – the summer Steak and Swim - at their beautiful home in Delaplane, Virginia. Although the Hines' home is only about 45 west of the beltway, it seems to exist in a different world. The house is located on a ridge in a former cattle pasture with a view of rolling hills in every direction and no other structures in sight. Thirty of us made the trip through the beautiful countryside to enjoy the festivities. Some of us even liked the country so much we drove past the house two times before calling for help. While the weather looked iffy for a while, it cooperated overall with infrequent rain and pleasant temperatures.



The few light sprinkles did not dissuade those swimmers who took to the water with joy. Others savored the bountiful array of appetizers and beverages, which kept us satisfied while waiting for the perfectly grilled-to-order steaks. Baked potatoes, vegetables, and salads accompanied the steaks. Dining amidst the verdant surroundings was greatly appreciated by those who live in the city. Finally, delicious desserts and coffee provided a closing touch to this special midsummer afternoon.

All of us who attended owe a special thanks to our hosts, Marianne and Kerry, who once again made their little touch of heaven available to us. New members from Capital Golden Skiers joined old-time PVSers. The event involved a lot of planning and effort before, during, and after and we all appreciate it.

Photos and slide show by Marvin Hass - <http://tiny.cc/steak-swim>.

--Contributors: Marvin Hass, Betty Byrne, & John Holt



Host Kerry grilling the steaks



Hostess Marianne inspecting the baked potatoes



Ray McKinley, Dick Comerford, and Nancy McKinley



PVSers partaking of the fare and sharing amongst friends

PVS Went to Blob's Park

Sunday, August 25, 2013



Because skiing, for which the mountain always leads, is like dancing on snow, 13 PVSers and their guests had a fantastic afternoon of dancing/wedelning on the well-groomed floor at Blob's Park – a Bavarian Beer Garden in Jessup, Maryland, that offers in addition to dancing, plenty of gemutlichkeit, beer, soda, water, and food. The well-known Mike Surratt and The Continentals provided a great variety of dance music – polkas, waltzes, rumbas, tangos, foxtrots, cha-chas, sambas, merengues, swings, and the like. However, the highlight of the afternoon was the chicken dance at which John Holt excels.

--Submitted by Herb Bennett

John & Mary Margaret





THE KNEE

by Ray McKinley
RaysKnee@gmail.com

During PVS's 1989 membership drive, the **Knee** was asked to help spur membership. So along came Poet**Knee** who composed some poet**knee** to spur on membership. Membership soared! This year Membership Chair Dave Warthen again asked us all to help before you lose your Membership at the end of next month.

So you know what you will be missing if you don't rejoin. Herewith, (I love to use legalistic sounding words like "herewith," "whilst" and "sue") an updated, shorter version of that literary classic. And it's in italics and color too.

*The **Knee**
isn't free.
You must pay for me
by rejoining PV
S.*

*The **Knee** tells all,
in **Summer**, **Winter**, **Spring** and **Fall**.
He's got up-to-the-minute gossip,
including some he makes up.*

*Now you can join a big ski club
or you can join a slight one.
Or you can join an old ski club
or you can join a young one.
But it's best for you to be
In our PVS, "**The Club with a Knee**."*

***The Club with a Knee**,
The Club with a Knee.
PVS --
the club to be
in.*

Now be honest, doesn't that leave you just a bit teary? It has an epic flavor--a light opening, a strong central theme and a lyrical, airy coda. And I'm sure you noted the splendid change of cadence in verse 3. It also shows my understanding of those major poetic terms like illiteration and automated poea. Simply wow!

The good news is that you only see this poet**knee** every two years!

If you want to rejoin and have misplaced your reapplication form, be certain to contact our superb Membership Chair, Dave Warthen, immediately. The **Knee** really **kneeds** all of his loyal readers. And don't forget to send me gossip at the e-mail address in blue in the logo.

Our annual Summerfest, beautifully orchestrated by Cara and Bob Jablon and ExCom, had some 60 people—half new members. **Kneet!** All was ready; but an hour before the event we discovered we had no nametags—needed for so many new members. Pres. Nancy saved the day with a trip to Staples.

Bad news bears: This summer Aspen has reported 20 to 40 bear complaints per day—including entering shops and homes! Some surmise it's because Aspen has all but eliminated dog packs. Luckily for skiers, bears hibernate in winter.

Even with iffy weather (I use iffy because I can't write shitty in this column. Whoops!), **Steak and Swim** was a huge success. **Kudos** (or perhaps **Klondike Bars**) to Marianne and Kerry Hines for pulling it off with aplomb!

New Member Bunny Ball had a great time at S & S. In order to attend Bunny had to find a substitute usher to take her place at the Signature Theater. Right on!

Using a walker was Blanca Hotaling. She had fallen off a ladder and fractured her pelvis. Ever buoyant, Blanca still hopes to ski.

Missing from S & S was Margaret Wyckoff. She was in Vail visiting former PVSer Ilse Keel. But too early to be PVS's first skier...

Recovering from his torn muscle surgery, Bob Jablon sat near the pool and did his stretching exercises. Bob is really a good patient. The **Knee** is impatient! And limping...

Man, but PVS has been traveling out and around this summer. Bonnie and Bill Sweeney are continuing their boat trip to circumnavigate the eastern half of the US. Ellie Thayer and Jack Chapman have returned from a trip to Missouri (which loves company – get it?) visiting Jack's family. Liz Warren-Boulton spent two months in New Zealand and Australia. And Carolyn and Dave DeVilbiss just cruised from Amsterdam to Budapest. They went from A to B.

Marilyn Siegel is back from 3 weeks in China. Asked what she thought of Red China, Marilyn said it goes fine with a yellow tablecloth.

Sometimes I can't remember if a certain item has been in the **Knee**. I call it am**knesia**. My solution is to use a lot of **kneemonics**.

2013 PVS Calendar:

- Sep 07 Sat Fort Myer Officers' Club Dinner & Dancing, 6:30 PM, Jevcak, Arlington, VA
- Sep 17 Tue PVS Monthly Meeting, 7:30 PM, Leonhardts, Gaithersburg, MD
- Sep 24 Tue ExCom, 7:30 PM, Thayer, Arlington, VA
- Oct 15 Tue PVS Monthly Meeting, 7:30 PM, Storms, Alexandria, VA
- Oct 17 The Cruise to Watch the Start of the Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race, 11:15 AM, Leonhardts, Annapolis, MD
- Oct 22 Tue ExCom, 7:30 PM, TBA
- Oct 29 Tue Culinaire, 11:45 AM-12:15 PM arrival, Thayer, Rosslyn, VA
- Nov 02 Sat A Trip to Historic Fredericksburg, 10:00 AM, FitzGerald, Fredericksburg, VA

Ski Trips:



- January 15-22, 2014: PVS Snowmass, CO (Carolyn DeVilbiss & Louann Eadie)
- February 1-8, 2014: PVS/CGS/BRSC Vail, CO (Inge Lesjak)
- February 25-March 4, 2014: PVS Alyeska, AK (Marianne & Kerry Hines)
- March 7-15++++, 2014: PVS/BRSC to Cortina, Italy (Dick Comerford)

Useful Ski "Links"

- Potomac Valley Skiers..... potomacvalleyskiers.org
- BRSC Sanctioned Trips..... skicouncil.com/tripsbydate.htm
- DC Ski Online News dcski.com

Officers, Board Members, & Chairpersons

<p>President – <i>Nancy McKinley</i> Vice President – <i>John Holt</i> Secretary – <i>Ellie Thayer</i> Treasurer – <i>Dick Laeser</i> Ex-Officio – <i>Cara Jablon</i></p> <p>Ski Trip Committee – <i>Rosemary Schwartzbard</i> Events – <i>Ray McKinley</i> Membership Records – <i>Dave Warthen</i> Membership PR Rep – <i>Carolyn DeVilbiss</i> TOOT Content/Proof Editor – <i>Ellie Thayer</i> TOOT Layout Editors – <i>Jan Marx, Marvin Hass, & Dave Warthen</i> TOOT (E-Distribution) – <i>Dave Warthen</i> TOOT (USPS Distribution) – <i>Volunteers</i></p>	<p>EXCOM: First Term: <i>Jane Dealy</i> <i>Bob Knopes</i> <i>Maryann Rozzell</i></p> <p>Second Term: <i>Carolyn Maurer DeVilbiss</i> <i>Louann Eadie</i> <i>Liz Warren-Boulton</i></p> <p>Webmaster – <i>Dave Lerner,</i> <i>Mary Ward (Backup)</i> Meeting Records – <i>Sue Lyon</i> Historian – <i>Jan Marx</i></p>
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Roster Changes (notify-dwarthen@verizon.net): New Members

<p>-Giorgio Borgiotti, Sponsor-ExCom (CGS) 4201 Cathedral Avenue NW Apt 1204E (new member) Washington, DC 20016-4977 borgiorg@comcast.net, 301-652-6391 h</p> <p>-Willard Fraize, Sponsor-ExCom (CGS) 1672 Wainright Drive (new member) Reston, VA 20190-3433 willfraize@gmail.com, 703-478-6948 h</p>	<p>-Richard D. Parlow, Sponsor-ExCom (CGS) 5706 Bideford Court (new member) Bowie, MD 20715-4372 rdparlow@comcast.net, 301-464-0711 h</p>
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