

VOLUME XXXIII

# Potomac Valley Flyers, Inc.

APRIL 1998

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VIRGINIA

## **PRESIDENT'S SITZMARK**

As April elections draw near, it is appropriate to thank the three retiring ExComers-- Genee Boykin, Nancy McKinley and Nat Seeman. They have served for two years and we hope they will continue to serve the club in various ways. Their leadership is appreciated and needed.

The six elected ExComers determine club policy and direction. They alone, with the president, have a vote and thus the power to accept or change the conduct of the club.

In the club's 33 years, 99 members have served on the Executive Committee, belying the sometimes heard complaint that the club is run year after year by the same old "clique." Ninety-nine is a pretty big "clique" any way you look at it.

It is true that a few hardworking and especially talented PVSers do the club's "gut" work--finance, TOOT, trips, etc. Their presence on the board and their proven efficiency act as a sort of collective club memory and ensure the continuity of the club's governance.

If you care to be a part of that team, for goodness sake, volunteer! The "Help Wanted" sign is always in the window.

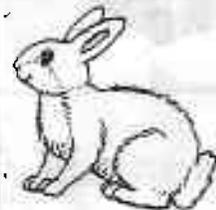
Lu Beale, President



### **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

APRIL 21, 1998 -- 7:30 P.M.

Home of Charlotte & Bill Kline  
1912 Gables Lane, Vienna, VA  
703-821-9288



**DIRECTIONS:** From Beltway (495) take Rt. 123 toward Tyson's Corner. Turn left on Horseshoe Drive which is after the 4th traffic light on 123. (Turn is just after MacDonald's on your left.) Go 1/2 around Horseshoe and turn right on Gables Lane. The house is located on the pipestem, but please park on Gables.

## MIDWEEK HIKE (4 MILES), TOUR AND LUNCH OLDE TOWN TAVERN AND BREWING CO. , GAITHERSBURG, MD. APRIL 16



We will meet promptly at 10:30 a.m. at the Boat House on Clopper Lake in Seneca Creek State Park, and hike the circular trail around the lake. The trail is flat and the short hike will build up our thirst and appetite for the tour and lunch at the Olde Town Tavern and Brewing Company. Those who do not wish to hike, should proceed directly to the Olde Town Tavern and Brewing Co. arriving at 12:30 p.m. Interested hikers should call Frank Shelburne (202) 331-9492, and non hikers should call Sara Huggins (301) 424-5725. Both groups will meet at 12:30 for the tour and lunch. Low fat food is available.



**Direction:** Proceed north on I-270 to Gaithersburg and take exit 10, Clopper Road. Go north on Clopper Road past the NBS&T for a couple of miles, the road narrows, and the Seneca Creek State Park entrance appears on your left. Enter the park, bypass the Visitors Center on the right, and then turn right after passing the Contact Station. Proceed a few hundred feet, and turn left on the first paved road, and follow to the parking lot by the Boat House where we will meet for the hike.

Frederick people should proceed south on I-270, exit at Quince Orchard Road, go west to the second traffic light, turn right on Clopper Road, and proceed as above.

Non hikers should exit on Shady Grove Road, go east several traffic lights, and then turn left on 355. Continue north on 355 about a mile and at the top of the small hill, turn right on Summit Ave. After crossing the railroad tracks, park on the right side behind the old train station.

## SIXTH ANNUAL MT. VERNON MID -WEEK BIKE RIDE THURSDAY APRIL, 23



The sixth annual bike ride down the Mt. Vernon bike trail has been planned for Thursday April 23. We will leave at 10:30 a.m. from the Belle Haven picnic area just south of Alexandria, ride to Mt. Vernon and return for a total distance of about 14 miles.

The trail is flat to rolling. For those without a bicycle, rentals are available nearby.

For further information or just to let us know you're coming, call Shirley Rettig (703) 836-0147.

SPRING FLING    SPRING FLING    SPRING FLING

Once a year PVS is asked to participate in this charity event for Disabled Sports and we hope to have a group of supporters there again this year. Fill out the ticket order in this "Toot" and send it in soon. Also call Serge Triau at 301-840-1128 to be included at the PVS tables. This event is always a lot of fun but more important is that it helps a very worthy cause.

## PVS SPRING DINNER AT THE COLONNADE

May 2, 1998 at 7:00pm

2801 New Mexico Ave. N. W.

There are still some places left for this gala event, so call Liz Triau at 301-840-1128 soon to reserve and join in the fun. If you must cancel, call early so that someone else can come.

**REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR OWN PLATES, SILVERWARE AND WINEGLASSES.**

**DIRECTIONS:** Beltway to River Road exit east. 2 1/2 miles to right on Goldsboro Rd. (#614) to 1st traffic light. Left on Massachusetts Ave. Follow to 2nd circle (Ward). Right on Nebraska Ave. to 1st traffic light. Left onto New Mexico Ave. to 2801 on left. Adequate street parking. Valet parking \$2.00.

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### KENSINGTON TEA ROOM - MIDWEEK BIKE RIDE THURSDAY MAY 21st

We will meet at Candy Cane City at 10:30 a.m. for a 15 mile bike ride mostly on bike path. The terrain is flat to rolling. Lunch at the Tea Room in the antique area of historic Kensington at 12:30 p.m. PVSers not wishing to bike are welcome to join the bikers at the Tea Room for lunch.

Interested PVSers should call Betty Byrne (202) 483-4048 or Marvin Hass (703) 751-4737.

**Directions:** From the beltway take MD-185 (Connecticut Avenue) south (Toward Chevy Chase) for 1 mile. Turn left at traffic light (Country Club will be on your right) onto MD-410 (East West Highway). Go 1 mile and turn right just before crossing the bridge over Rock Creek at the traffic light onto Beach Drive. Park on left shoulder approximately 0.5 mile after turn. Candy Cane City is across footbridge over Rock Creek.

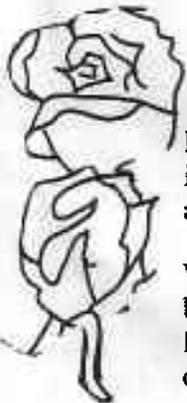
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### **TOUR BROOKSIDE GARDENS MAY 7, 10:30 A.M.**

Brookside Gardens is a 50-acre garden. Tropical plants such as bananas and orchids are seen in the Conservatories. Outside gardens include Rose, Formal, Gude, Fragrance, Japanese, and Trial.

We will meet in front of the Conservatories, and then tour the Gardens. Participants should bring their lunch for eating with the group at the Nature Center picnic area adjacent to Brookside Gardens. Food or drink is not permitted in the gardens. Interested PVSers should call Rachel Abraham (301) 530-7612 to let her know you're coming.

**Directions:** Take the beltway to Georgia avenue exit (Rt. 97). Go north on Georgia Avenue passing through Wheaton to Randolph Road. Turn right on Randolph Road. Go two blocks and turn right at the second traffic light on Glenallen Ave. Follow Glenallen Ave. to Brookside Gardens at the bottom of the hill on the right side. Park on the paved lot in front of the Conservatories.



IN MEMORIAM

Art Topping, President of Potomac Valley Skiers 1973-1974 died March 7 1998 at Inova Alexandria Hospital after a heart attack. Art was a graduate of Webb Institute of Naval Architecture and had recently retired from the Navy Department. In earlier years he was active in organized skiing. He served for many years as a director of the Eastern Amateur Ski Association as well as a delegate to their annual conventions. Art also was Vice President of the D. C. Ski Educational Foundation, raising funds for the U. S. Ski Team. In addition to skiing he enjoyed traveling and sky diving. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Karin.

PROPOSED TRIPS FOR THE 1999 SKI SEASON

DATE	PLACE	TRIP LEADER
Dec. 9 to 16, 1998	Steamboat, CO.	Ned & Jaclyn Flaherty
Jan. 9 to 16, 1999	Telluride, CO.	Don & Kathy Dillon
Jan. 30 to Feb. 6, 1999	Sun Valley, ID.	Dina Taylor &
Feb. 18 to Mar. 1, 1999	Europe	John Smith & Pat Tengel
Mar. 13 to Mar. 20, 1999	Vail, CO	Ray & Nancy McKinley

PAST  
EVENTS

For the March meeting, directions to the Ufholz home included what to do if lost. Not to worry! PVSers know a good thing when they hear of it--and how to find their way to it. So by 7:30, cars full of Pvsers were pouring onto Long Acre Court.

There the lovely UfHolz daughter was helping with greeting and coat-taking. Skiers quickly gathered around the laden table, astonished that Phil and Eugenia could have readied such a delicious spread when both had worked full time that day. Sausages, interesting dips, cheese puffs and more were topped off by baklava.

The meeting revealed more details on next year's ski trips. Glade Flake and John Smith gleefully revealed they were off to different areas in Europe to gather information for choosing the 1999 European destination.

A delightful evening for which many thanks go to the Ufholz family!

# Spring Fling 1998

## Auction & Banquet

### To Benefit Disabled Sports USA

University of Maryland College Park, Maryland

Saturday, April, 25, 1998

5:30 p.m. Silent Auction 🌸 7:30 p.m. Dinner 🌸 8:30 p.m. Live Auction  
 \$30/Person (Includes Dinner & Auction ... Advance Reservation Required)

**Auction will include:**

- 🌸 incredible vacation packages to Europe and the Continental U.S.;
- 🌸 variety of romantic weekend get-a-ways;
- 🌸 top-of-the-line ski and sports apparel and equipment;
- 🌸 lift passes for popular ski resorts;
- 🌸 cruises to popular hotspots;
- 🌸 renowned artwork, &;
- 🌸 dinner packages at several top restaurants in Washington metropolitan area.



There's something for everyone!

For more information call (301) 217-0963.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Bidders: (If more than four, please use a separate piece of paper)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ # of tickets (@\$30/ticket) Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Type \_\_\_\_\_ Check — Make checks payable to Disabled Sports USA

\_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_\_ Diners Club

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I'm unable to attend, but enclosed is my donation to Disabled Sports USA \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form and check to: Spring Fling Auction Committee c/o DS/USA, 451 Hungerford Drive, Suite 100, Rockville, MD 20850

 Thank You For Supporting Disabled Sports USA. 

Headlines in Gallatin County newspaper, week of Feb. 22, 1998: "All pregnant cows in county calve in middle of big snowstorm" and "Major research finding shows cows prefer tank water". Well, after that you know you're outside the Beltway - way, way outside...but the Huntley Lodge was wonderfully Western and comfortable and located right at the ski base which was complete with a mall, yes, a mall, with real stores and restaurants and things. Also the sidewalks were heated so no ice (and fortunately no dogs). 42 PVSer's settled in happily--there's a rumor that some didn't make it to the slopes after the extraordinary breakfast buffet. Our first day was sunny and warm as was our excellent mountain guide, Scott, who hailed from Annandale 10 years ago. Our glorious leaders, Ray and Nancy McKinley had arranged wonderful gustatory experiences among which the dinner at Lone Mountain Ranch, a Nordic ski center, was memorable for several reasons: 1) Our four sleighs were drawn by fine draft horse pairs: Belgian, Clydesdale, Percheron and Belgian-Shire cross (unusual and very strong), 2) The dinner at the log cabin on the hill was superb prime rib and homemade muffins etc. under soft kerosene lamp lighting (the kitchen had electricity) and 3) "Walkin' Jim Stoltz entertained us with his guitar and charming original songs..." "Only one mosquito" (you had to be there). The dinner at the 320 Ranch had good elk steaks but too dry trout. Names of other restaurants show our cosmopolitan dining; Twin Pandas, Edelweiss, Dante's, and Mr. Hummers, run by the former owner of Dempsey's in McLean.

Those on the first trip into Yellowstone were treated to the sight of the thermal features (except the Marxes who X'ced). The trip also saw bison, bald eagles, elk, coyotes and gorgeous Alpenglow sunset but untreated to a boogie can breakdown (no, you don't blow your nose into it-it is an essential part of the snow coach steering (?)) and to the sight of 2 idiots on snowmobiles driving into a buffalo herd-they almost learned what "critical mass" means.

The ski area is composed of two mountains, "Andesite" (a particular type of volcanic rock) and "Lone Mountain" which boasts a 4000 foot vertical, highest in the U.S. Bowl skiing reminiscent of Arapahoe Basin, CO or Tuckerman's Ravine, NH exists on the top of Lone Mountain. Looking across the valley from the B.S. ski slopes one sees Ted Turner's (yes, Jane's too) 160,000 acre private hunting and wild life preserve (or vice versa if you wish) with many miles of 5 foot high solar powered electric fence which people say inhibits time-honored wildlife migrations (which may be exactly Ted's idea).

Best one-liner-Marianne Cook said "Sign up for a millennium party? At my age I don't even buy green bananas". Alice Swalm bought a new helmet and new skis to match her old jacket and said, "Now I'll have to wear that another 50 years."

Our esteemed President Lu was blown off the trail into very deep snow-some nice young people helped her out-she, of course, took it all in stride-as she did when the "Two Crazy Austrian Brothers" chose her to play drums in the bar. Speaking of nice young people, we rode up the gondola with a young Lodge employee who said "Yes, he was paid very well, no, he didn't have to work much for his pay, and yes he loved his job as a chambermaid" Now, is that excellent employee training or what?

"Glade in the Glades"-the Boykins, Flakes, and Penny got a mite lost in deep snow in the trees - and the ski area boundary was/is NOT as shown on the map. This is all Glade's fault-he'll explain it to you. Sheldon Drews discovered that gremlins under the gondola seats steal your hats and gloves and that a special tool with a hook on the end retrieved them at the top of the lift. The second Yellowstone trip saw otters, coyotes mating, and Trumpeter swans. They also helped rescue a snowmobile in the river-but no boogie-cans. "SPORS" is Ranger-talk for "stupid people on rented snowmobiles".

Jessma carried her skis to the lift, then realized she'd forgotten her boots. She also led the "bop-it-off" competition.

The Boykins spent one cold hour on the not-so-hi speed quad after its engine bearing went foo-bar. Patrollers climbed the towers and handed out blankets as the chairs inched up the mountain under auxiliary power.

A special feature of McKinley-led trips is the "awards ceremony" where everyone gets a prize (a B.S. coffee cup) and a pithy statement of something they've done or said during the trip.

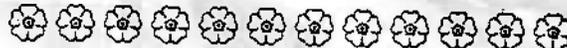
Oh, skiing you say? Yes, just great-four intrepids skied all the way down from the top of the Lone Peak Tram: David Abraham, Suzanne Boisclair, Herb Lichtenstein, and Al Richman-SUPER SKIERS!

May your days be filled with Moose Drool (a very good local draft beer).

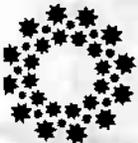
and I saw an ermine skitter across the slope,

Penny Hanshaw

\*Big Sky, Montana Trip Feb 22 to Mar 1 or 4, 1998



**SKI GROUP SHOW** April 27 at the Embassy Suites, Crystal City, from 5 to 8 p.m. Show is for those interested in ski trips. Entrance is free.





# THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

This column may be a bit short as I'm trying to write it in between the early and late football games. I'll still try to include lots of knews, knuances and, hopefully, kneepuns-- which are, as long-time readers know, Japanknees.

Are we a ski club, or are we a ski club? Last month, since virtually all of our officers were skiing in Montana, we moved our Executive Committee meeting to the slopes at Big Sky. A unikneeque idea. A ski club holding a ski club meeting at a ski area! Bet the Cosmos Club never held a meeting in the cosmos.

And are we skiing or are we skiing? Some weeks back, Coloradans Nancy Lewis and Huey Roberts joined Reg Heitchue and Jim Wingrove at Vail. Nancy reports they enjoyed 14 inches of fresh powder whilst (she actually said while) bombing the double black diamond runs, the back bowls, evergreen glades and even a couple of groomed runs enroute to the bottom at the end of a memorable day. Jim Wingrove added that it was as spiritually exciting as a day at Ski Liberty.

This year Bing Poon skied at Ski Liberty 9 times. Whilst not waxing philosophically about 14 inches of fresh powder, back bowls or evergreen glades, Bing did note it was "nearby."

Do you remember Park West ski resort? It went bankrupt, became Wolf Mountain, went bankrupt, etc. No more. Les Otten's American Ski Corp. bought it last year, renamed it "The Canyons," and vowed it will soon be the largest destination ski area in Utah. Alice Swalm and Jacques Hadler skied there. They enjoyed the skiing, but the base area and lift system badly need upgrading. Further, more acreage is needed before the area can truly be called a "Grand" Canyon.

More recently, Alice became the first PVS woman to wear a ski helmet. It looks great

Our March meeting hostess, Eugenia Ufholz is now on the staff of Delaware's Senator Roth. She is reviewing material, including a

signed 1942 picture with General McArthur, for the Senator's memoirs. And she loves it.

Membership Chair Marilyn Clark missed the March meeting. She was at Dulles meeting her Pen Pal from England. They have corresponded since the eighth grade (that's over 15 years for Marilyn) and had never met. Jolly good.

It's tough preparing for next year's PVS European trip. At the end of March, John Smith got a trip to check out Cortina, Italy. And Ski Trip Chairman Glade Flake was forced to spend \$500 for an all expense paid--including meals--week in Mirabel, France. As a lawyer, Glade torted, "I couldn't find anyone else to go." Riiiiight!

Could it be, that at least locally, the ski season is over? Here in D.C., spurred on by *el kneeno*, the Cherry Blossoms were early and even Ski Liberty (their motto "Skiing 24 hours per Year") reports their glacier (also known as their ice machine) is melting. Right off. Or run off.

Both Fumiko Marquardt and Pat Tengel are sporting new fur coats this season. Fumiko also has a new gold ring--purchased in Europe.

Over the last four seasons, virtually all US ski-areas have changed their rules and now allow snowboarders. Why? The number of Alpine skiers decreased by eight percent. Apparently, snowboarders have picked up the slack. Their numbers are up by 22 percent. Ouch.

The Knee's philosophy remains: Those who can, ski. Those who can't, snowboard!

For the first time in memory PVS has not had to scrounge for delegates to the Blue Ridge Ski Council meeting. Glade Flake, Dina Taylor and Serge Triau will represent PVS interests. The BRSC appears to be operating lean and mean these days. They have yet to cash our dues check, sent in last September.

A tip of the ol' knee cap to Sally Finan, Jack Peoples and Nat Seeman. All won NASTAR medals this season. Did anyone else?

The White House's "Fornigate" is still making news. Thus, our President, Lu Beale, felt it necessary to clear the air. "There is no illicit sex in my house," Lu announced, "or no licit sex."

CALENDAR

- Apr. 4 ... Post-Big-Sky party at the McKinleys'
- Apr. 16 ... Clopper Lake hike and brewery tour, p. 2
- Apr. 18 ... Post-Switzerland-Trip Party at Smith/Tengel's
- Apr. 19 ... Post-Steamboat Spring Party at the Flahertys'
- Apr. 21 ... Annual Business Meeting at the Klines', p. 1
- Apr. 23 ... Mt. Vernon Bike Ride, p. 2
- Apr. 25 ... Spring Fling at U of Maryland, p. 2 & 5
- Apr. 27 ... Spring Group Show, p. 6
- Apr. 28 ... ExCom at the McKinleys'
- May 2 ... Spring Dinner at the Colonnade, p. 3
- May 7 ... Tour of Brookside Gardens, p. 3
- May 16 ... Luau. Full but call the Walns to check on wait list. 703-256-3543
- May 19 ... May meeting at the Leonhardts'
- MAY 21 ... Candy Cane Bike Ride and lunch
- May 26 ... ExCom at home of Sheldon Drews
- June 16 ... Meeting at home of Betty Lawrence
- June 23 ... ExCom at Bette Walker's
- July 28 ... ExCom at Annapolis with Pat Tengel and John Smith
- Aug. 25 ... ExCom with the Garretts
- July 18 ... RAGTIME
- Nov. 7 ... Arts Club Dinner

*May 30 meeting Home*

*← Aug 18 Fluke*

*5 Sep 01 transfer*

*5 Sept Crabfest*



**NOTE:** Please make the following additions and changes to the PVS E Mail list:

Suzanne Boisclair - sboisch @ crosslink.net  
Rachel Braham - rhabraham@aol.com

