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President's Message

As I hoped, October continued the trend of a mix of warm and very comfortable (IMO) temperatures as we slipped further into fall, and we continue to look forward to our upcoming ski season. Based upon the interest in the Snowmass trip, it seems everyone is getting excited about skiing this winter.

I hope that folks had an enjoyable Christopher Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day Holiday and had time to reflect and refresh.



The Anniversary Luncheon (55+1) & Time Capsule unveil/opening was a huge success with a large number of members in attendance, which occurred on a lovely autumn afternoon at the wonderful L'Auberge Chez Francois restaurant in Great Falls, Virginia. Folks in attendance had such a wonderful time hanging around and chit-chatting with each other that management had to give a number of us the bums rush so they could set up for their other activities. Kathy and I had the pleasure of being at the table with several long time PVS members who were sharing many remembrances and ski trip stories with each other, and had a few stories/insights that I can't share here. Look for the event writeup further inside this TOOT.

The 2021-22 ski season is already underway in Colorado with skiers and snowboarders celebrating the opening of Arapahoe Basin on October 17th, and other places opening up soon as well.

The second face-to-face member meeting happened Sunday, October 24th at John Holt's house in McLean, with a few diehard members in attendance. There was plenty of wine and beer, and wonderful munchies and delicious desserts available. Look for details later in this TOOT.

I'm also happy to announce that we have a date and location for this year's annual Holiday party. It will be on Saturday, December 18 at 1:00 p.m. at Bob and Cara Jablon's home in Washington DC. Look for more details in the December TOOT. Hope to see many of you there also.

It has been a nice feeling getting together with old friends and ski buddies during our face-to-face events this spring, summer and fall, and I think that those that have participated have felt the same. So, if you feel comfortable in hosting a monthly membership meeting at your house, please reach out and let us know so we can start building up the calendar for the winter meetings.

Cheers, Barry

[Details about the December 18 holiday party hosted by the Jablons will be forthcoming later this month via an e-mail to members.](#)

Past Event

**October 24 PVS Monthly Meeting
at John Holt's**



On a beautiful fall afternoon, twelve PVSers were welcomed by John to his sunny home with a view into the backyard that overlooks a forest and the Pimmit Run ravine.

It seemed like we spent much of the time becoming "reacquainted" and exchanging summer tales. Nancy Pigman shared that her exercise instructor taught her a method guaranteed to keep low back pain at bay - and then she demonstrated it for us. John had drinks and snacks available on his dining room

table. Marianne Soponis added a couple of items.



Barry Lake called us to order. Marianne told more about the Anacostia River Boat tour on November 9th. It is outdoors, an interesting narration of that area, including wildlife, river wildlife and conservation efforts to make the river clean. There is still space available. See the announcement elsewhere in this issue.

Kathy Lake told us more about the Snowmass trip with more information to come. John Smith will continue spearheading local skiing and will send out information in the December TOOT. He says that Covid restrictions will be less complicated, and it will be easier to get tickets this year. Rosemary Schwartzbard relayed BRSC 2022 trip destinations. Future PVS meetings were discussed, and ExCom will devise a plan for the winter months.

The meeting adjourned and dessert and coffee were offered. John told us that his home-made apple pie wouldn't come out of the pan in a beautiful pie-shaped manner, so we called it apple crisp. It tasted delicious. Thanks for hosting John.

Submitted by Jan Marx



Past Event



PVS 55+1 Anniversary Luncheon



L'Auberge Chez Francois Anniversary Luncheon

Does the name L'Auberge Chez Francois evoke visions of a lovely, romantic, French inn nestled in the countryside? Perhaps with a spacious outdoor patio surrounded by fountains, a statue of St. Francis of Assisi, and colorful flowering gardens? This was the lovely setting for the Potomac Valley Skiers delayed 55th anniversary (therefore called 55+1) luncheon on Wednesday, September 29, 2021. The weather was picture perfect, the guests decked in their finery, the food and wine excellent, and the mood festive as forty-seven Potomac Valley Skiers and guests gathered for a belated and happy celebration.

The anniversary committee deserves a round of applause for organizing this special event. Headed by Marianne Sponis, and including Carolyn DeVilbiss, Jan Marx, Nancy McKinley, and Rosemary Schwartzbard, each played a role in the success of the luncheon. Below, they provide their own insightful observations about the event.

.....Ellie Thayer

Planning Made Perfect – Marianne Sponis

As the club's Program and Events Chair, I was tasked with planning the Potomac Valley Skiers anniversary celebration. My first order of business was to solicit key members to work with me! Rosemary, Nancy, Carolyn



and Jan were founts of information and enthusiastic contributors. Our zoom meetings moved us forward with choice of venue, date, time of day, vaccine requirements, program, menu, invitations, sign-ups, budget, etc. Support of our plans by the ExCom was crucial in allowing us to host the luncheon, since the club did supplement its cost from the treasury. As you will see from other comments, our planning made for a perfect party!

Greeting the attendees and seeing them reminiscing gave me great satisfaction, knowing that they, like me, valued the gift of skiing, memories and friendship gained through the years. I listened to the glories of past trips; smiled at stories of grandkids that now top the list of proud accomplishments; was saddened by the recent passing of Serge Triau and Louann Eadie, grateful to have known them, as was the case with others, present and past, who contributed to Potomac Valley Skiers.

I look forward to many more shared stories of life "on and off the slopes." One member told me how much he enjoyed the luncheon and was ready to sign up for the next one --- maybe next month?! Well, maybe not then but hopefully before another 55 years!

Rosemary Schwartzbard - Even Better Than We Hoped!

Planning our first PVS in-person meeting in a year and a half during a pandemic was a daunting task. When we decided early summer to have the luncheon, the Covid numbers were down. By the time we were into the planning, Delta came on strong. The question of moving forward was always front and center. We were hoping to have an event outside but had no idea who would agree to come. After looking at several venues, we decided on L'Auberge Chez Francois, which had an outside option if we had enough people signed up. It is a well-known

and highly reputable restaurant located in a lovely setting in Great Falls, Virginia. I first went there 50 years ago when it was located downtown and have had many great dinners there throughout the years.

Once we had enough people to afford La Grande Tente, we were more comfortable moving forward. September usually has pleasant weather and the Tente was indeed “Grande,” surrounded by flowers, shrubbery, statues and even a waterfall and two gazebos. When we arrived the morning of the luncheon to oversee set-up, we were delighted to see the beautifully set tables and lights hanging from the ceiling. We could hear birds chirping and the weather was perfect – low 70s. The sun was shining brightly. It felt like we were in the French countryside.

People began arriving at 11:30 and there was an



immediate buzz of chatting and laughing. The staff of eight were there to take any drink orders and make sure everything was taken care of. Our President, Barry Lake, greeted everyone at noon, people were seated, and the luncheon began. First course was a salad of Organic Mesclun greens followed by Medallion of Beef Tenderloin with

Bearnaise Sauce or Grilled Norwegian Salmon with Beurre Blanc; the dessert was a delicious Alsatian Plum Tarte with cinnamon ice cream. Tables were nicely spaced with anywhere from five to eight people. No masks were required.

After dessert, members were recognized for contributions to PVS, and the Time Capsule was opened by Jan Marx and Mary Ellena Ward. Both have been in the club for over 45 years. Mary Ellena and husband Jim went on their honeymoon with the club 45 years ago. They will celebrate with the group at Snowmass in January.

The luncheon was successful on many levels. It brought PVSers together after a year and a half of zoom gatherings; it got people out into the countryside on a beautiful fall day; and it was nostalgic for our members who had celebrated many important life’s events at this restaurant throughout the years.

News from Carolyn DeVilbiss

It was a year late, but on Wednesday September 29, 2021, Potomac Valley Skiers and guests gathered to celebrate the 55th anniversary of our beloved ski club. What a joy to greet each other in person, after a year and a half of pandemic-imposed sequestering and zoom encounters. Three hours was barely enough time to catch up on our lives—who has moved; how we have managed with both health and activities; connections with family and friends; who has skied and where; who has dared to travel; what news is there from members who have not come to the lunch celebration.

Our President, Barry greeted the members and invited us to sit down for a delicious three-course meal with bread,



salad, wine, salmon or beef, and the restaurant’s signature plum tart dessert – all served by attentive staff. The news from our table:



- Bing Van Nuys told us of his and Betty’s successful move from their family home to their apartment in Greenspring. His greatest disappointment was that he had to give up his beloved “antique” VW beetle. A joy is that he has been assigned a garden plot to cultivate.
- John Holt is looking forward to welcoming PVS members to his home for our October in-person meeting.
- Mike Strand has decided to stop teaching, since he does not care for the required zoom formats.
- Carolyn and Dave cruised around Iceland on a Viking cruise in July and will be off to Spain for another river cruise in October—all with strict Covid precautions.

After lunch, Marianne Soponis led us in sharing reminiscences from those present: longest membership in the club; leadership contributions as a Past President or ExCom member; those with newsletter and website responsibilities; ski trip leadership; activity leaders and hosts of in-home meetings – all contributing to the success and longevity of the club. A special thank you was extended to the absent Dave Warthen, faithful club membership recorder, dues collector and sender of news and newsletter via email to members.

The highlight of the celebration was the long-awaited opening of the time capsule, kept safe by Jan Marx for 20+ years. Mary Ellena Ward assisted as they disclosed the treasures placed there by members in the year 2000, turn of the century,

Thoughts from Mary Ellena Ward

I think Jim and I, who became involved in PVS in 1976, were the second “oldest” members present at the luncheon. Jan gets the crown since she joined with her husband Bob in 1968! In going through the time capsule, I was saddened by the many who have passed on and those who are around but could not attend for one reason or another. I was delighted in the many new ski buddies we’ve made in the years since 2000. Jim and I contributed the “PVS Friends – 1985” luggage tag to the time capsule. We still cherish our PVS Friends in 2021, even though we don’t get to see you all that often, living in Lexington, Virginia.



PS. I got Jan’s membership date from one of the TOOTs on the copy of the web site that lives on my computer. But she was characterized in another TOOT that same year as an “Old Faithful” before she ever became a member!

Bon Appétit



Comments on the Luncheon and Time Capsule – Jan Marx

The creation of the PVS Time Capsule was developed for the PVS Millennial Party held on January 1, 2000. It was to be opened in 2020, PVS's 55th anniversary year, and then Covid 19 happened. So, for 20+1 years it has resided on *The PVS Shelf* in my basement.

Mary Ellena and I pulled out items representing memories of favorite places and events that members had with fellow PVSers. Remember the Y2K bug? Well, there was a little red one of those in the capsule. It has little feet, too. We found a floppy disc with Ray McKinley's always timely, monthly gossip column, "the Knee."

The majority of items were flyers, lift tickets, pins, and group pictures from favorite ski destinations. There were items about the club in its infancy, such as articles in the "Skier" magazine, the Washington Post, and the Senior Advocate. There were two pins awarded for passing the U.S. Ski Association basic ski test, which was one of the requirements for membership during the early years. There were awards for winning ski races. Two members composed "PVS" songs. A club pin was designed, a club cookbook produced, both of which became coveted items. Also, an official PVS hat and headband were treasures of yore. Two styles of PVS T-shirts were in the box. There were items from special events, such as the Montgomery Playhouse, white water rafting, and favors from anniversary celebrations. A list of the items in the time capsule is on the court's website. Here's the link:

https://pvskiers.org/information_links/2000_time_capsule.pdf

****Any person who wishes to reclaim an item in the time capsule should notify Jan Marx by December 1, 2021. jebbmarx@aol.com or 703-451-9158. After that date, the time capsule and its contents will be dismantled.**



Coming Event

Anacostia River Tour

We've organized a boat tour sponsored by the Anacostia Watershed Society on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We have about ten spaces available for additional ski club members and/or friends. If you have interest in attending, please let Marianne Sponis know (Marianne.sponis@gmail.com or 202-363-5250). She can give you additional details and send the registration link to you. There is no charge for the trip although donations are appreciated.

We will gather on the dock at the south end of Bladensburg Waterfront Park, 4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, MD 20710. The forecast for weather that day is a nice, 60 degrees, perfect for a day in nature, learning about history, ecology, restoration, and other river stories.



SKI TALK November 2021

The following is by guest Ski Talk columnist, Cara Jablon.

Like many of you, I am very excited about going back to Snowmass in January. In preparation, I collected my old boots and skis and took a trip to the Alpine Ski Shop in Fairfax to visit Brian Eardley (an appointment is necessary). My old ski



boots were no longer viable, which I learned on a trip to the Canyons last March. Although Brian had done some work on them prior to my last trip, they cut into my ankles and created significant pain while skiing. I was somewhat wary about trying to buy ski boots early in the season, but Brian found the right boot for me in his available stock. Of course, getting the "right" boot was a 2-hour process, which involved getting custom footpads and then having the boots customized. The boot customization process starts with Brian putting sticky pads on the parts of your feet that need to have some "space." Next, the boots and liners are heated (in separate ovens). Then, your feet go in the boots and you stand with your knees slightly bent for about 10 minutes. After this, Brian puts a cooling pad around the boots to get them back to room temperature. Once the sticky pads are removed (ouch!), you try on the boots again to see if any areas need more stretching (mine did). Brian can do this final stretching without your feet. You have to bring Brian your skis in order for him to adjust the skis to the new boots.

I have been buying skis and boots from Brian for many years. Rather than demo skis, I have relied on Brian's judgment and have been very pleased with the skis that he has sold me. For a number of years, I have been interested in replacing my Atomic skis, which, while they have been the best skis I have ever owned, are showing their age. They are also very heavy, and, I like my skis, am showing signs of age and think a lighter ski would be better. For me, the demo process is problematic, as I am under five feet tall, and most demo skis are not short enough. I did demo the Black Pearl skis a few years ago and did not like them (I realize that quite a few women in our club do have these skis and are very

happy with them). After much discussion – after all, we had two hours during the boot customization process – Brian recommended a pair of Stöckli skis, which come in a short enough length. With the hope that they are actually available, they are on order!

If you do need to upgrade your boots or skis, consider a visit to Brian Eardley at the Alpine Ski Shop. Since he has been a ski tester for years, he is very knowledgeable about the many options available, and will take all appropriate factors (age, ability, height, weight) into account. For example, Brian told me that, for my height, weight, and age, Volkl skis would be too stiff. You do need to make an appointment [Phone: (703) 385-7669], as he is not at the shop all the time and is quite busy when there.

I also recommend getting the free ski tips from “Bumps for Boomers.” Although the tips focus on bump skiing, they also are very useful just for skiing groomed runs. After many years of getting these tips, I finally signed up for a class at Snowmass. I think it is always a good idea to take a refresher class every year or so. We tend to develop bad habits, and a little bit of correction can make a big difference. Some of us still have remnants of the ski techniques that were taught years ago. New skis make skiing much easier, with less wear and tear on the legs, if we use technique that is appropriate for these skis. Snowmass and Aspen have been pioneers in developing ski techniques that make it easier for older skiers to maintain the sport as they age. The website for Bumps for Boomers is <https://www.bumpsforboomers.com>.

Here are two recent tips:

- (1) Keep your hands forward and quiet – the elbows are in front of the rib cage; the hands are wider than the elbows; knuckles are rolled down toward the snow; and ski baskets are behind you.
- (2) To avoid leg fatigue in the moguls and powder, use a tall stance with your legs extended; absorb pressure changes by flexing the ankles, not bending the knees, because bending the knees puts you in the “back seat.”



I look forward to skiing in Snowmass with PVS.

Cara Jablon



IN MEMORIAM

Samo Stephan Lesjak
June 1, 1934 – October 9, 2021

Sam enjoyed a fabulous life filled with adventures, travel, sports, fun times, an outstanding U.S. Army career, family, and many, many, many friends. Prior to the COVID outbreak, Sam and his wife Inge spent their time traveling between their homes in Springfield, Virginia, and Tegernsee, Germany. Sam had multiple, complex health issues including congestive heart failure and terminal bile duct cancer. The last four months of his life were spent in emergency rooms, hospitals, doctor appointments and completing 30 rounds of radiation treatments. Sam passed away under hospice care in his home in West Springfield, Virginia on October 9, 2021.

Sam leaves behind his beloved wife Inge, his daughter Patricia, sons Sam Jr. and Robert. In addition, he also leaves behind his wonderful grandchildren Anica, Chandler, Corrin, James, Oliver, Andrew, Isabel, Phillip, and great grandson Emerson, whom he never had the opportunity to meet.

Thank you for the friendship and memories you shared with Sam.

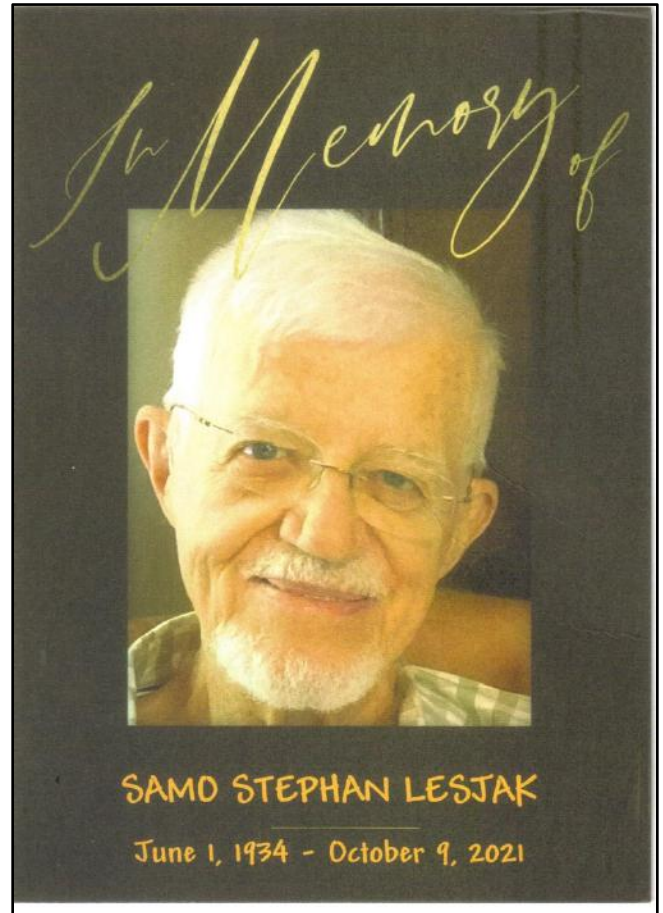
A Memorial Service was held for Sam on October 23 at the Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home in Burke, VA. Sam will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, at a future date.

Reminiscences:

From Kerry Hines - Sam came to PVS with the Golden Capital Skiers. I never had the occasion to ski with him but always enjoyed talking with him during various PVS functions and at the "Oktoberfest" gathering that he and Inge sponsored each fall. Sam had a wry sense of humor that was very evident in any conversation. I always enjoyed swapping stories about life in the military in Munich and Garmisch and remembering people that we knew in common.

From Don Vierimaa – When I saw Samo he was cheerful and smiling. He enjoyed conversation and sharing his experiences. He loved Slovenia and was proud to be a Slovenian, but he was even prouder to be an American. He and Inge hosted October Fest and other parties. If Samo was suffering due to his health, he did not complain or seek sympathy. Samo made me feel important and was a good listener.

From Bob Lesjak (Sam and Inge's son) - Sam and Inge were both avid skiers – he was president of Munich International Ski Club when both resided in Europe and Sam retired from the Army as CW3. He was born in Slovenia and traveled to Europe often on "stand by" via Military Airlift Command. Inge has led ski trips to Europe that often ended with a side trip to Slovenia for PVS members. Sam leaves behind three children, eight grandchildren and one great grandson.



In Memoriam

Louann Eadie
February 14, 1946 – September 24, 2021

Louann Eadie died peacefully in her home the evening of September 24, 2021 with her family at her side. A private Celebration of Life was held on October 19, 2021.

Louann liked to relate that she and her husband Bob were born in the same hospital, but it was not love at first sight, as they did not truly meet until many years later. Louann grew up in New Jersey and was always an athletic star. That did not stop when she attended West Chester University in Pennsylvania where she excelled at basketball and lacrosse. She earned her undergraduate degree in 1968 and, in 2011, the University inducted her into the West Chester University Athletic Hall of Fame. In 1972 Louann graduated with an MA degree in psychology from the University of Maryland at College Park.

The Eadies eventually landed in northern Virginia where Louann taught in the Fairfax County Schools from 1980 until 2007 when she retired. The focus of her teaching was coaching girls' lacrosse. In the meantime, Louann embraced tennis with her usual enthusiasm and skill as well as skiing. Louann and husband, Bob, joined PVS in 2009 and immediately began hosting meetings and events in their Reston home and joining PVS on the slopes in the American West and in Europe.

In addition to their home in Reston, VA, the Eadies are longtime lovers of Deep Creek Lake in far western Maryland. Their beloved home on the lakefront and, especially, the pontoon were a bridge to Louann's happy place.

Reminiscences

From Dave Warthen - I can't tell you how many times I have remembered taking Louann and Bob on a tour of Snowmass trails the first time they visited Snowmass. We had such fun and were exhausted. I will miss her dearly; what a wonderful human being to know and what an example of how to live.

From Marianne Sponis - I remember Louann from my first ski trip with PVS. I had previously belonged to Capital Golden Skiers who voted to join PVS. Louann was co-leading the trip to Snowmass with Carolyn DeVilbiss. Louann was loud, cheerful, and ready to get everyone going, especially to the hot tub! In all the time I've known her since, she did not change. If anything, I became a better listener when I spent time with Louann, especially because I always learned something from her vast knowledge and willingness to share with others. My sister Clare and I became good friends with her and husband Bob, meeting them sometimes for lunch after medical visits. She was always upbeat...and cheerful! Her daily Facebook posts showed a determination for a positive outlook, even, I'm sure, to the very end. We miss her already!

From Kerry Hines - I first met Louann when she signed up for the Bulgaria-Slovenia Trip in 2008 before she became a PVS member. Although she claimed that she hadn't skied for a while, she subsequently skied with the group in all types of terrain and some unusual conditions, which in one case included a complete "whiteout." With the Facetime app on her new laptop, Louann included Bob as a virtual trip participant, daily providing him pictures and live video of her experience, and she as well made the laptop available to the rest of the trip members to access the Internet. Throughout the trip, Louann showed her characteristic joy for life; good sense of humor, which frequently included a good laugh at herself; and genuine concern for others.

Shortly after we returned from that trip, Marianne and I visited Louann and Bob at their home in Reston. After noticing the head of an almost life-size Chinese terracotta warrior on the floor in their living room, we were told





that the body was in their garage because it was too heavy to get up the steps. They further related the story of the statue's purchase in China and the confusion over its weight. They had purchased the life-size figure because they understood the weight as 200 pounds, when in fact the weight was over 200 kilograms. A few years later, when Louann and Bob were hosting the PVS Oktoberfest, the statue had joined the head in the living room, thanks to a four-man moving crew they hired.

At breakfast on the second day of the ski trip to Alyeska, Alaska in 2014, Louann explained how she had been awakened during the previous night by a dog barking and had complained to the front desk that someone apparently had a dog in the rooms adjacent to hers. She said that she had subsequently apologized to the front desk person after she learned that the barking dog was the alarm sound on Bob's cell phone, which he had forgotten to turn off.

Skiing with Louann, visiting with her and Bob, or just talking with her at a PVS meeting was always a lively and entertaining experience.

From Jannes Gibson - Louann was such fun to ski with at Snowmass and she had good stories to tell.

From Bonnie Sweeney - Oh my dear Louann, what a gift your friendship has been...the laughs, the snow or lack of, Spain, Andorra, Snowmass, special camaraderie, Farkle games with Bill---now you can both play to your hearts' content. You are one of a kind who has taught us how to live with gusto and how to leave this world with grace and dignity.



From Ellie Thayer – My heart is broken. Although we met through the ski club, we considered ourselves primarily Deep Creek Lake friends. By happenstance and good fortune, our houses were across a narrow cove from each other. Louann and Bob were the most generous of friends, always volunteering to pick us up at our dock in their pontoon. By “us” I include my children, my stepchildren, my siblings, and visiting friends. We relished our happy hours, dinners, swimming, and fabulous sunsets. In off-season, we dined at each other’s houses. I will miss you so much Louann.

REMEMBERING LOUANN EADIE

We Remember Her
At the rising sun and at its going down;
We remember her.
At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter;
We remember her.
At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring;
We remember her.
At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer;
We remember her.
At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of the autumn;
We remember her.
At the beginning of the year and when it ends;
We remember her
As long as we live, she too will live, for she is now a part of us as
We remember her.
When we are weary and in need of strength;
We remember her.
When we are lost and sick at heart;
We remember her.
When we have decisions that are difficult to make;
We remember her.
When we have joy we crave to share;
We remember her.
For as long as we live, she too will live, for she is now a part of us as,
We remember her.

Adapted from the Jewish Book of Prayer

Past Event

Capitol Comedy “Biden My Time”

Ten Potomac Valley Skiers and friends enjoyed the production written and produced by Nicholas Zill, one of our members, on October 9 and 11, 2021, performed at the Arts Club. It was a look at our national scene, with lots of topics ripe for satire, while taking care not to be demeaning. A group of five actors from California and a talented pianist presented songs based on popular, lively tunes with titles such as “76 Skin Tones” (President Biden introducing his cabinet); “Two Old Guys” (Biden and Bernie Sanders celebrating their ascent to power); “Let’s Fly Away” (environmental tourists planning an escape space flight); “Closed Border” (Two Californians planning to move to Idaho but are stopped by a State Trooper -- who ends up being from New Jersey!). The evening brought us together to laugh at the famous, as well as ourselves!



Submitted by Marianne Saponis



Potomac Valley Skiers

2022 Snowmass, Colorado Ski Trip

Wednesday – Wednesday

January 12 – 19, 2022

The trip is currently full. If you are interested, please let us know in case we have any cancellations.

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. 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; soup lunches TBD; luggage handling; a welcome reception, 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.

The basic package at \$1,925 includes a 5 day lift pass for skiers 65 and over. Skiers under 65 will have to add \$93.00.

Social Events

Wednesday - Welcome Reception

Saturday – Jim & Mary Ellena’s 45th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday – Pizza Party

Tuesday – Farewell Dinner

Kathy and Barry Lake are the trip leaders. For more information, feel free to contact us at 703-625-2715 or kathylakehomes@yahoo.com

2022 Eurofest Sölden, Austria - Only two clubs (SCWDC and Fredericksburg) have signed up for this trip. BRSC is concerned over the lack of club participation. Unless there is more interest, the trip may have to be cancelled. Understanding that some clubs were hesitant to book Europe, BRSC developed the idea of the BRSC Club Mix as a way to stimulate participant interest. So, while PVS is not participating in this trip, our members can book directly with Winter Ski and Sport.



BRSC CLUB MIX
February 18-26, 2022
Open to BRSC Members!

Get Your "Bond" On & Ski Sölden!



Choose your trip package option with our online registration:

www.winterskiandsport.com/brsc-solden-club-mix-trip

Call Sheri @ 630-969-5739 for more info!

- 7 Nights in Sölden & Includes:**
- Hotel Tyrolerhof (4Star) \$2,981.00
 - Or Hotel Riders In (3Star) \$2,735.00
 - R/T Air from IAD to MUC
 - Transfers from MUC to Sölden
 - Located in the Center of Sölden
 - Breakfast & Dinner Daily
 - Wellness Center
 - Welcome Reception
 - Apres Ski
 - Farwell Dinner
 - Short walks to Lifts & Gondolas
- Runs: Beginner 36%; Intermediate 44%; Advanced 20% / Lifts Separate
- Glacier Skiing
- Additional:
- Site Tours to Innsbruck, 007 Element Museum & The Aqua Dome Spa
 - Great Night Life!
- Walking Trails & plenty of Non Ski Activities!
- <https://www.tyrolerhof-soelden.com/en.html>
- <https://www.ridersin-soelden.at/en/>
- <https://www.soelden.com/winter/ski-area.html>



Pre or Post
Extension Options:
Amsterdam
Salzburg



2022 Winterfest Jay Peak - The 2022 trip will take place March 6-11, a Sunday through Friday trip with a 4-day lift pass included. The trip includes 5 nights lodging at the Stateside Lodge and, if needed, there are also 2-bedroom cottages available. The venue is ski in/ski out with a Monday night Welcome Party, a Wednesday Après Ski Party and a Thursday Farewell Party. There will be 2 buses, a northern bus and a southern bus. Presently pick-up locations are the Columbia Fire House, The Baltimore White Marsh Mall and the Ashland area. The Tysons area is another possibility. The 56 Passenger bus will be limited to 40 people. There is also a U-drive option. Baltimore, Peninsula, and Columbia are signed up.

Members' Corner



By J. David Warthen, Jr.
dwarthen409@gmail.com

2021-2023 Dues Cycle:

The 2021-2023 Biennial Dues Cycle began on July 1, 2021. Members who have not paid their 2021-2023 PVS renewal dues have been removed from the PVS membership list. According to the club's By-laws, a 120-day grace period was granted for accepting the dues for the current biennial dues cycle – July 1, 2021-June 30, 2023. Those removed from the present Biennial Dues Cycle will not receive e-mail blasts or notification of TOOT publications.

TOOT Distribution to 87 Members:

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- TOOT Coordinator - E Thayer
- TOOT Layout Editors: J Marx, D Warthen,
November TOOT – K Hines
- TOOT Electronic Distribution – D Warthen

Roster Changes:

Contact <dwarthen409@gmail.com>

November

It is now November already and Thanksgiving is upon us shortly. Turkey, gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, and all the other fixings. Thank goodness for having made it through the Covid-19 pandemic and for the vaccines which dedicated scientists quickly designed to administer to us. It is hard to believe that 700,000+ have lost their lives in the US to this heinous virus. History tells us that the 1918 Spanish Flu was horrible, but the pandemic which we have lived through was worse. May our nation continue the right track of saving our democracy by speaking and acting out the truth. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your loved ones.



Computer Crashes:

HELP !!! I am still digging my way out of a horrendous computer crash of my 10-year old iMac. I thought I had prepared adequately, but to no avail, that preparation could have been better. As many Mac users think, a Time Machine should take care of me with backups. Not necessarily so. When a hardware issue fails and the part is no longer available by Apple, it makes no sense to replace it with a non-Apple vendor with a non-guaranteed part. In this case, an external hard drive would have been better for retrieving important files.



A Time Machine works fine if you are not faced with a hardware problem, but it is risky. A good addition to that approach would be an external hard drive which can act like a thumb drive/memory stick. Live and learn.



Above all else, keep your sense of humor. This too will pass and you will survive. Be thankful for what you did save and build from there. Cry a little bit, scream, and learn from your mistakes. Dream of going down the slopes perfectly with blue skies and corduroy conditions.





PVS - BYOB (Bring Your Own Book) group

Always with a book in hand, our PVS readers gathered again in October to talk about our latest reads. We'd love to have you join us! **See the info at the bottom for how to join in on November 11th (the second Thursday of each month) at 4 pm!**

Here are the books we shared in October:

- Bonnie Sweeney shared another book recommended by Mike Strand: "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime" by Mark Haddon. Bonnie says it was an eye-opening glimpse into the world as viewed by a severely autistic boy in England.
- Jan Marx brought us "Shadow Divers" by Robert Kurson, an engaging and true story of the deep-sea exploration of a mystery German submarine and its crew. Jan learned a lot about deep-sea exploration.
- Mary Ellena Ward has begun a trilogy by C. S. Lewis, the first book of which is "Out of the Silent Planet." The story explores what it means to be "human" and the difference between space and heaven.
- Marianne Soponis spent most of the Zoom call driving on the highway but was able to share her read: "The Huntress" by Kate Quinn, which tells three intertwined stories related to a murder. She also mentioned "All the Devils Are Here" by Louise Penny.
- Nancy McKinley enjoyed "My Ex-Life" by Stephen McCauley, a social comedy with big themes including the central importance of love and affection regardless of societal labels.

The next BYOB Zoom call will be held on Thursday, November 11th from 4 to 5 pm. Let Marianne Soponis know at marianne.soponis@gmail.com if you're interested in joining us, and she'll put you on the list to get the link to the Zoom call. No commitment! Questions or comments? Get in touch with Nancy McKinley at nancymckin@gmail.com or 703 595 8375.

Calendar

Tuesday November 9 Anacostia River Boat Tour, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM
Thursday November 11 BYOB Zoom meeting, 4:00 pm, Nancy McKinley
Tuesday November 30 ExCom Meeting, 7:00 PM via ZOOM
Saturday December 18 Holiday Party, 1:00 PM at the home of Cara & Bob Jablon

Ski Trips:

Jan 12-19 - 2022

Snowmass, Colorado. Led by Kathy & Barry Lake

ExCom Officers, Board Members, and Chairpersons

<u>Officers:</u>	<u>Chairpersons:</u>
President – <i>Barry Lake</i> Vice Pres. – <i>Cara Jablon</i> Secretary – <i>Ellie Thayer</i> Treasurer – <i>Dick Schwartzbard</i> Ex Officio - <i>Tom Tycz</i>	Ski Trip Committee – <i>Rosemary Schwartzbard</i> Events – <i>Marianne Sophonis</i> Membership Records – <i>Dave Warthen</i>
<u>Board Members:</u>	TOOT Coordinator – <i>Ellie Thayer</i> TOOT Layout Editors – <i>Jan Marx, Kerry Hines</i> & <i>Dave Warthen</i> TOOT (E-Distribution) – <i>Dave Warthen</i>
<u>First Term:</u>	Webmaster – <i>Mary Ellena Ward</i>
<i>Jannes Gibson</i> <i>Manfred Boehringer</i> <i>Mary Rose de Valladares</i>	Meeting Records – <i>Sue Lyon</i>
<u>Second Term:</u>	Historian – <i>Jan Marx</i>
<i>Kathy Lake</i> <i>Sharon Mulholland</i> <i>Don Vierimaa</i>	

Useful Ski “Links”

[Potomac Valley Skiers](#)

[Blue Ridge Ski Council](#)

[DC Ski Online News](#)

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.