



VOLUME XX
NUMBER 11

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

NOVEMBER, 1985

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

AT THE TIME YOU RECEIVE THIS COPY OF TOOT
THERE MAY STILL BE PLACES AVAILABLE FOR
THE PVS 20TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY ON NOV. 10TH.

CALL MARILYN CLARK AT 978-9435 BY NOV. 7TH
TO FIND OUT IF THERE IS SPACE LEFT. THEN SEND
HER YOUR CHECK AND COME ENJOY THIS GREAT ONE-TIME-
ONLY EVENT.

DON'T JUST READ ABOUT IT IN TOOT. COME SEE FOR
YOURSELF. YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Shel'.

Sheldon Drews, President



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COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER MEETING - REFRESHMENTS..SKI TALES..COMRADERIE
PLUS - AS A SPECIAL ATTRACTION - BRIAN EARDLEY
OF THE SKI CENTER PRESENTING THE LATEST
IN SKI EQUIPMENT.

When: Tuesday, November 19th. 8:00 P.M.

Where: Home of Adele Waggaman, 5209 Cammack Drive, Bethesda. Md.

Directions:

From Beltway, take River Road exit #39 for Washington. Go 4.1 miles to Western Avenue. Turn right on Western and go .7 miles to Westmoreland Circle. Turn right (west) on Massachusetts Avenue and go .4 mile to left on Newport Ave. Proceed 1 block to deadend and right on Cammack Drive. 5209 is third house on right.

SPECIAL WINE TASTING AT THE COPE by Don Cope

The 1982 Bordeaux vintage has been referred to variously as: best vintage in recent memory; vintage of the decade; best vintage since 1961; etc.

This special second annual tasting of mostly French wines will include one or more wines responsible for these statements.

The wines will be accompanied by "a little food" appropriate to the respective wine.

When: Saturday, November 23rd. 8:00 P.M.

Cost: \$20 per person.

Reservations: This event is limited to 20 with club members having preference. Call early to sign up with either Pat or Don (836-5436).

DIRECTIONS: Take the George Washington Parkway past the sailing marina to the first right turn which is marked Slaters Lane, to the parallel service road. At the first signal, make a right turn onto Slaters Lane. Follow Slaters Lane through an angled left past the warehouses and make the first right turn. Go over the railroad bridge and turn left onto Monroe Ave. (The Monroe Ave bridge is Rt. 1). Go through 2 signals and the Cope home is the big, white house on the right before the 3rd signal.

ANNIVERSARY DINNER

What's that? Never heard of it.

Coming Events

GREAT FALLS HIKE WITH CHILI AT RAY MCKINLEY'S

When: Saturday, November 30th. 1:00 P.M.
Rain or shine. (If you can't stand to hike in the rain come for supper anyway - fivish.)

What: We will meet at Ray's house and proceed to Great Falls Park for a 6 mile circuit hike after which we return to Ray's for early supper of chili and Mexican style snacks provided by Ray. Please bring salad or dessert.

Reservations: Limited to 25 with members having preference unless there is still unreserved space a week before hike.
Call Ray (759-4432).

Cost: \$4.00 per person.

Directions: Take Beltway Exit #13 for Great Falls via Rte 193 (Georgetown Pike). Go about 6½ miles (0.4 miles beyond the light at Great Falls Park) and turn right on River Bend Road. Go 1.8 miles to right on Maria Avenue. The McKinley house is at 9201 Maria Ave. - 4th house from corner on the right. (If Maria Ave. street sign is down again, follow signs to Salem Downs Housing development.)

December 17: Annual Christmas Gluwein party at the Heitchues.

January 4: Winter Steak & Swim at the Elrods. Limited to 40.
Coordinator: Dot Mills. Details in December TCOT.

CALENDAR

- Nov. 10 ... Anniversary Dinner
- Nov. 19 ... Monthly Meeting at Adele Waggaman's. 8:00 P.M.
- Nov. 23 ... Special Wine Tasting at the Copes. Limited to 20.
Call Don(836-5436).
- Nov. 26 ... ExCom at Mary Jane McCarthy's. 7:30 P.M.
- Nov. 30 ... Great Falls Hike/McKinley Supper. Limited to 25.
Call Ray (759-4432)
- Dec. 17 ... Christmas Gluwein Party at the Heitchues'. 8:00 P.M.
- Jan. 4 ... Winter Steak & Swim at Elrods Limited to 40.
Coordinator: Dot Mills (527-5036).
- Jan. 21 ... Monthly Meeting at the Leonhardts'.
- Jan. 28 ... ExCom at Lu Beale's. 7:30 P.M.



The Knee

by
Ray McKinley

Happy twentkneeth
ankkneeverary! And they
said we wouldn't last.

Not only have we lasted we continue
to send more people to Europe
each year than that other club,
SCWDC (that stands for Some club
in Wilmington, Delaware, C.). That's
even though SCWDC has 30 times the
number of members we do.

I look forward to seeing all of
you at our bash on November 10th.
I'm especially pleased because the
Knee has been asked (told? directed?)
to be Master of Ceremoknees.

Don Cope plans a change for the
better for this year's gourmet wine
tasting. He and Pat will provide
appropriate light food with each
wine. Actually, Don will provide
the wine, with food by Pate.

Ex-excomer Jean Heitchue has a
new part time job at CIA. She
tells me she works for some sort
of "escort service." No comment.

A recent tour of the Leonhardt
basement indicates that with a
little effort on Fred's part it
will be ready for the January
meeting. Fred's bar had just arrived
as had all the hardware including
some 40 pounds of brass elephant
bar rail holders. Keep a wary eye
out for Margaret Wyckoff the well
known elephant hunter.

Ginny Larson is off to Bermuda
for a late fall vacation. At about
the same time, Norm and Mary Engel-
man are off to tour India for a
month (missing our 20th). Norm
never was one to pull Punjabs.

Ginny and Norm almost got in-
volved in a joint trip to Canada.
It seems Norm gave some serious
consideration to changing this
winter's trip from Salt Lake City
to Whistler Mt. outside of Vancouver
B.C. Indeed, the change (which never
did happen) was reported on at an
ExCom meeting.

Charlie Gordon, who attended the
meeting, discovered that he and Ginny
have the same bank when he ran into
her there. They talked skiing (what
else?) and Charlie told Ginny about
Norm's Canada trip. Ginny, who had
been dying to go to Canada, called
Norm immediately to sign up for his
non-trip.

The PVS anniversary party was
originally planned for the Serbian
Crown. However, among other problems,
they refused to provide us with
punches. So we pulled no punches
and pulled out.

By the way, PVS polo shirts, tee
shirts and sweat shirts are all
unacceptable dress for our 20th.
PVS ski caps, maybe.

Charlie Gordon and Charlie Huggins
both showed up late for a recent
ExCom meeting because they were
playing tennis (but not with each
other). I didn't know that either of
them was in the racquets.

Aase Berling reports she has
survived her IRS audit (again) and
still has sufficient funds to go
on Dina Taylor's Italian trip.

Mary Jane McCarthy has found a
new way to get high. Her soaring
event was wonderful. Good weather
and a splendid picnic. Everyone ended
up a soar winner.

Despite the fact that the Knee was
the only one without a name tag I can
still report on the Oktoberfest at
the Wyckoffs. Most notable was the
new elephant switch plate in the first
floor bathroom which replaces the
skier switch plate with the switch
in an "interesting" position which
now decorates the basement bathroom.
Marianne Cook made her annual appear-
ance while passing between Harpers
Ferry and Kitzbuhel where she now is.

At the Oktoberfest Jenckes Mason
had the kneetest mug - an all clear
horn-shaped glass. Charlotte Reith
and Larry Pease were each detected
with 2 mugs (two fistful drinkers?).
But Dick Comerford, seen with 3 mugs
at once, won the contest.

Finally, Bob Wyckoff will soon join
the ranks of the retired. I consider
Bob to be a lot of things - but
never retiring.

Leu-eu-venbrow and Fleu-eu-fencookin! by Huey Roberts

On a lovely Fall day, approximately 60 PVSers (in a variety of Bavarian attire), converged at the Wyckoff's to celebrate the annual Octoberfest. Throughout the day, the guests circulated between the living room, dining room, the Rathskellar, the garden and the porch where Margaret had provided a unisex dummy to model PVS polo shirts. Not a bad idea, Margaret, even the Army and Marine Corps were sold sexless shirts.

Talk about selling put one of the guests, a used car salesman, in the marketing mood. Would you believe his line? He was "overstocked with Mercedes".

In addition to the kegs of leu-eu-venbrow, the guests consumed ample portions of sauerkraut, potato salad and those special German sausages and, of course, those delicious desserts - Fleu-eu-fencookin and Apfelcookin.

After the hearty feast, Bob continued to play tapes from his own oom-pa-pa collection as well as some oom-pa music that he brought back from one of his Greek trips.

Thanks to Bob and Margaret for a very enjoyable day.

October Meeting by Karen and Knox Felker

Twenty eight club members and two applicants greatly enjoyed the evening of October 15th at the Marx home where Jan acted as both host and hostess because Bob (who has an oft-proved knack for good timing) was away on business.

Not to worry, Jan was up to the task. She provided goodies galore (especially notable: brownies both iced and uniced). After the obligatory business meeting presided over by Sheldon Drews with customary dispatch, the many talented hostess provided a splendid slide show narrated by (who else?) herself.

We went Down Under with the Marx family to Sydney and Melbourne, saw the "castle" (the school for the deaf in Victoria) where they occupied the top floor plus a tower; saw the "very tall tree" which they climbed; went with them to Tasmania where they encountered a Tasmanian devil or two and on to Perth and Alice Springs.

Along the road we saw the famous rock with the register which the Elrods had also signed on a previous trip. The underwater slides from the Great Barrier Reef were fascinating and so was Jan as she imitated the laughter of the Kookaburra bird.

Thanks, Jan, for the show and for the whole evening.

GRASS SKIING AT BRYCE

Unfortunately this trip was canceled because of heavy rains.

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PAST EVENT

SOARING.....A FIRST EVENT FOR THE BRAVE and INTRIGUED

by Jan and Bob Marx

PVS has reached a new HIGH. Twelve of us think so. The word for the day was "Absolutely Fantastic!" and was uttered first by Larry. So up-lifted was he that his comment to Gail was "This may cost us a ski trip." Gail's initial utterance was "It's different."

The Warrenton Soaring Center is located at the second oldest airfield in the United States. College Park is the oldest. It was built 1910ish and used by Orville Wright. The trip between the two was the first authorized route in the U.S. The only changes since are one paved runway and a new outhouse.

There were three Schweiker 233 sailplanes of different ages available to us. They weigh about 900 pounds, have a glide ratio of 30:1 (for every 30 feet it goes forward, it falls 1 foot), and travel at 25 to 40 knots. The tow planes were a Piper Super Cub and a Piper Pawnee which originally was designed as a crop duster--and it's cute. The tower tows the tow-ee (a pilot with the passenger in the front) to 3,000 feet above the fall-foliaged countryside. Some of us waved as we lifted off and others were too intent on comments and instructions from our patient and informative pilots. The pilots (real guys with regular jobs during the week) carefully explained the aerodynamics to each of us before we went up. Jacques's pilot was delighted to be able to speak engineereze and get into the nitty gritty of his favorite sport. The view was only slightly hazy and we could easily see all, including the Chrysler estate; the largest holding in Virginia.

This was HANDS ON, gang. WE popped the tow cable loose. WE trimmed the craft. WE operated ~~the~~ stick and rudder pedals to do right and left turns, correct the yaw, stall, and even reach zero g's. Landings varied from very bumpy to OK bumpy.

Even though some of us were wobbly in zee knees when we returned, all, including Vulture Lady (Ken's name for Myra), their friend Cathy, Charlotte, Alice, Dina, and our brave trip leader Mary Jane, thought it was an experience they would be happy to expound upon.

**SKI
TRIP
update**

There are still places available on all PVS ski trips. To sign up, call one of the following leaders:
Mont Sutton, Canada - Jack Peoples 840-2213.
Austria - the Wyckoffs 589-5532.
Utah - Norman Engelman 299-2635.
Steamboat, Colorado - the Wengroves 762-4887.
Cortina, Italy - Dina Taylor (H) 301-663-6089.
(O) 301-363-0300 X2650

Following is a listing of ski trips sponsored by the Blue Ridge Ski Council.

1985 - 1986

| Date | Location | Club |
|-----------------|---|--------------|
| December | | |
| 3 | Roundtop, Md | Westinghouse |
| 7 | Vail, Colorado (Dec 7-Dec 14) | Richmond |
| 10 | Roundtop, Md | Westinghouse |
| 12 | Salt Lake City, Utah (Dec 12-Dec 17) | USAF |
| 12 | Killington (Dec 12-Dec 13) | SCWDC |
| 12 | Lake Placid, NY (Dec 12-Dec 15) | Pentagon |
| 14 | Stowe (Dec 14-Dec 20) | SCWDC |
| 14 | Hunter Mountain, NY (Dec 14-Dec 16) | AHSC |
| 15 | Vail, Co (Race Training) (Dec 15-Dec 22) | WSI |
| 20 | Hunter Mt, NY (Dec 20-Dec 22) | Goddard |
| 21 | Vail, Colorado (Dec 21-Dec 28) | SCWDC |
| 21 | Lake Placid, NY (Dec 21-Dec 24) | SCWDC |
| 21 | Mt St Anne or Mt Tremblant (Dec 21-Dec 28) | SCWDC |
| 22 | Jay Peak, VT (Dec 22-Dec 26) | Pentagon |
| 26 | Steamboat Springs, Co (Dec 26-Jan 2) | Richmond |
| 26 | Jack Frost/Big boulder, Pa (Dec 26-Dec 30) | Westinghouse |
| 28 | Breckenridge, Colorado (Dec 28-Jan 4) | SCWDC |
| 28 | Berkshires (Dec 28-Jan 1) | SCWDC |
| 29 | Greek Peak or Hunter, NY (Dec 29-Jan 1) | Pentagon |
| 29 | Jay Peak, Vt (Dec 29-Jan 3) | Baltimore |
| January | | |
| 2 | Sugarbush, Vt (Jan 2-Jan 5) | SCWDC |
| 3 | Canaan Valley, WV (Jan 3-Jan 5) | Richmond |
| 3 | Snowshoe, WV (Jan 3-Jan 5) | SCWDC |
| 3 | Wisp, Md (Jan 3-Jan 5) | Westinghouse |
| 4 | Gray Rocks, Canada (Jan 4-Jan 11) | AHSC |
| 4 | Roundtop, Pa | Pentagon |
| 4 | Poconos, Pa (Jan 4-Jan 5) | USAF |
| 6 | Bryce | SCWDC |
| 7 | Ski Liberty, Pa | Pentagon |
| 9 | Killington/Pico, Vt (Jan 9-Jan 12) | SCWDC |
| 9 | Seven Springs, Pa (Jan 9-Jan 12) | Westinghouse |
| 10 | Seven Springs, Pa (Jan 10-Jan 12) | Baltimore |
| 10 | Killington, Vt (Jan 10-Jan 12) | Goddard |
| 10 | Tussey, Pa (Race Training) (Jan 10-Jan 12) | WSI |
| 10 | Seven Springs (Jan 10-Jan 12) | Richmond |
| 10 | Wisp, Md (Jan 10-Jan 12) | SCWDC |
| 10 | Ski Liberty, Pa (Night Skiing only) | Pentagon |
| 11 | Mont Sutton, Ca. (Jan 11-Jan 18) | PVS |
| 11 | Mammoth, Calif. (Jan 11-Jan 18) | SCWDC |
| 11 | Mt Tremblant, Ca (Jan 11-Jan 18) | Pentagon |
| 11 | Gray Rocks, Canada (Jan 11-Jan 18) | SCWDC |
| 12 | Tussey, Pa | WSI |
| 12 | Greek Peak, NY (Ski Marathon) | 52 Assoc. |
| 14 | Wintergreen, Va | SCWDC |
| 16 | Whiteface, NY (Jan 16-Jan 19) | Baltimore |
| 16 | Greek Peak, NY (Jan 16-Jan 20) | LHSC |
| 16 | Stowe, Vt (Jan 16-Jan 20) | SCWDC |
| 16 | Greek Peak, NY (Race) | 52 Assoc. |
| 17 | Snowshoe, WV (Jan 17-Jan 19) | Richmond |
| 17 | Homestead (New Skiers) (Jan 17-Jan 19) | Richmond |
| 17 | Laurel Mountain (XC) (Jan 17-Jan 19) | SCWDC |
| 17 | Elk Mountain/Montage (Jan 17-Jan 20) | SCWDC |
| 17 | Blue Knob (Jan 17-Jan 19) | Westinghouse |
| 18 | Aspen, Colorado (Jan 18-Jan 25) | Baltimore |
| 18 | Lake Tahoe (Jan 18-Jan 25) | Richmond |
| 18 | Shawnee, Delaware | WSI |
| 18 | Aspen, Colorado (Jan 18-Jan 25) | SCWDC |
| 18 | Camelback or Jack Frost/Big Boulder (Jan 18-19) | Pentagon |
| 18 | Lake Placid, NY (Jan 18-Jan 20) | AHSC |
| 19 | Camelback, Pa | WSI |
| 19 | Mt Sutton, Canada (Jan 19-Jan 29) | Goddard |
| 19 | St. Veit, Austria (Jan 19-Jan 25) | USAF |
| 19 | St. Veit, Austria (Jan 19-Jan 25) | Pentagon |
| 20 | Liberty, Pa (Grade school race) | WSI |
| 23 | Stowe/Mt Snow (XC) (Jan 23-Jan 26) | SCWDC |
| 23 | Stratton, VT (Jan 23-Jan 26) | Pentagon |
| 23 | Seven Springs (Jan 23-Jan 26) | Richmond |
| 23 | Killington, Vt (Jan 23-Jan 26) | Westinghouse |
| 24 | St. Anton, Austria (Jan 24-Feb 1) | Baltimore |
| 24 | Camelback/Jack Frost (Jan 24-Jan 26) | SCWDC |
| 24 | Greek Peak, NY (Jan 24-Jan 26) | Baltimore |
| 25 | Winter Park, Colorado (Jan 25-Feb 1) | SCWDC |
| 25 | Hidden Valley, Pa | WSI |
| 25 | Zermatt, Sw. and Courchival, Fr. (Jan 25-Feb 8) | SCWDC |
| 25 | Stowe, Vt (Jan 25-Jan 31) | SCWDC |
| 25 | Jackson Hole/Grand Targhee (Jan 25-Feb 8) | LHSC |
| 26 | Roundtop, Pa | SCWDC |
| 30 | Cannon/Loon/Waterville (Jan 30-Feb 2) | SCWDC |
| 30 | Canaan Valley, WV (Jan 30-Feb 2) | Pentagon |
| 30 | Colfosco, Italy (Jan 30-Feb 9) | Westinghouse |
| 31 | Canaan Valley (SKI-O-REE) (Jan 31-Feb 2) | BRSC |

| Date | Location | Club |
|----------|--|--------------|
| February | | |
| 1 | Massanutten, Va | WSI |
| 1 | Iechgl, Austria (Feb 1-Feb 8) | Baltimore |
| 1 | Steamboat, Colorado (Feb 1-Feb 8) | Baltimore |
| 1 | Steamboat, Colorado (Feb 1-Feb 8) | SCWDC |
| 1 | Steamboat, Colorado (Feb 1-Feb 8) | Pentagon |
| 1 | Park City, Utah (Feb 1-Feb 7) | Goddard |
| 2 | Bryce, Va | WSI |
| 6 | Stowe/Jay Peak, Vt (Feb 6-Feb 9) | SCWDC |
| 6 | Greek Peak, NY (Feb 6-Feb 9) | Westinghouse |
| 7 | Bryce | SCWDC |
| 7 | Club Races (Wintergreen?) (Feb 7-Feb 9) | Richmond |
| 7 | Elk /Montaga, Pa (Feb 7-Feb 9) | Pentagon |
| 7 | Greek Peak, NY (Feb 7-Feb 9) | USAF |
| 7 | Elk/New Germany (XC) (Feb 7-Feb 9) | SCWDC |
| 8 | Salt Lake City, Utah (Feb 8-Feb 22) | PVS |
| 8 | Roundtop, Pa | WSI |
| 8 | Mt Snow, Vermont (Feb 8-Feb 15) | Richmond |
| 8 | Jackson Hole, Wv (Feb 8-Feb 15) | SCWDC |
| 8 | Seven Springs, Pa (Feb 8-Feb 9) | AHSC |
| 8 | Winter Park, Colorado (Feb 8-Feb 15) | Baltimore |
| 9 | Ski Liberty, Pa | WSI |
| 9 | Canaan Valley, WV (Feb 9-Feb 11) | Goddard |
| 9 | Mont Tremblant, Canada (Feb 9-Feb 15) | Baltimore |
| 13 | Geneva, Switzerland (Feb 13-Feb 23) | Goddard |
| 13 | Mt St Anne/Stratton (Feb 13-Feb 17) | SCWDC |
| 13 | Courmayeur (Feb 13-Feb 23) | Richmond |
| 14 | Smugglers Notch (Feb 14-Feb 17) | Baltimore |
| 14 | Seven Springs, WV (Feb 14-Feb 17) | USAF |
| 14 | Greek Peak (Feb 14-Feb 17) | SCWDC |
| 14 | Greek Peak, NY (Feb 14-Feb 17) | Pentagon |
| 14 | Okemo, Vt (Feb 14-Feb 17) | Westinghouse |
| 15 | South Lake Tahoe, Calif (Feb 15-Feb 22) | SCWDC |
| 15 | Greek Peak, NY (Feb 15-Feb 17) | AHSC |
| 16 | Greek Peak, NY | WSI |
| 20 | Killington, Vt (Feb 2-Feb 23) | SCWDC |
| 20 | Seven Springs (Feb 20-Feb 23) | Richmond |
| 20 | Ascutney Mountain Resort, VT (Feb 20-Feb 23) | Pentagon |
| 21 | Canaan Valley, WV (Feb 21-Feb 23) | SCWDC |
| 21 | Camelback, Pa (Feb 21-Feb 23) | Westinghouse |
| 22 | Wisp, Md | WSI |
| 22 | Banff, Canada (Feb 22-Mar 1) | SCWDC |
| 22 | Mont Tremblant, Canada (Feb 22-Mar 1) | Columbia |
| 22 | Taos, New Mexico (Feb 22-Mar 1) | Baltimore |
| 22 | Crested Butte, Colorado (Feb 22-Mar 1) | Baltimore |
| 22 | Stowe/Sugarbush (Feb 22-Feb 28) | SCWDC |
| 23 | Canaan Valley, WV | WSI |
| 24 | Roundtop | SCWDC |
| 27 | Greek Peak, NY (Feb 27-Mar 1) | Goddard |
| 27 | Wildcat/Attitash/Gore/Blue Knob (Feb 27-Mar 2) | SCWDC |
| 27 | Lake Placid, NY (Feb 27-Mar 2) | Pentagon |
| 27 | Stratton, Vt (Feb 27-Mar 2) | Westinghouse |
| 28 | Snowshoe, WV (Feb 28-Mar 2) | Richmond |
| 28 | Jack Frost/Camelback (Feb 28-Mar 2) | LHSC |
| 28 | Elk/Montaga (Feb 28-Mar 2) | Baltimore |
| 28 | Canaan Valley, WV (Feb 28-Mar 2) | USAF |
| March | | |
| 1 | Blue Knob, Pa | WSI |
| 1 | Taos, NM (Mar 1-Mar 8) | SCWDC |
| 1 | Park City, Utah (Mar 1-Mar 8) | SCWDC |
| 2 | Salt Lake City, Utah (Mar 2-Mar 9) | Pentagon |
| 2 | St. Veit, Austria (Mar 2-Mar 8) | USAF |
| 6 | Killington, Vt (Mar 6-Mar 9) | Baltimore |
| 6 | Lake Placid, NY (Mar 6-Mar 9) | SCWDC |
| 7 | Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy (Mar 7-Mar 22) | PVS |
| 8 | Steamboat, Colorado (Mar 8-Mar 15) | SCWDC |
| 8 | Breckingridge, Co (Mar 8-Mar 15) | USAF |
| 8 | Banff, Canada (Mar 8-Mar 15) | Richmond |
| 8 | Mammoth Mt, Calif. (Mar 8-Mar 15) | Baltimore |
| 8 | Park City, Utah (Mar 8-Mar 15) | AHSC |
| 9 | Lake Placid, NY (Mar 9-Mar 14) | Goddard |
| 13 | Stratton/Sugarbush (Mar 13-Mar 16) | SCWDC |
| 14 | Snowshoe, WV (Mar 14-Mar 16) | SCWDC |
| 15 | Mt Tremblant, Canada (Mar 15-Mar 22) | Pentagon |
| 15 | Aspen, Colorado (Mar 15-Mar 22) | SCWDC |
| 15 | Banff, Canada (Mar 15-Mar 22) | AHSC |
| 16 | Killington, Vt (Mar 16-Mar 22) | Goddard |
| 20 | Killington, Vt (Mar 20-Mar 23) | SCWDC |
| 22 | Vail, Colorado (Mar 22-Mar 29) | SCWDC |
| 22 | Crested Butte, Colorado (Mar 22-Mar 29) | Westinghouse |
| 23 | Mt Snow, Vt (Mar 23-Mar 27) | USAF |
| 28 | Stowe, Vt (Mar 28-Mar 31) | SCWDC |
| 29 | Snowbird, Utah (Mar 29-Apr 5) | SCWDC |
| 29 | Alta, Utah (Mar 29-Apr 5) | Richmond |

A HISTORY OF THE CREATION OF PVS WAS PRINTED IN SKIER MAGAZINE IN JANUARY 1968 AND APPEARED AS A REPRINT IN AN EARLY TOOT. WE BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE TO REPRINT EXCERPTS IN THIS 20TH ANNIVERSARY MONTH TO INFORM AND REMIND US OF OUR ROOTS AND PERHAPS TO AMUSE US WITH THE OBSERVATION THAT FROM THE START WE CLEARLY DESERVED THE RECENTLY COINED SOBRIQUET PVS & E.

SKI CLUB OF THE MONTH

SKIER, JANUARY, 1968



POTOMAC VALLEY SKIERS

by Anne S. Cooper

WHERE is a ski club as it approaches its second anniversary?

Having at one time been associated with a ski club at its inception, and having seen it fold after less than one year of operation, I was frankly curious to learn the secrets, if any, of the apparent success of an almost brand-new club. Potomac Valley Skiers is a one hundred per cent USEASA club, incorporated in November, 1965 in the District of Columbia. It is devoted to "educational, social and athletic pursuits with particular reference to the sport of skiing." And, as one member has said "We wish to further our knowledge and interest in all sports, and skiing in particular, and to do this in the company of people who have similar interests."

Dick King and Bill Stecher gave birth to the idea of Potomac Valley Skiers at the 1965 USEASA convention in Atlantic City. While they felt that the Ski Club of Washington, D.C. filled a great need providing, as it does, primarily a social outlet and place to meet for the Washington area's vast young adult population who are virtual strangers to the city (club membership numbers around 3,000), they felt also there was room for another club in the area—one devoted wholly to skiing and skiers—indeed, that there was a real need for such an organization. Thus was born the idea of Potomac Valley Skiers—an addition to, not in place of, nor in competition with the Ski Club of Washington, D.C.

The original Potomac Valley Skiers *ad interim* (prior to the first annual meeting in April of 1966) Executive Committee consisted of Dick King, Bill Stecher, Packard Anderson, Hank Thomas, Penny Sayre, Brooke Armat and Mike Rura. Doris Hege acted as the recording secretary during the months when this group was laying the foundations of PVS and taking the steps necessary for incorporation.

Hardship and bad luck often create great camaraderie between the persons who have the misfortune to share it, and this is certainly true of the beginnings of the Potomac Valley Skiers. Many of

the persons who formed the base of PVS membership during the fall and winter of 1965 were part of a luckless group of skiers who found themselves in Europe for a ski vacation without hotel or other land reservations. Twenty-five persons had included the land package in arrangements for a European Ski Flight through Air India back in 1963. However, when the travel agency handling these reservations heard that the Air India plane had not and would not depart, it took it upon itself to cancel all land reservations in Europe. The agency did not reckon with the determination of a group of skiers planning and paid up to go to Europe. Those in charge of the flight made arrangements to have Air France take over the charter, and, thus, we end our story with a hardy group of skiers arriving in Europe to discover they have no place to stay—anywhere. Fourteen of these twenty-five persons became members of PVS during its first year of operation.

PVS states in its by-laws that active membership shall not exceed 200. By the end of the first year there were 60 members, and membership now totals approximately 80. Persons interested in membership must be invited and sponsored by an active member in good standing; they must attend at least two meetings by invitation; they must take no less than three ski trips in the company of members; they must pass the Basic Proficiency Test. The membership votes on each application and five negative votes will deny membership to the applicant.

The club meets monthly with about 60 per cent of the membership in attendance. During the summer months, these monthly meetings usually take the form of lawn parties at members' homes, and during the fall and winter months, the meetings are normally preceded by Dutch Treat cocktails and dinner. The official club bulletin has a name worth mentioning, I believe, since it seems to say a great deal about the spirit and attitude of the membership. As one member puts it, TOOT is the official bugle which sounds off every now and then to trumpet doings in the club and outside skiing world.

Potomac Valley Skiers is definitely what it claims to be—a club of skiing enthusiasts. The club celebrated its founding by a two-day ski and get-acquainted trip to Seven Springs, Pennsylvania, which included inter-ski club racing events with a ski club in Baltimore. (By the way . . . the ski club in Baltimore was creamed, and 'tis the same ski club mentioned earlier which folded prior to the end of its first year of operation . . . do you suppose there is any correlation?) The first PVS on-the-hill program to get started was its competition program, and the club aims high with its relatively small membership, encouraging participation in local and regional races as competitors as well as officials. In 1966 PVS took a New England ski trip and scheduled the Basic Proficiency Test for all those on the trip. All but one person took and passed the test.

I believe you can always separate the social, party-minded person from skiing, but I have yet to discover any way to separate the enthusiastic, hard-core skier from a good party. Potomac Valley Skiers is no exception. Stretch your imagination and figure out how 55 members and guests consumed, in one sitting, 72 lobsters, 350 steamer clams, 10 pounds of butter, the usual assortment of salads and desserts, and inevitable malt and hops! PVS "carried on" at monthly summer meetings at various member homes.

They spent a good bit of their summer together — sailing on a regular basis, camping and hiking, water skiing and golf. They organized regular weekly tennis matches on Sunday mornings during the summer and even participated in a weekly rock-climbing clinic conducted by member Dick Harsh.

The Potomac Valley Skiers may not be growing at a fast rate numerically, but the spirit and enthusiasm of its membership, which began at such a high level, continues to grow and strengthen in its integrity.

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