

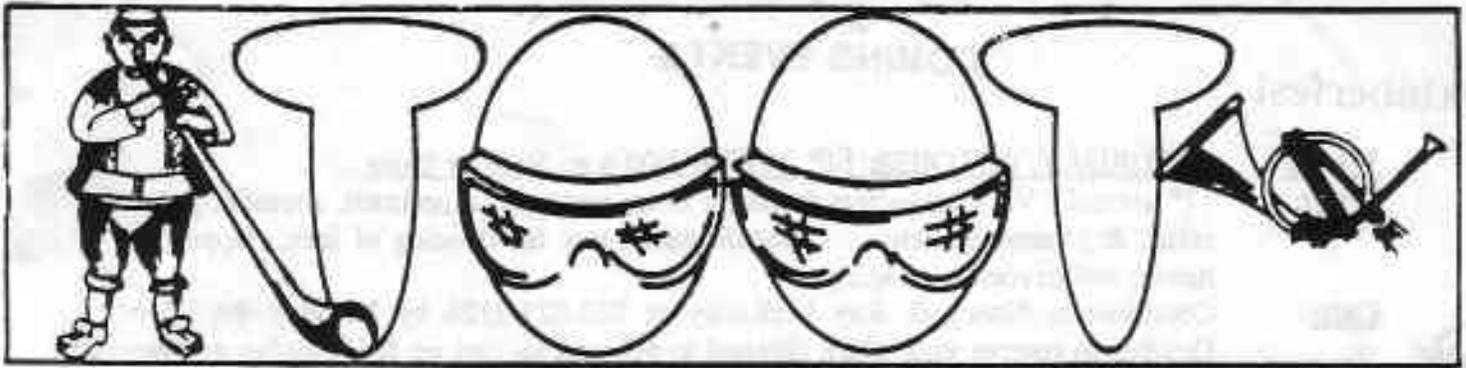
30th

Anniversary Issue

1965 - 1995



*Happy Birthday
Potomac Valley Skiers !!*



VOLUME XXX *Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.* OCTOBER, 1995
 NUMBER TEN WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Congratulations to PVS on its Thirtieth anniversary. It is great to belong to a ski club that is so rich in tradition and in the very special people who form its membership.

There is an attachment included with this issue of Toot which gives a brief history of PVS and the highlights of each five year increment. I am certain this will bring back many fond interesting memories for many members to enjoy. I want to thank Lu Beale for pulling this together as it should be a nice souvenir to put in your file of classic PVS articles. Of course the highlight of the celebration will be the 30TH Anniversary Dinner on Saturday, October 7, 1995 at the Navel Medical Center Officers Club in Bethesda, MD. I look forward to seeing you all at this gala affair.

One last reminder is the National Ski Expo at Balston Common Mall will take place on November 3, 4, and 5, 1995 and is sponsored by the Blue Ridge Ski council.

Serge
 Serge Triaou, President



MONTHLY MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17. 8:00 P.M.

WHERE: Home of Marty and Bob McNeill
 2 Hitching Post Place
 Rockville, Md. Tel: 301-881-6558
 Time to tie up once again at Ye Olde Hitching Post at the McNeill hacienda.
 Special attraction this time: PVSer
 Dr. Charles Farwell will give us advice and guidance on "Skiing at High Altitude."



DIRECTIONS: Take the Beltway to 270N. Take Exit 4A (Montrose Road East). Proceed east about one block and take first right into WALNUT WOODS on Hitching Post Lane. Travel 6/10ths of a mile to Hitching Post Place. The McNeills are in #2 - the corner house.

COMING EVENTS

Oktoberfest

When: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th, 1995 at 3:00 p.m. Rain or Shine

What: 17th annual PVS Oktoberfest featuring beer, sausages, sauerkraut, pretzels, potato salad, & pflaumen kuchen. Oompah music, too, for dancing of feet, clapping of hands, and cavorting of spirit.

Call: Coordinators Nancy & Ray McKinley at 703-527-7126 by Monday the 9th of October to reserve your place (limited to 60) and to sign up for bringing a potato salad, kuchen, or other Bavarian delectable. No-shows will be responsible for their share of the cost.

Cost: Approximately \$13.00 per person.

Bring: Your own eating utensils and plate. Your favorite beer mug is, of course, always welcome.

Optional: Lederhosen and Dirndl. Even Pferdekleidung.

Where: Mary Ward & Jim Slack's Termineigh Horse Farm & Nosh Bar, 4580 Sudley Road, Catharpin, Va.

Directions: Take I-66 west from the Beltway. Exit at 47B (Manassas Battlefield) onto Route 234 North (Sudley road). Go 5 miles to Catharpin (Alvey's Community Store, Exxon Station, & Post Office and White Oak Nursery). At the guard rail 0.5 miles later, turn left onto the gravel driveway. (If you get to Old Field Drive on the left, you just went by our driveway. If all else fails, call 754-8814 from the payphone at Alvey's and we'll come get you.) We are the brick house at the end of the driveway.



MID WEEK BIKE TRIP - Thursday, October 12.

Meet at the Washington Sailing Marina at 10:30 A.M. to ride north on the GW Parkway bike path to Roosevelt Island, then cross the river and ride past the Tidal Basin before stopping for lunch at Crystal City.

Directions: The marina is just south of Natl. Airport on the GW Parkway going south toward Alexandria. For info or to let us know you are coming, call Shirley Rettig 703-836-0147.



Roosevelt

FALL HIKE & DINNER AT THE MILLERS' -- Saturday, October 21

RAIN OR SHINE! We will make the annual hike along the Massanutten Ridge Trail in the George Washington National Forest and then have dinner at the historic home of Jamie and Shahrzad Miller: in nearby Strasburg. No limit on the number of hikers, but the dinner will be limited to 30. To sign up, call Bob Harmon (703) 820-6561.

A shorter hike (up to the ridge from trail end at Elizabeth Furnace and return the same route) will be available but is also steep, rocky and definitely not "a piece of cake." You might team with a buddy who will turn back with you should you so desire.

We will meet at the Cooper School just inside the Beltway at Exit 13, Rte. 193 (Georgetown Pike) at 9:30 to arrange car pooling. If you do not plan to meet us here, please let Bob know, so we won't wait in vain.

Bring: Lunch & beverage, an extra layer of clothing and maybe rain gear, and (very important!) bug repellent.



— COMING EVENTS —

MID-WEEK HIKE - SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN - Wednesday, Oct. 18th, 9:30 A.M.

Jackie Wilson and Mary Riley will lead a 5-6 mile circuit hike on Sugarloaf Mountain south of Frederick. Wear sturdy boots as there are some ups and downs. Bring lunch for eating at a rest stop on the hike. For further information and to let us know you are coming, call Charles Huggins (301) 424-5725.

Directions: Exit Beltway on to I-270 north for about 20 miles to right on Rte. 121 (Clarksburg Exit). Proceed to traffic light, and turn left on 355 toward Frederick. Continue for about one mile and just past the entrance to Little Bennett Park turn left on Comus Road. Follow Comus Road to the foot of Sugarloaf Mountain to a circle where 5 roads meet at the entrance to Stronghold Properties. We will meet here at 9:30 A.M.

Frederick hikers should proceed south on I-270 to Rte. 109 (Barnesville Hyattstown) exit. Proceed west on 109 to Comus road and right on Comus road to Sugarloaf Mountain.

ANNUAL CHILI HIKE - November 18, 1995



This trek through the woods and rocky dales at Great Falls, Virginia, welcomes unlimited hikers but chili-eaters are limited so please

call Nancy and Ray McKinley for a reservation
703-527-7126.

Details next month.

NATIONAL SKI EXPO & WINTER SPORTS FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 3, 4 and 5, 1995

Ballston Common Mall in Arlington, VA
Glebe Road & Wilson Blvd.



EIGHTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL. DON'T MISS IT!!

Super ski sale. Over 100 exhibitors. Mega Ski Swap. (Consignment starts 3 p.m. Friday.)

Ski movie ENDLESS WINTER shown every two hours. Tickets: \$8. Free Ski Liberty/ Roundtop lift tickets with each ticket.

Sponsored by the Blue Ridge Ski Council and U.S. Air.

Hours: Friday 4 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. Sunday 12 p.m. to 6.

For more information contact Zedeck Associates 703-644-9899.

PAST EVENTS



LOTS OF CRABS (NO CRABBERS) AT ANNUAL CRABFEST by Shirley Rettig

Betty Lawrence served a lot of crabs (2½ bushels) and a lot of nice people at the annual crabfest on September 2 at her beautiful Great Falls home. The weatherman at last had mercy and gave us a beautiful day with the first hint of fall in the air. As evening approached, people began reaching for sweaters and jackets, possibly for the first time this long, hot summer.

The relatively cool weather reduced the number of pool swimmers and until Marilyn Clark ventured in, the swimming contingent was exclusively male. Other ladies, including Mary Jane McCarthy, Nancy McKinley and Dina Taylor, quickly followed Marilyn to enjoy an hour of horsing around in the pool - no ducking allowed.

The crabs were rather late arriving so when they finally appeared at 6:30, everyone tucked into the food with a right good will. As usual, everything was delicious, including the salads, desserts and hors d'oeuvres brought by guests. Both crabeaters and those who brought their own entrees ate their fill. Pres Triau conducted a brief business meeting to inform us that WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO SIGN UP FOR THE ANNIVERSARY DINNER OCTOBER 7TH. SO DON'T DELAY!!

At just about dark (coming earlier every day now!) the party began to break up with the reluctantly departing guests offering sincere thanks to Betty who ended our summer as she began it on June 20th with another outstanding event that gives us all so much pleasure.



A SWINGING EVENT by B.L. Schuler

On September 15, eleven PVSers and guests arrived at Fort Meade, Md. for a swing at the golf course. Bill Anderson who hadn't swung a club in 15 years, observed that every one looked up to par.

At 11 A.M. we left the new club house and headed for the first tee under the watchful eye of coordinator Myron Marquardt. We decided to challenge the more difficult of the two courses (Applewood's 6,316 yards) from the white tees. The course was in excellent condition with wide fairways, very little rough and no water - unless you consider the creek Jack People's ball landed in.

Myron was playing a good game until Jack P. noted that Myron wasn't wearing golf shoes and said it was like a skier jumping off a chair lift without skies on. We played the course in a leisurely 4½ hours in lovely sunshine and a 78 degree temperature.

Gorman Young claimed his ball traveled so far he needed a fore caddie. With Byoung Schuler driving, Jeannette Albershheim chipping, and Jack P long putting - a par could be shot!

The \$30.50 for green fees and riding cart, with no senior special, was a great deal.

The assault on the course ended in the club house with beer all around. Everyone agreed it had been a great day and should be an annual event with, hopefully, more participants next time. Thanks to Fred, course manager, and Myron for coordinating the outing.



THE SEASON OPENER by Lu Beale

On September 19, first-time PVS hosts Nancy and Ron Ewing launched the club's new season with a bang-up party at their beautiful Fairfax home. About 60 clubbers turned out for the occasion and for almost three hours circulated through the antique furnished rooms while sampling - that is, digging into - the goodies covering the candle-lit tables.



The hosts returned from an Arizona vacation on Sunday night and how they managed such a bountiful buffet on Tuesday is a mystery - even more so because Nancy declared it "no problem." Among the many delicacies were a baked brie and a mouth-watering MULEBUSH - a bean dip from a recipe supplied by a Sugarbush chef.

All the guests seemed to be smiling and chattering non-stop as they greeted old friends some of whom they had seen as recently as last week and some not since spring or even longer.

Kathy Quinden looked stunning but declined to belly dance extemporaneously. The too seldom seen Schuilers were there. Also Nat Seeman and Mary Jane McCarthy who were making a sort of bon voyage appearance before taking off for Australia. Irene Farrell was there from far away Frederick with guest Jack Ragen.

President Triau conducted a business meeting on the flower-decked brick patio with a minimum of interruptions from the membership. After that, it was coffee and cookie time before reluctant farewells and thanks to the hosts who gave us such a lovely and unforgettable evening.

PVS OFFICERS, 1995

President Serge Triau
Vice President ... Lu Beale
Secretary Irene Farrell
Treasurer Nancy Garrett
Membership Marilyn Clark
Program Chairman . Ray McKinley
TOOT editor Jessma Blockwick
TOOT production... Bette Walker
Ski Trip Chairman. Glade Flake
Midweek Activities Charles Huggins
Ombudsman Bill Anderson

EXCOM

First Term:
Ned Flaherty
Ray Garrett
Shirley Rettig

Second Term:
Jessma Blockwick
Charles Boykin
Betty Lawrence

SKI TRIPS

WINTER PARK, CO. Dec. 5 - Dec 12, 1995.
Space may still be available. Call George Hicho 301-963-1836.

Sun Valley, Id. Jan 27 - Feb 3, 1996.
Wait-listed. Call Jack Peoples 301-881-6220.

European Trip Feb/Mar canceled due to insufficient interest. To give PVSers a chance to ski in February, Dina Taylor plans a one week trip, Feb. 17 - 24, to Salt Lake City to ski the magnificent Rocky Mountains of Utah. See enclosed flyer. Early sign up is essential to secure air travel and keep hotel reservations. Call Dina H: 301-663-6089. W: 301-427-3240.

MID-WWK, WEEKEND AKI WISP. Jan 18-21, 1996. Call Jan Marx 703-451-9158.

OTHER SKI TRIPS RUN BY PVSers AVAILABLE TO ALL:

1. Snowmass, Co. Feb 3 - 10, 1996. (Can tie-in with PVS Sun Valley trip.) Call Nancy or Ray McKinley for information. 703-527-7126.
2. Sun Valley, ID. Feb 24 - Mar. 2, 1996. Call Jack Peoples 301-881-6220 for info.

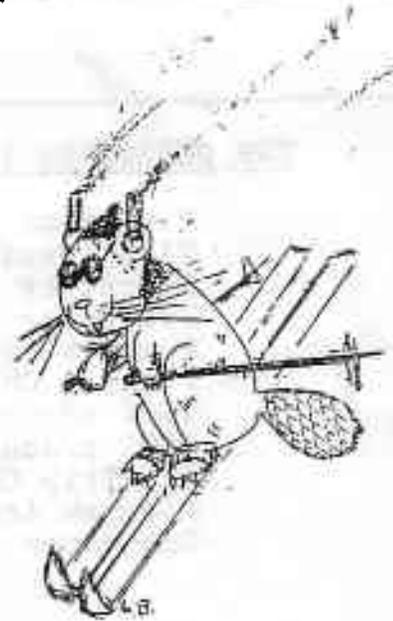
March 13 - 20, 1996, You Are Cordially Invited to Join Nancy & Ray McKinley For

PVS STEAMBEAVER

Steamboat's Champagne Powder & Beaver Creek's Uncrowded Elegance

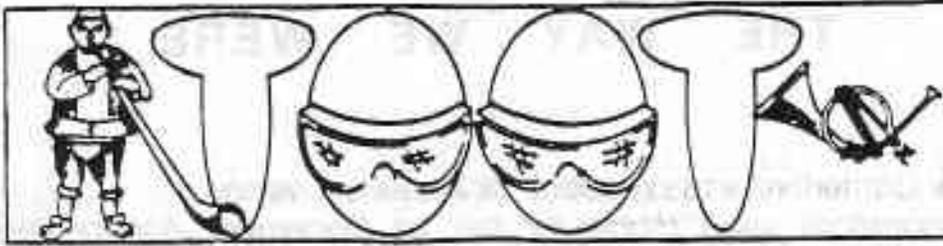
Share 8 Nights and 7 Days Ski-in, Ski-out Ambiance with Us at Two of Colorado's Most Magnificent Ski Resorts. Combined with Luxurious Accommodations, Splendid Meals in Incomparable Settings, Great Companions and Another Incredible Air Package, We Will Turn Your March of 1996 into a Memorable PVS Ski Vacation

- > On the Slope Four Star Luxury Lodging—No Bus to Ski!
- > 3 Nights at the Completely Remodeled Sheraton Steamboat Resort, 4 at the Beaver Creek Lodge with Fireplaces & Separate Living Rooms
- > Fly Wide Body Jets Into Hayden(Steamboat) & Out of Eagle/Vail
- > 2 Days Lifts at Steamboat, 3 Days at Beaver Creek/Vail + half days
- > Pre and Post Trip Parties, Apres Ski and 3 Memorable Dinners
- > Warm, Sunny, March Days—Colorado's Best Resorts—3,300+ ft Verticals
- > All Transfers, Gratuities, Baggage Handling and 9.8% Tax Incl.



Hurry Only 3 Spaces Left. We Particularly Need 1 Woman.
Trip Must Close October 15.

Land is \$1,331, 70+ Land \$1,155 (per person double occupancy) + Air of Only \$308
Our Complete Flyer Was in the June Toot. Call us at (703) 527-7126 for a Copy or More Information. Or Send Your First Payment of \$200 (pay to Ray McKinley) to McKinleys, 2326 North Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207



A BRIEF HISTORY CONDENSED FROM A LONG HISTORY

A group of SCWDC skiers that had knit together in mutual misery after being stranded in Europe by a diabolic travel agent decided that a smaller club composed of dedicated skiers was needed.

The idea germinated for a year or so until a committee of seven established a set of bylaws (including a requirement that members pass a ski proficiency test), arranged for a legal social organization status and agreed upon a name. Thus POTOMAC VALLEY SKIERS, INC. was born. The time was November 1965. The seven were E. Packard Anderson, C. Brooke Armat, Dick King, Mike Rura, Penny Sayre Wiederhold, Bill Stecher and Hank Thomas.

The first meeting, recalls first president Dick King, was held in an upstairs room in a small German-style beer stube on Pennsylvania Avenue. We soon out grew that site and other commercial spots and slowly gravitated to individual member homes - a practice that continues today and is one of the many features that make our club unique.

Now, as we celebrate our 30th year, the club continues successful and beneficial to its loyal membership.

"Wonderful, hard working self-starters have kept the club going in a style relished by its participants," says Dick King. "It is a living tribute to those early years when an idea was nurtured and developed and good people supported it with their time and continuing effort. That spirit and warmth are the foundations upon which the early efforts now survive as the club pushes its membership limit of 200. The future looks bright for PVS, which is what it was designed to be: a ski club for skiing friends." Long may we flourish!

Potomac Valley Skiers

Charter Members

E. PACKARD ANDERSON
 * C. BROOKE ARMAT
 MAX E. BUNNELL
 RONALD R. FETT
 GLADE FLAKE
 BRUCE GILMORE
 INGEBORG GILMORE
 BYRON GUTHEIL
 RICHARD W. HARSH

GEORGENNE HARSH
 BRUCE HARSTAD
 WILLIAM M. JOHNSON
 ANN M. JONES
 RUSSELL W. KINAMAN
 LILO KINAMAN
 RICHARD H. KING
 JACK LILLEY
 DORIS HEGE MAIR

BILLIE J. MANRING
 NANCY MONACELLI
 JEAN OLD
 LARRY PEASE
 * MICHAEL RURA
 TRUDY LEMKE SANTORO
 WILLIAM A. STECHER
 * HANK THOMAS
 PENNY SAYRE WIEDERHOLD
 *Deceased

THE WAY WE WERE

5 YEARS AGO

1990

- * Dick Comerford was president; Bill Anderson, veep.
- * Preparations were made for the 1st December Annual Wedel Week in Steamboat Springs with the Comerfords.
- * Other planned ski trips included Mont Sutton, Crested Butte, Telluride and Stowe all led by Jack-the-Man Peoples.
- * 135 25th Anniversary celebrants gathered at Fort McNair Officers' Club and wined and dined in gourmet style at \$35 per. All guests dressed to the nines. Some even to the tens. Fumiko Marquardt wore an exquisite Japanese kimono and obi. Frank Shelburne wore black tie.
- * The Moron Tabernacle Choral, 12 of PVS's finest warblers, warbled original songs written by Karen Felker, Bill Anderson, Mort Kuff and the Knee. Each guest received a blue and gold enameled anniversary cup and the Great Mug Glut was on.



10 YEARS AGO

1985

- * Sheldon Drews was president; Jan Marx, veep.
- * The Masons led and fed 40 PVSers on the Annual Fall Foliage Hike.
- * Mary Jane McCarthy led 12 on the club's first - and last - sail plane adventure.
- * Among other scheduled events were gourmet wine-tasting; at the Copes'; beer-tasting at the Swabys'; and annual wine-tasting meeting at the Leonhardts'. The Knee suggested we add "D" for Drinking to our PVS & E acronym.
- * Major ski trips planned for the upcoming winter included Utah I (Engleman); Utah II (Gorman Young); Zurs and Zell-am-See (the Wyckoffs); Cortina, Italy (Dina Taylor); and the Valois region of Switzerland (V. Macaluso).
- * 97 guests attended the club's 20th Anniversary Dinner at the Fair Oaks Holiday Inn. The 4-course dinner featured alcohol and non-alcoholic punches, shrimp bisque, tenderloin of beef and strawberry cup Chantilly. Cost \$25 per.



15 YEARS AGO

1980

- * Marilyn Clark was president; Bob Marx, veep.
- * Trip leaders offered a feast of ski adventures: Riviera II (the Wyckoffs); Sun Valley and Jackson Hole (Engleman); Snowshoe (the Fruchts); Bromley/Stratton (the Wingroves); Wisp I (Gail Gell); Wisp II (the Heitchues); Sutton (the Marxs). No wonder we are known as the club for skiers!
- * About 30 members attended the last annual Get-Lost-On-The-Way-To-Shakey's pizza meeting. Featured; an original film extravaganza starring Aina Thomas.
- * The Mystery identity of the author of the Knee was solved and "Big Foot" was revealed to be - surprise! - Ray McKinley.
- * On November 8th, 30 PVSers celebrated the club's 15th anniversary with a potluck dinner dance at the New Mark Commons Club House. Bette Walker coordinated the menu. Kirk Burns directed the dancing, which lasted until 1 A.M., a record unequalled to this day.



THE WAY WE WERE

20 YEARS AGO

1975

- * Geoff Wadey was president; Ray McKinley veep.
- * Major club concerns: 1. search for new members; 2. search for monthly meeting place; 3. search for program chairman to replace Don Cope.
- * The Wyckoffs planned a trip to Val Thorens and Courmayer. Other trips planned: Sutton I (Bob Gell); Sutton II (Deighton); Blue Knob (Anderson); Canaan (Topping); Wisp (McKinley).
- * 55 attended the 10th Anniversary potluck supper at New Mark Commons Club House. Cost: \$6 per person. PVS pins to commemorate the occasion did not arrive in time for dinner.
- * Hank Thomas and Aina Hertelis announced plans to tie the knot in December



25 YEARS AGO

1970

- * Doris Hege was president; Jim Key, veep.
- * Club emphasis was on Interclub and Nastar racing. Also emphasized were skiing proficiency. All applicants were required to demonstrate side step, herringbone, side slip, kick turn and snowplow.
- * The Hank Thomas-designed TOOT logo made its first appearance.
- * Susan and Bill Brown, Pat and Don Cope, Gertrude and Mike Santoro starry-eyed after recent "I Dos"
- * The Elrods held their first steak dinner; the Copes, our first International Dinner.
- * Other club activities: weekend at Hatteras, canoeing on the Shenandoah, rafting on the Youghiogheny, trip up Tuckerman's Ravine, lobster cookout at Great Falls, sailing on the Chesapeake, tennis at Hain's Point, Oktoberfest, Halloween party, and 6 fall foliage hikes. **What a club!**
- * Meanwhile, while skiing, Malda Elrod broke her foot, Ginny Larson broke her hip, Thelma Belloli seriously injured her hip and Mort Stimiler broke a leg!



29 YEARS AGO

1966

- * Dick King was president; Bill Stecher, veep.
- * After half a dozen issues, the newsletter was christened Toot and has appeared regularly ever since as the official PVS bugle sounding off on club affairs.
- * At the end of the club's fiscal year, membership consisted of 41 singles, 8 couples and 1 junior. Single membership dues were \$10 annually.
- * The club's first anniversary was celebrated in November at the Charcoal Hearth restaurant on Wisconsin Avenue. Dinner, priced at \$4, included entree, dessert, salad, tip, tax, birthday cake and a special anniversary TOOT.
- * Culinary Corner, predecessor of Cook's Corner, appeared with a recipe for Skiers' Delight consisting of potatoes, bacon, onions and knodel (a heavy German batter).
- * Free instruction on the art of yodeling (unofficial requirement for full PVS membership) was offered by Hauptyodelmeister Wilhelm Yaaret (Bill Jarrett). Frequent and uninhibited practice was encouraged.



COOK'S CORNER



This column has been appearing in TOOT since January 1988. A doff of our chefs' toques to Nancy Garrett who has patiently recorded

the specialities for which PVS cooks are so renowned. For this Anniversary TOOT Nancy researched the archives and suggests the following menu of old favorites to celebrate the occasion.
BON APPÉTIT!!

BETTY'S TEX-MEX DIP

Betty Comerford

On serving platter, layer as you go:

Layer 1. Mix together well:

- 1 (10 1/2 oz) can bean dip
- 1 (16 oz) can refried beans w/green chilies

Layer 2. Defrost and spread:

- 1 (6 oz) can frozen avocado dip (Mexican is a bit spicier)

Layer 3. Blend together and spread:

- 1 package Taco Seasoning Mix
- 3 Tablespoons mayonnaise
- 3 Tablespoons sour cream

Layer 4. Spread:

- Remainder of 8 oz. carton sour cream

Layer 5. Grate finely and sprinkle over last layer:

- 1/2 lb. Monterey Jack Cheese
- 1/2 lb. Colby Cheddar Cheese

Garnish with chopped black olives, finely chopped scallions, and/or chopped tomatoes. Serve with tortilla chips.

TENDERLOIN OF BEEF

Nancy Garrett/Genee Boykin

- 1 beef tenderloin, approximately 4-5 pounds
- 1 package Good Seasons French Dressing Mix

Rub 1/2 of dressing mix into one side of meat. Repeat on other side. Marinate at least 2 hours, preferably overnight in:

- 1 1/2 cup oil (mixture of olive and vegetable)
- 1 1/2 cup red wine

Cook 40 minutes at 350° for medium rare in center. 10 lbs. dressed was used for the dinner.

COPPER CARROT PENNIES

Barbara Leonhardt

Slice 3/16 - 1/4" thick:

- 2 lb. carrots
- 1 small green pepper
- 1 medium onion

Boil carrots in salted water until fork tender. Drain and cool. In casserole dish, alternate layers of carrots with green peppers and onions.

Marinade:

Use blender to mix well:

- 1 can tomato soup
- 1/2 cup salad oil
- 1 cup sugar
- 3/4 cup vinegar
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- Salt and Pepper to taste

Pour marinade over carrot mixture and refrigerate. The dish is better if made several days in advance so that flavors can mingle. This keeps well for a long time in refrigerator in air-tight container.

DERBY PIE

Janet Marx

Mix together:

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 stick butter, melted and cooled

Add:

- 1 cup English walnuts
- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Pour into 9" unbaked pie shell. Bake at 350* for 30 minutes. Test with toothpick. Should be chewy, but not runny. Serve warm.



THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

PVS is now thirty! On this occasion let me philosophize. It's my perception that PVSers age at a considerably slower rate than the general populace. I'm quite certain it's because we all have an addiction -- an extremely positive one: skiing. We go to great lengths to indulge this addiction.

Several years ago, William F. Buckley wrote of senior skiing. His friend Sir Arnold Lunn, Knighted by Queen Elizabeth for mountaineering, was lord of the Alps. Sadly, he fell from one of them at age 21 permanently shortening one of his legs. In the Twenties, he invented a downhill swivel-hipping routine they came to call slalom racing. Because of his decrepit leg, he wasn't very good at skiing, but that bothered him not in the least. The very idea of spending an afternoon letting gravity glide him down a mountain was, for him as for so many of us, a bit of paradise.

When Sir Arnold was 80, his wife gave him an ultimatum: he must put his skis away permanently. Since he and she were never apart, he found it difficult to evade her orders. But 4 years later when Lady Lunn's sister fell ill, she was forced to leave her husband alone in Murren, Switzerland, where they lived. She did so only after reiterating her order not to go near the ski slopes. 10 minutes after he bade her goodbye, he was in the ski cellar to retrieve his skis. He was 84--and addicted.

Arturo Toscanini put down his baton permanently when, at age 87, he suddenly didn't remember what music came next. In the competitive world, Cal Ripken will stop playing baseball when, to his dismay, he finds his batting average is lowered to humiliating levels. And Art Monk quit football only when no one would allow him to play.

Skiing is very different. And that's its wonderment. The moment comes when you look down and see that you are 2,500 feet higher than where you are supposed to end up. If you do something dumb, it is entirely possible that you will descend those 2,500 feet

like a very large pretzel descending a steep staircase. It does give one pause.

But as a PVSer with a few winters under your belt, you have certainly developed techniques which permit you to exercise control. Not necessarily as much as you might want but enough to give you a bit of security.

For those of us who wonder each year if diminishing ability makes the effort fruitless, please consider this. Skiing isn't like playing music. A Vivaldi flute concerto played at half its described tempo would sound wretched. The joy would be lost. But thank goodness, the true pleasure of skiing is not a function of the speed of one's performance. Suppose, in your prime, you handled that 2,500 foot run, over five miles of snowfall, in 15 minutes. And suppose it now takes you 20 minutes, or 25--so what? Who cares? If you want to risk something, for the pure pleasure of it, it is no problem at all to point your skis a bit closer to the fall line and pick up speed. But it's simply not necessary for the enjoyment.

There is no sport, no hobby, no avocation, as indulgent as skiing in giving you exactly the combination you wish of challenge, relaxation, and exhilaration. Further, no matter how badly you ski, or how slowly, after every ski day there is always something to discuss with other PVSers at Happy Hour. Even if it's the wretched rain at Whistler.

Aches, pains, fresh powder, blue skies, falls, injuries, outrageous beauty. Buckley said it eloquently, you cry on the outside, laugh on the inside or vice versa. Skiing is always doing that kind of thing to you. As though nature insists on begrudging any uninterrupted day of sheer joy sliding down the mountain at any speed you choose treating the snow like hired gravity letting you glide over its softness, cooling your face and balmng your spirit and reminding you day after day and year after year of the singular pleasure that issues from a mountain height and snow under your feet.

Skiing is an addiction but a wonderful one. Don't forget it. Don't even think of quitting. It makes you age slower. Enjoy, enjoy, enjoy.

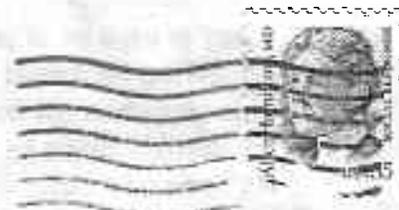
CALENDAR

- Oct. 7 ... 30th Anniversary Blast
- Oct. 12 ... Bike Trip. See page 2
- Oct. 14 ... Oktoberfest. See page 2
- Oct. 17 ... Monthly Meeting at the McNeills'. See page 1
- Oct. 18 ... Hike Sugar Loaf Mountain. See page 3
- Oct. 21 ... Fall Foliage Hike/ Dinner at the Millers'. See page 2
- Oct. 24 ... EcCom at the Marxes'.
- Nov. 3,4,5... Ski Expo at Ballston Common.
- Nov. 9 ... Bike Trip - Glen Echo to Georgetown.
- Nov. 14 ... DOGS
- Nov. 18 ... Chili Hike. See page 3
- Nov. 21 ... Monthly Meeting at Sally Finan's and George Welts's.
- Nov. 28 ... ExCom at Bill Anderson's.
- Dec. 17 ... Christmas Party at the Heitchues'. Note: It's a SUNDAY!!
- Dec. 21 ... Ski Liberty. Details later.
- Dec. 28 ... ~~Monthly Meeting at the Clarks'~~ Note: It's a THURSDAY!!
ExCom

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Charlotte Couture (Mrs John Kaline) 1912 Gables Lane, Vienna, Va. 22182
Telephone: 703-821-9288

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