

VOLUME XVII

# Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

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MARYLAND

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Core Knee

This month I'm writing something a little different from my usual "Hope you've had good skiing, get ready for PVS Spring activities" messages.

Instead, I'm taking this opportunity to bring you news of a new group forming within PVS. It's name is Core Knee (say it fast).

There are only two requirements for membership in this exclusive group: 1. You must be an admirer of "The Knee." (Notice that "The Knee" is capitalized, probably because Ray McKinley, creator, writer and chief fan of this column, definitely does not have a lower case personality.) 2. You must submit two original kneeisms. (Core Knee is a kneeism.)

Hurry and join now to be a charter member of this group.

For more details contact any member. At this writing there are none.

*Marilyn J. Clark*

Marilyn J. Clark, President

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## MARCH MEETING

XCountry!!

When: Tuesday, March 17th at 8:00 p.m.

What: The usual eats and comraderie PLUS an exploration of Cross Country skiing and its place in future PVS plans. Harold and Helen Wiese will show films of cross country skiing at Lone Mountain Ranch near Big Sky, Montana, where they have been and might lead interested PVSers.

Where: Home of Bob and Vivian Barry, 2535 Ogden St. Falls Church, Va.  
Telephone: 560-3127



Directions: Take Beltway Exit # 10 (Rte 7) for Falls Church. Go about a mile to the light at Shreve Road (there is a Gino's on one corner, Giant Food on another). Turn right at this light and continue on Shreve Rd. for about 3/4 mile - past Elementary School on the left - to Ogden Street. Turn right; it is the deadend side of Ogden. 2535 has a picket fence and is the next to last house on right hand side. An alternate route from D.C.: Take Lee Highway thru Falls Church Center, turn right on Shreve Rd. (Rte. 703) and left on Ogden Street - about 1/2 mile from Lee Highway.

APRIL EVENT Hike in Shenadoah National Park

Date: Saturday, April 11th. (Rain date: Sunday April 12th.)

Leader: Lu Beale. 363-3521

What: A circuit hike (climb) through Cedar Run and Whiteoak Canyons - two of the deepest and steepest ravines of the Park with a total descent and ascent of 4000 feet. The emphasis is on spectacular scenery, waterfalls, cascades, swimming holes, cliffs and wild terrain. The hike goes down Cedar Run Canyon, a little frequented section of the Park, and comes back by way of the more popular Whiteoak Canyon. It covers 7 miles, is rated strenuous, and offers a most exhilarating adventure to the stout hearted.

Bring: Sturdy shoes, extra socks (there will be some streams to ford) lots of gorp, water and lunch. (And perhaps liquid spirits left on ice in your car for celebration at trail's end.)

Time: 8:00 a.m. Meet at the Cooper School just inside the Beltway at Exit 13, Rte 193, Georgetown Pike. The school is on the right of #193 on Balls Hill Rd. Carpooling will be arranged here. An early departure is desirable to allow for the 90 mile drive and an unpressured climb. Please be on time!

Reservations: Do put this on your calendar now. (The April issue of TOOT may arrive too late to remind you.) Call Lu Beale (363-3521) by Friday April 10 so carpooling and trail head parking can be arranged.

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EXCOM NOTES

At the February ExCom meeting, warmly hosted by Mary Ward, Jim Slack and two astonished cats, the following matters were discussed and appropriately resolved:

1. Congratulations to the Marxes for so ably putting out the February TOOT.
2. PVS sanction to the indomitable Wyckoffs for a 1982 European ski trip.
3. Consideration of renting a chalet at Wisp for the ski year 1981-82.
4. Plans for an April 11th hike in Shenadoah National Park.
5. The March meeting, focussing on cross country skiing, to be held at the Barry's on March 17th; the PVS Annual Meeting to be at the McKinley's on April 21st; the May meeting to be at the Kuff's on May 19th.

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PAST EVENTS

FEBRUARY BEER BUST by Mary Ward

A jovial crowd assembled in the wilds of Reston to enjoy our February meeting at Reg and Jean Heitchue's and sample Furstenberg beer. This delightful brew, newly imported by Pabst Blue Ribbon, is being test-marketed in the Washington area. Doug Flam, the representative of the company, told me that they perceived ski clubs as great targets for good beer so they had volunteered to sponsor the meeting and supply beer and movies. He commented, by the way, that PVS was rather different from the last club he had visited - the Fugawees. Well, I should say so!

Anyway, regardless of whether we were the type of crowd he expected, we did ourselves proud by drinking five cases of Furstenberg. Not bad for the wine drinkers of PVS.

The ski movies were of Colorado ski areas - the same agency that represents Furstenberg also happens to represent Colorado Ski Country. One of the films of Telluride was particularly enjoyable since it showed the flip side of expert skiing: the hot shot hot-dogger bites the snow. We also found time to enjoy the picture brought by our own Movie Mogul, Keith Lyon.

Thank you Keith, Reg and Jean, and, of course, Furstenberg.

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BROMLEY /STRATTON by Barbara Wingrove

Now that the snows are rapidly receding from world slopes, it is good to remember PVS's fine trip to Bromley/Stratton Jan 25-30.

Thirty-eight people belonging to ten families piled into the Bromley Sun Lodge, located on the edge of the Lord's Prayer slope. The sun was shining brightly to welcome us, so that most people dropped their luggage, donned their skis and started to explore the slopes. After the lifts closed, most kids could be found splashing in the pool - heated for the kids, but still a little cool for us older folks.

Everyone was happy to have arrived early Sunday - except one family that had to return to Virginia for a forgotten ski parka! It was a great way to start the week.

The week was the first of the January thaw (which was to become the February thaw and threatens to be the March all gone!). It had been -30°F (that's below 0), but we had a week of +30°F to 40°F. We did have one snow storm which put all of 3" to 6" of fresh powder on the mountain. We still had enough cover to keep every one busy. The Heichues could be found mostly over at Stratton which was hosting an on-the-hill ski show. The group could see up close next year's equipment, including a new Geze binding that flips up at the toe. Some of us even got a chance to test ski the new stuff!

The ski school was a highlight for both parents and kids. The little ones were attended to all day and could be seen like little chicks following mother hen down the slopes. The bigger kids only spent half-day in lessons so that they could show up their parents in the afternoon. The Lyon boys took most of the honors in the ski school race. Jim Wingrove could be heard boasting that he had actually caught up with a teenager!

Unfortunately, the week had to end. Everyone stretched out the skiing to the last possible moment and only one pair of skis was left behind.

SKI THE RIVIERA 11 by Gail Gell

On January 22, 27 PVSers, led by the invincible Wyckoffs and undeterred by reports of poor ski conditions, set out from National Airport on the long journey to ski the French Maritime Alps.

Despite long delays in takeoffs and landing both in Washington and N.Y., we arrived in Paris on time. And then on to Nice which was nice as we remembered.

Our hotel, the Continental Massena, was very comfortable and well located for sightseeing. The group scattered to rest, eat, and sightsee. Favorite eating places that night were: La Farigoule, enjoyed by Bob, Margaret, and Patti Wyckoff, Will McKeehan, Gail Gell and Larry Pease; Chez Peugeot, enjoyed by Jack Hadler, Alice Swalm, Norm Engleman, Betty Walker, Jeanne Strickland, and Charlotte Reith; La Poulard, enjoyed by Malda and Roy Elrod. Bob and Mary Lee Grasley went to Monte Carlo to try their luck at the casino.

Saturday morning, early risers visited the open air Farmers' Market near our hotel which featured fresh vegetables, fruits, cheeses, and breads plus live chickens and rabbits. Not like your local Safeway! A group visited the Village of St Paul de Vence, Jack and Alice visited the Chagall Museum, and Gail and Larry visited Eze Village. In the afternoon we took the short bus trip to Isola.

On arrival, the Hotel Pas de Loup hosted a Pizza and Sangria party. On the second night, the Grasleys hosted a martini and wine party with lots of good munchies. The skiing was marginal with many rocks to avoid but the weather was warm and sunny. All PVSers skied so well that the only injuries were a twisted back (Jack Hadler) and ripped pants (Geoff Wadey) due to the difficult ramp at the Poma Lift. An off-the-slope mishap was hot soup spilled on Adele Waggaman resulting in a serious burn that curtailed further skiing for her.

St Sauvier remains the favorite area at Isola, skiwise. The Cow Club was the favored lunch spot followed by the balconies outside our individual rooms, La Raclette for (what else?) raclette, and a hut on the mountain at St Sauvier.

But, after a few days, our leaders began a search for better ski conditions. Fortunately, Auron (our second week destination) relieved us of all obligations, a deal was made with the very accomodating manager of the Pas de Loup, and arrangements were made to transfer the group to La Plagne in the Savoie Alps where we had skied last year and liked very much.

# Cow Club Isola 2000

The bus trip north was long - 375 miles  
11 hours with only two short stops including one in the delightful town of Digne.

Within 18 km of our destination we were held up by a bus/truck accident on the mountain's snowy, slippery road.

Our hotel in La Plagne was the Christina. It was lovely. The owners were gracious and helpful. Our ski passes were ready the next morning and we were on our way to skiing snow, snow, and more snow.

As usual, Steve Grenleski was first on, last off every day.

VIN DE TABLE

11% vol

Mis en bouteille par

BRUN, VITICULTEUR 83350 RAMATUELLE - FRANCE

(Continued..)

The first day Larry and Gail skied to Montalbert and Roy and Malda to Champagny for lunch. That evening, Jack, Alice, Norm and Charlotte hosted a cocktail party featuring mussels on pretzel sticks, Perrier and white wine. Will provided music on his clarinet.

When a group went up the next day to ski the glacier, Margaret got stuck at the end of the longest traverse. Bob Grasley came to the rescue and, while the rest of the group cheered, Margaret finally managed to turn from a sitting position.

Charlotte took a spectacular spill on the same slope. Bob Wyckoff has some excellent slides of it. To make up for the various traumas, the group ate at Plagne Bellecote.

Our Sunday night cocktail party was hosted by Frank Shelburne, Art Topping, Adele Waggaman and Lu Beale. Admission required that you bring your own glass. Frank had a jelly glass purloined from the maid's closet. Topic of conversation: Where does Elmo Dario ski? No one ever sees him.

Monday was a big day for PVS - eleven of us became "birds" by taking a hang glider flight on skis! Margaret was the most apprehensive but by far the most enthusiastic at flight's end. Larry touched the control bar and received a chewing out in three languages. Other fliers: Roy, Malda, Gail, Patti, Art, the Grasleys, Elmo and Will.

Our flight was the chief topic of conversation at the evening cocktail party hosted by Eleanor and Pete Peterson which was also highlighted by Will's discovery that a flattened toothpaste tube makes a fine spoon in an emergency.

Conversation at Tuesday's cocktail party at the Wyckoffs included an account of Shirley Rettig's sensational fall on the glacier. She slid from near the top all the way to the bottom losing hat, gloves, goggles, glasses, skis and poles! Other skiers were picking up her belongings all over the place and returning them to her. No injuries, luckily. At the same time, Malda tried to do a "split" over a mogul and Roy turned on a non existing mogul. Where had they all gone for lunch? Gail skied with Larry all the way to Champagny so they could tell son Greg who had made the run last year.

A heavy snow storm lasting two days didn't stop most of us from skiing especially not Bob Grasley who followed a class off into the untracked powder.

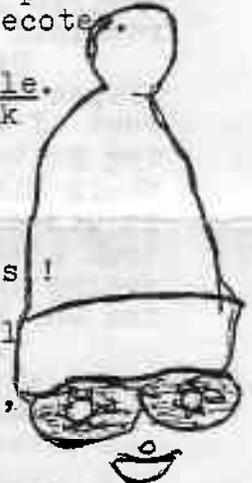
## LE SOLEIL

### BAR-RESTAURANT

The hotel gave a farewell beef fondue party with entertainment by a 4 piece band joined from time to time by Will and his clarinet. A highlight was a Conga line that got every one on his feet to dance. Art never sat down again.

The last day was powder skiing time. No one wanted to stop. But there was packing to do and one last "bring your leftovers" get together in Jeanne and Betty's room. The next day we returned to Nice by a marvelous scenic route, traversing part of the Rhone valley, catching glimpses of Marseille in the distance and the vineyards producing wine faster than even PVSers could drink it - though Jim Glenn and others in the rear of the bus had a fine time finishing up our left over spirits.

Back at the Continental Massena we were met by Natalie Plotnikoff who had spent the week with friends in Nice. Then it was one last night on the town and - all too soon - another great Wyckoff trip was over and had become the stuff of memories.



savoie france

WISP 11 by Jean Heitchue

Nice weather and good company made for a perfect weekend at Wisp February 6-8. Saturday morning a sunny spring like day greeted us as most of us headed for the slopes while Vivian Barry and Jane Miller searched for Xcountry' trails. It was a perfect day to shed extra layers of clothing, don suntan lotion and enjoy tailgate picnics.

The evening at Timberlake started off with good munchies by Jane Miller and ended with a delicious rich chocolate cake by Marilyn Clark. (A must for the cookbook!) After dinner not too many remained around the fireplace for conversation.

Next morning Bob Barry and Mort Kuff were the first to the slopes to try out the fresh falling snow. Not too far behind were the rest of us heading for our favorite trails. Dick and Cam Clark and Reg Heitchue along with Mark, Tom, Jim and Jack Fuller spent most of their time burning up the moguls on the Face and Squirrel Cage. It was pleasant skiing and surprisingly not cold until the weather took a turn and one couldn't see the top of Squirrel Cage while riding the chair. Everyone quickly headed for home except Dick and Cam who had a wonderful time skiing to closing time with no lines.

The trip home was a slow one through a blinding snow storm until we descended into Cumberland and clear roads. Angela and Mort Kuff plus the Barrys and Jane Miller left early enough to finish the weekend with dinner at "Weavers" in Hancock where, I'm told, one doesn't go away hungry. Unfortunately, the Heitchues and Clarks arrived just after they locked up. Maybe next year!

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WISP CHALET, ANYONE?

Excom has heard of a 4 bedroom chalet at Wisp that we could rent for \$635 per month next ski year (1982). It would mean a chalet coordinator and a cash deposit for people planning to use the chalet.

It would be a convenient way for club members to ski together during the week as well as weekends. So what do you think?

We will be taking a poll at our next club meeting to get a sense of member interest. If you are unable to be at the meeting but want to express an opinion, call Gail Gell - 924-5000.

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Please check your club roster.  
If there is an error in your  
address or phone number or if  
you wish to make a change, call  
Membership Chairwoman Gail Gell  
NOW. (924-5000 or 620-4573)

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## THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

Ah, back on the job as your local, friendly purveyor of

gossip. Many thanks to good friend Mort Kuff for doing a guest Knee last month. However, we didn't really - er - kneed all of those knee puns. But some of them were pretty funknee. In case you do the column again, you forgot hoknee, ukneeque, muknee, and, of course, kneecrophilia. (Look that one up in your Funk and Wagkneels!)

I have to tell you the inside story, the real nitty-gritty (or, in this case, the real foamy-woamy) (did I really write that?) of getting the Fürstenberg Beer to the Heitchues for the Feb meeting. We got the word the Friday before the meeting that the beer (8 cases) was at the distributors in Northeast D.C. The distributors would deliver it to any place in Virginia with a liquor license. Whoops! Or we could pick it up. Obviously more reasonable Mort Kuff managed to get the 8 cases into a truck on Saturday and get it to his N.W. house. Then, Reg Heitchue picked it up on Sunday, packed it into his station wagon and snuck (sneaked?) it into Va. for the meeting. By the way, the Heitchue refrigerator holds 6 cases of beer (but little else). Some 40 plus PVSers and guests drank 5 cases. And it was also a jolly PVS ExCom meeting the following week.

Several months ago I reported the demise of PVS beards. Now I'm happy to report that one has been added. The Knee now has, at least temporarily, a beard. Watch for more on this story, it has a hairy ending.

From the Knee's "It's Later Than You Think Department": Do you realize that right now it's closer to the year 2000 than it is to 1960? Now that's incredible.

I'm going to nominate Glade Flake for PVS president.

Considering our club pins, etc., what this club needs is a flake for president.

And speaking of that, as they say in gossip columns, I'm just breathless trying to figure out who Bob Marx will pick as vice president. Aren't you? You will recall that Bob, then known as BM to preserve his anonymity, received the Knee's first ever Kneedle of the Month. He volunteered to collate the pages of TOOT and then proceeded to be out of town "on business" for the first three months leaving it to beautiful wife Jan to do all the work.

Paddy and Shirley Frucht are so sweet even their feet, at the front, have fruchtoes.

I understand that on the Wyckoff trip ex-president Geoff' Wadey managed to find every rock in Isola - with the bottom of his skis. Is it true Wadey's on the rocks? And the Knee also learned that Margaret Wyckoff learned to do sit turns! On that same trip 11 PVSers tried hang gliding on skis. For many years Malda Elrod had been hoping to try it and when she did she even got to pilot!

After Mort Kuff's Knee puns came out last month I understand the major topic of conversation on the second Wisp trip was Knee puns. And this is written without having seen the President's message in this issue of TOOT.

As you read this, the Knee is skiing in Aspen (assuming snow, of course). While I'm there, as a happy coincidence, the only U.S. event in the World Cup will take place. Through nefarious means (especially considering where I work) I came upon a World Cup Press Kit. Well, I just had to send in for press credentials I listed myself as columnist for a local Washington, D.C. based ski newsletter, TOOT. If it works, watch for my exclusive interviews with Franz Klanner, et al, in the next TOOT.

Have you noticed that the number of bears at local ski resorts has been increasing? Yup, they are all reporting fair to good snow with many bear spots.

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THE MARX OF DISTINCTION

by Lu Beale

What makes PVS so special? It's dedication to skiing, for one thing. For another, the enthusiastic participation of those members who give so freely of their time and creative efforts for the benefit of all.

Among those special ones, count Jan and Bob Marx.

The Marxes, both from the Minneapolis area, met when they were undergraduates at the University of Minnesota, he a major in Geography, she in Occupational Therapy. Although previously they had had only a taste of skiing, they joined a college ski group called SKEEWAKSURS - a club much like PVS in that it was a "club for skiers" which in the off season canoed, waterskied and camped.

These shared interests led Jan and Bob to love and marriage and, last December, they celebrated their 15th Anniversary.

In 1966, the Marxes came to Washington where Bob became an Assistant Chief in the Geography Division of the Census Bureau. Except for a 2½ year stint in Louisville they have been here ever since and presently reside in Springfield, Va., with sons Eric, 10, and Brian, 7.

When they first came to Washington, Jan worked as an O.T. at the Crippled Children's Clinic in D.C. where she met Pat Calef (now Pat Cope). Pat, a charter member of PVS, invited the Marxes to a PVS meeting and they knew immediately that this was their kind of club. They joined in '67. Subsequently, Bob served the club as an ExCom member, treasurer, and vice president. He is now the nominating committee's candidate for president.

The club, says Bob, was basically the same in the early days as now although smaller and with only occasional out of season events. A favorite such event was the October Lobster Fest at Great Falls. Pat had the lobsters flown down from N.E., they were boiled in scavenged trash cans, and the club feasted on shell fish accompanied by salads and desserts contributed, as always, by members.

Other popular activities in the early years were water skiing on the lower Potomac, sailing (the Solers, in particular, were big on this), and many more weekend carpooling trips to N.E.

Asked what changes they would like to see in PVS today, the Marxes said they thought cross country skiing would be a great addition. They like the club's small size and hope it will remain that way.

Bob and Jan are leading the trip to Sutton this year. This Canadian adventure is a family favorite because of the fine classes for children. The Marx boys are increasingly gung-ho on the slopes for which the parents are grateful. "We promote their skiing," says Bob slyly, "So WE can ski."

The Marxes are as talented off the slopes as on. Jan is a "crafty" person. She designs and makes everything from coffee tables to slip covers. She is active in Cub Scouts and PTA, writes a monthly newsletter for a Sorority Alumnae group of which she is president, produces, with Bob, the TOOT, and provides half the Answering Service.

Bob, meanwhile, is the perfect handy man around the house. He can - and has - put a skylight in the kitchen, built a jungle gym and built-in bookcases. He can fix most anything, says Jan, - the perfect "Honey-do" husband. He plays the harmonica and is partial to Blue Grass. He is also partial to limericks and is himself a limerick writer of no mean ability.

To prove it, we ask you to see the next page for a Marx original created especially for the occasion.

WITH APOLOGIES TO NOBODY

by Bob Marx

"PVS is the club for skiers"  
Is a saying that's often revered.  
When it's blizzards and snow,  
PVS members glow,  
And its newsletter boasts of a Knee,...'er.

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Editor's Note: Some years before the Marxes matriculated, PVSers Eleanor and Pete Peterson also met and became engaged while students at the University of Minnesota. Small world!

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CALENDAR OF FUTURE EVENTS

- Mar 17 ... Monthly Meeting at the Barry's  
8:00 p.m.
- Mar 24 ... ExCom Meeting at Adele Waggaman's  
7:30 p.m.
- Ap 11 ... Hike in Shenadoah Natl. Park  
8:00 a .m.
- Ap 21 ... Annual Meeting at the McKinley's  
8:00 p.m.
- May 19 ... Monthly Meeting at the Kuff's  
8:00 p.m.

And Skiwise

Mar 14-21 . Ski Sutton, Marxes leading  
Plus fantastic trips for '82!!!

CLUB OFFICERS

- President ..... Marilyn Clark
- Vice President ..... Bob Marx
- Secretary ..... Alice Swalm
- Treasurer ..... Margaret Wyckoff
- Membership ..... Gail Gell
- TOOT Editor ..... Lu Beale
- TOOT Production ..... Jan and Bob Marx
- USSA -E-steren Rep. ... Art Topping
- BRSC Rep. .... Geoff' Wadey
- PSF Rep. .... Art Topping
- Program Chairman ..... Ray McKinley
- Answering Service .... Jan and Bob Marx  
451-9158
- Movie Chairman ..... Keith Lyon

EXCOM

Second Term

- Keith Lyon
- Bing Poon
- Barbara Wingrove

First Term

- Jean Heitchue
- Jim Slack
- Adele Waggaman