

VOLUME XXVIX
NUMBER 2

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

FEBRUARY, 1994

President's Message :

The ski season has gotten off to a great start with three trips down and two to go. The first trip, to Steamboat, was fully subscribed and the second (Dina's to Winter Park) was a first for the club and a winner - with warm weather, sunshine and a huge mountain, beautifully groomed daily. It may become a "keeper"! Ski-O-Ree, the third trip, at Canaan Valley was also a big success - lots of snow, lots of camaraderie.

With two more trips to go - Banff and Sun Valley - aren't we living well?

Locally, Charles Huggins is doing a great job managing weekday trips to nearby slopes, a long overdue effort.

Thanks, also, to Bill Anderson for chairing the nominating committee which met in January. See his report and the rules governing the election process which are reported in this TOOT.

Meanwhile, happy skiing to all -

Mary Jane

Mary Jane McCarthy, President



MONTHLY MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15. 3:00 P.M.

Where: Party Room at the
apartment home of
Joy McKnight
4850 Connecticutt Ave. N.W.
1218. Tel: 202-363-6233



This meeting at first -time PVS hostess Joy McKnight's home should be a winner with the Banff trippers just back and the Sun Valley trippers about to go. Bound to be fun - and a little business thrown in. Y'all come!

DIRECTIONS: From the Beltway take Exit 33 for Connecticut Avenue towards Chevy Chase. Proceed about 2.5 miles to Chevy Chase Circle. Go around circle and continue on Conn. Ave. about 1.4 miles to 4850 (The Connecticut Heights Apts.) on the west side between Davenport and Ellicott Streets. Buzz doorman who will let you in and direct you to the party room on the first floor.

-----COMING EVENTS-----

DINING OUT GROUP - February 8, 1994

Join us for dinner on February 8, 1994. Dinner will be at 7:00 P.M. This month dinner is planned at the TERRAMAR, 7800 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. The TERRAMAR is a very interesting Latin American restaurant with a good variety of seafood, veal and beef dishes.



Directions: From the Capitol Beltway (Rt. 495) in Maryland, take the Wisconsin Ave. exit (Rt. 355) South for approx. 2 miles to the corner of Cheltenham Drive. The TERRAMAR is on the right across Wisconsin Ave. from Chevy Chase Chevyland. Ample parking is available on Wisconsin Ave. after 6:30 P.M. and on the adjacent side street after 6:00 P.M.

Coming up Wisconsin Ave. from D.C. or by Metro, the TERRAMAR is on the left, three blocks beyond the Bethesda Metro stop at Old Georgetown Rd. and Wisconsin Ave.

So that we may know how many to expect, please call Pat Tengel or John Smith at (301) 299-8376 by Sunday, February 6.



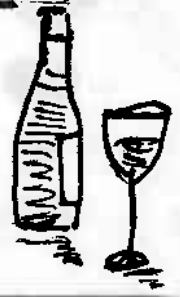
FEBRUARY MIDWEEK SKIING - Liberty & Whitetail

We will ski Liberty on February 2, 18, & 28th, and Whitetail on February 16 & 22nd. Don't forget your Ski America Card for the \$7. discount at Whitetail as the discount is repeatable on midweek skiing.

Interested skiers for the Wednesday dates of February 2 & 16th should call Jan Marx (703) 451-9158, and those interested in the other three dates should call Charles Huggins (301) 424-5725 as we will continue to meet at 7:30 A.M. at the Fairlanes Bowling Alley on Shady Grove Road and car pool to the ski areas. *If you can't reach Jan, call Charlie.*

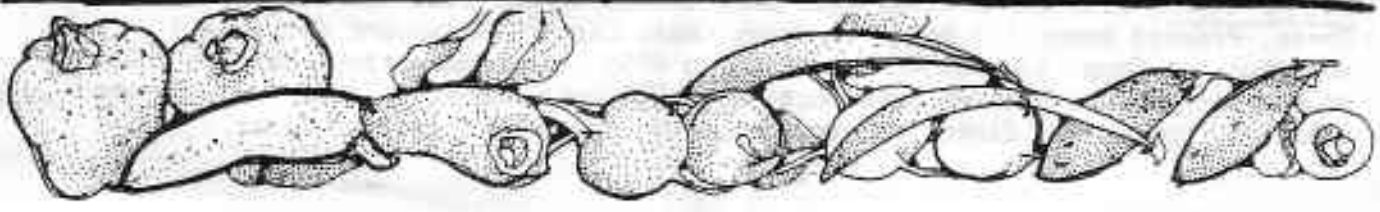
WINE TASTING AT THE COPE'S - March 12. 8 p.m.

Limited to 20. If interested, call Pat or Don (703-836-5436) to reserve. The Copes promise special vintage from Don's cellar and special treats from Pat's kitchen. You can't lose! Directions will be in March TOOT.



SPRING DINNER - March 26. 7 p.m.

This popular event will be in the party room at the Colonnade, 2801 New Mexico Ave., Washington, D.C. Limited to 40. Menu recipes will be assigned when plans are completed. In the meantime, reserve a place by calling Bette Walker (202-333-0766). P.S. Don't forget to bring your own china, silverware and wine glass!



- 3 -

PAST EVENTS

JANUARY MEETING

Sarah and Charles Huggins, Bing Poon and Bob Marx braved sub-zero cold and ice-slicked roads to attend the January 18 meeting at Suzanne Boisclair's Arlington home. Stalwart John Newdorp got as far as the curb in front of the house but on observing the black ice he would have to traverse on foot decided caution was the better part of valor and retreated to his own hearth.

Meanwhile, a blazing fire in Suzanne's charming living room, plentiful food and drink, and non-stop ski talk among friends comforted the weather-weary and made the evening memorable.

A thousand thanks to Suzanne who, prepared for as many as 30 guests, accepted the situation with typical graciousness and good humor and made each of the four guests feel that as long as that person was there, it was all worth while. (Hope the rest of us can have an ice check, Suzanne!)



SKI-O-REE by Nancy Garrett

PVS'ers know how to have a Ski-O-Ree. We began our weekend on Wednesday with the arrival of Knox and Karen Felker and Chuck and Alexa McGrath at WISP. Karen had wine and cheese to begin the festivities. By noon on Thursday, Janet and Chris Waln and Janet and Bob Marx had arrived to ski the wonderful powder at WISP. Nancy and Ray Garrett arrived in time to have wine and cheese (along with a bit of smoked salmon) in their suite at WISP. We then dined in the Bavarian Room at WISP. The Garretts and Marxes skied WISP on Friday and the rest of the group went on to Canaan Valley. Friday afternoon, Lu Beale arrived along with Robbie Gilbert and Minnie Mills. Karen and Knox again hosted a wine and cheese party prior to dinner in the Canaan lodge. Saturday morning the air was a bit warmer and the PVS racers (Bob and Janet Marx, and Knox Felker) prepared to ski. Saturday night was the BRSC wine and cheese party and buffet dinner - both nicely done - followed by dancing, imbibing, and awards. The 5 hardy souls who made it past dinner were the Marxes, Walns, and Knox Felker. At the wine and cheese party, BRSC sold raffle tickets for a 50-50 raffle. That means that the winning ticket takes half and the BRSC takes half. Janet Marx was watching numbers for the Marxes, Garretts, McGraths and got to accept \$65 for the Garretts. (It is our first win ever on a 50-50.) During the award ceremony for the races, we found that we were too good to be in the low group and just barely not good enough to win in the best group. We give our team three cheers for effort - RAH, RAH, RAH!!! Sunday saw most of us skiing at Timberline (according to Karen - it is taller). While the runs were a bit steeper, Canaan still offers more variety - particularly with all slopes open. It is the first time most of us have ever skied "The Dark Side of the Moon" which goes down the right side of the hill. All connecting runs from TDSM were also open. With the whole mountain open, we didn't feel overcrowded as we have MANY times before. As you might well imagine, the snow was the consistency of Steamboat Springs Champagne Powder. There were very few slick spots. All slopes at all 3 resorts were open giving lots of variety. With this kind of planning, Karen should plan more trips in the East.

The biggest cheer of all goes to Karen Felker for her hard work on coordinating, buying lift tickets, planning for the lovely après ski in her room. Karen is still having bronchial problems and was not able to ski. That did not hinder her planning and coordinating skills and we all had a wonderful time. Thank you Karen (Knox, too) for all your work.



SKI TRIP

WINTER SPORTS AT WINTER PARK by Shirley Rettig

While the home folks were suffering through one of the worst cold waves in history, 29 PVSers were enjoying the comparatively balmy slopes of Winter Park CO., the week of January 13 - 23, 1994.

While employees of Warren Miller might consider it too tame, Winter Park is an intermediate skier's paradise of long, wide beautifully groomed runs. Even during the crowded MLK birthday weekend, it was possible to find remote slopes with short lift lines. Even the appearance of a pesky virus that sidelined a number of people for a day or two failed to make a dent in our enthusiasm.

Trip leader Dina Taylor provided her usual array of group dinners, the most picturesque of which was a sleigh ride (or van for the wimps among us) to a converted barn where we sat in horse stalls. Proprietor Annie provided unusual after dinner entertainment on guitar, harmonica, and washboard, several of which she played simultaneously.

On Friday, Dina arranged for a group NASTAR race. Although many were reluctant at first, once the race began, racing fever took hold. Former racer Aina Thomas initially agreed to go through one gate to help Dina get a group rate and then ended up doing the entire course three times. Final statistics showed that 19 people raced and 8 won medals, including a bronze for Fumiko Marquardt. Not bad for a bunch of oldies!



On Sunday we climbed into our bus for a scenic trip over Berthoud Pass to Denver Airport and ended another great Dina-led trip.

Final word of the trip comes from Aina Thomas who, when told she was looking at one of the steepest mogul slopes, remarked that just looking at it gave her the RUNS.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

In accordance with PVS bylaws, a nominating committee appointed by President Mary Jane McCarthy, met on Monday, January 10 to consider candidates for president and three executive committee positions for the 1994-95 year.

The committee, chaired by Bill Anderson, consisted of Lu Beale, Marilyn Clark, Ray McKinley, Serge Triau and Bette Walker.

The following slate of officers was selected to be presented at the annual meeting in April.

President ... Mary Jane McCarthy

Executive Committee (two year term):
Jessma Blockwick
Charles Boykin
Betty Lawrence

Additional nominations may be made by the sponsorship of any five active members in good standing presented at the March meeting.



THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

'Tis February, the month of hearts and love. Well, if you love winter, this has certainly been your year. Wow. The Knee believes that snow is best on the ski slope, not the driveway. I've written my congressperson.

Score another one for PVS. SCWDC (core Knee fans remember that's the acronym for Some Club in Wilmington Delaware C) cancelled their January meeting. WMAL's Frank Harden had a ball making the announcement. PVS, despite ice, didn't cancel. Four hearty PVSers showed up at Suzanne Boisclair's. There was plenty of food.

Pres. Mary Jane and Veep Serge were excused. They were in Winter Park with Dina Taylor. The Knee was in Colorado on business. The temperature in Denver, incidentally, was over 60° from January 15-21. Strange to go to Denver in January to gain 50°.

From my Yucky Department: yes, it's true. The Knee is on crutches after breaking his foot. In typical skier fashion, it occurred while walking a neighbor's dog. The doctor says it's not contagious.

Kneea Kulpa--again. I reported the Felkers were skiing in Norway. Alright, so it was Canada. But it was the Norwegian part.

I also reported our most common first name was Nancy. Wrong. It's a tie. We also have six Bobs. (And thank goodness, no Bobbitts!) There are no Nancy and Bob couples, but we do have two Nancy and Rays.

The first day of Betty and Dick Comerford's Steamboat Springs trip wasn't the greatest for a few PVSers. Edith Rabinovitz lost her jacket. Later it showed up in her flight bag. Ruth Schrider lost her purse at security. After a frantic search, it was discovered--on Mary Jane McCarthy's shoulder.

Geoff Wadey, denied access to a connecting flight, arrived in Steamboat on

mooseback. After check-in, 3 PVSers immediately locked themselves out of their rooms. TOOT Editor Lu Beale tried to ski too high and had to be brought back to earth on a ski patrol toboggan.

Margaret Wyckoff ate too fast and had to be revived by the Heimlich Maneuver. Aina Thomas took a fall and all her equipment flew helter-skelter. Aina had a yard sale. Astute observers note that Dick Comerford's hair is noticeably whiter.

Smart skiers. Nationally, some 20 per cent of the population has 4 year college degrees. In Vail, Crested Butte, Telluride, Aspen, and Snowmass 50% do. The Knee counts over 75% of PVSers who do. Right on.

Just retired from IBM, Serge Triaux bought a new personal computer--by IBM. Serge says he's as funny as Rush Limbaugh and has the same views--so why isn't he rich? Serge, Rush uses a Macintosh computer!

Pres. Mary Jane and Tom Aguilar both did head plants on a recent trip to Whitetail. Whoops.

A bulletin board at Ski Chalet has pictures of ski license plates. Included is SKI RAC. That's not for RACe, it's for Richard A. Clark.

Enroute to a Virginia event, Myron Marquardt was stopped by the police for being in the HOV lane. With his Nebraska drawl he talked his way out of a ticket!

A bit of old news--at Jamie and Shahrzad Miller's hike and meal, they served, (what else?), Miller beer. Some final bits about Knee Zealand--I found my notes. The big headlines over there were "Druids Go Bankrupt" (yup, the Druids--several of them later showed up at the Heitchues' Christmas party) and "New World Record 47kg Haggis Made." (yup, 47kg of haggis--that takes guts.)

New Zealand has its own equivalent of the Over the Hill Gang. It's called the One Foot in the Grave Club. Their symbol features a ski pole and a crutch on the sides and ski-filled coffin in the center!

Finally, the big joke in New Zealand: do you know the difference between a ski instructor and a government bond? A government bond matures.

VOLUNTEER - HELP PVS - VOLUNTEER

We need your help - or, at least, your space. For years several PVSers have volunteered their homes or party rooms for PVS meetings. If you have not held a monthly meeting in several years, now is a great time to come to the aid of your club. We can help you with the organization and the preparation. Depending on the weather, our guests number between 30 and 70.

Call Program Chairman Ray McKinley for more information or to volunteer. 703-527-7126 (H) or 703-267-4267 (O). Many thanks in advance!



SKI TRIPS

Banff!

February 5 - 12, 1994. Off and Running!!

SUN VALLEY, ID. March 1 - 10, 1994. Leader Nancy Laymon says the pre-trip party will be on Sunday afternoon February 20. Save the date and she will contact you individually with details on time and place.

If you are interested in going with this group to Sun Valley, call Nancy (703-379-7323) for stand-by space.



Steamboat Springs

The long-awaited trip report on the December trip will soon appear - maybe in the March TOOT. Be patient, says reporter Christie Comerford. Rome wasn't built in a day, you know.

PVS OFFICERS

President ... Mary Jane McCarthy
 Vice President ... Serge Triau
 Secretary ... Irene Farrell
 Treasurer ... Nancy Garrett
 Membership ... Marilyn Clark
 Program Chairman ... Ray McKinley
 Midweek Activities ... Charles Muggins
 Ombudsman ... Bill Anderson
 Ski Trip Chairman ... Dick Comerford
 TOOT Editor ... Lu Beale
 TOOT Production ... Janet & Bob Marx
 TOOT Copy Editor ... Bette Walker

EXCOM

Second Term:
 Rob Harmon
 Karen Felker
 Janet Waln

First Term:
 Myron Marquardt
 John Smith
 Liz Triau

FOLLOWING ARE BRIEF BIOS OF CHARLES BOYKIN AND BETTY LAWRENCE WHO ARE CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO EXCOM. NEXT MONTH WE WILL PROFILE CANDIDATE JESSMA BLOCKWICK.

CHARLES BOYKIN is a born, bred and homestate-educated (UVA) Virginian living now with vivacious wife Genee in McLean. He started working for the Federal Government 28 years ago at the PO (mail clerk) and then the National Gallery of Art (security guard). After receiving an advance degree in economics from GW he went to work for the Defense Intelligence Agency and, in 1968, moved to the CIA where he works today.

Charles and Genee have many hobbies - especially skiing! - including decorating the house (Genee) and computers (he). In 1991, the Knee invited them to the Oktoberfest where they were so charmed (and charming) they immediately applied for PVS membership which was granted last year after 18 months as applicants.

Charles first skied in Canaan Valley in 1978 on a tiny slope on rented skis. Slip-slopping all the way, he had a ball and immediately bought a chalet in Timberline and continued to ski WVA for a number of years. Then, eureka!, he discovered the west, sold the chalet in Canaan and has been going west to ski ever since.

Charles says his most memorable ski experience was in Aspen where, with a companion, he set out to ski a little run called Gentleman's Ridge. "It started off well groomed," related Charles. "So off we went. Soon I found myself at the top of a precipice overlooking a slope populated with VW Bugs. However, we could see the bottom of this slope and observed that it was flat for some distance after the VW field. So down I went, sometimes on my skis, sometimes on my back, other times on my face. Days later, completely exhausted, I got to the bottom of the VW field. You remember the part about flat for some distance? Flat it was. So we poled. And poled. And poled. Refreshed from our long distance poling, we arrived at a forest. Where is the trail? I asked. Right between those trees. was the answer. How did we get here? I asked. Oh, the easy way down was closed so we had to come this way. But it's straight down through the trees! Consulting my trusty trail map for the first time that morning, I discovered we were at the top of the 'experts only' trail known as Jackpot. One can sideslip through the trees if one is determined and I was determined. God, I love this sport."

It's a mad, mad world, Charles.

BETTY LAWRENCE joined PVS in 1991 and in a few short years has become a well-nigh indispensable part of club life. She goes on at least one major club ski trip a year (last year it was Stowe, New Zealand, and Steamboat). She has made her beach house at Bethany and her slope-side chalet at Blue Knob available to PVSers (will you ever forget cold, cold, cold Ski-O-fee of '93?) She has hosted monthly meetings and special events (how 'bout them crabfests!). She has numerous pool parties and after-trip get togethers.

And all this with trademark blithe spirit and good cheer.

Betty has five children (three sons and two daughters) all married and all skiers, of course. She also has four grandsons two of whom are already following (leading?) her on the slopes.

Betty came to the Washington area after a 2-year tour of duty with the U.S. government in Japan. She has lived in Great Falls, Va., since 1966. She retired from the CIA in 1979 and currently manages real estate property and renovates old houses, working on a farmhouse near Bethany at the moment. Her hobbies include carpentry, swimming, mountain hiking and, of course, skiing.

Betty's first ski experience was in Akahura, Japan, in 1951 where equipment and facilities were spartan at best. Memorable ski experiences include trips to Alta (her favorite), Austria, Germany, and, of course, New Zealand and Japan. Her most memorable non-ski adventure was in 1952 when she travelled aboard a British freighter from Japan to Italy for half a year. What a gal!

If Betty is elected to the executive committee we can look forward to two years of buoyant leadership down all trails - green, blue and black. Happy skiing, Betty!

CALENDAR

- Feb. 5 - 12 ... Banff Ski Trip
- Feb. 2 - 28 ... Midweek' Skiing. See page 2.
- Feb. 8 ... DOGS
- Feb. 15 ... Monthly Meeting at Joy McKnight's. See page 1.
- Feb. 22 ... ExCom at Lu Beale's.
- Mar. 1 - 10 ... Sun Valley Ski Trip
- Mar. 12 ... Winetasting at the Copes'. See page 2.
- Mar. 15 ... Monthly Meeting at the McNeills'.
- Mar. 22 ... ExCom at the Triaus'.
- Mar. 26 ... Spring Dinner at the Colonnade. See page 2.
- Apr. 16 ... Annual Hike on Billy Goat Trail.
- Apr. 19 ... Annual Meeting to be held at June Kelsay's.
- Apr. 26 ... ExCom
- May 7 ... Fun Run / Brunch with the Clarks'. Limited. Call Marilyn.

!!SAVE THIS DATE!!

You won't want to miss the first annual dinner to celebrate Lu Beale's 80th birthday and 15 years as TOOT editor. The gala dinner will be held at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C. on August 6, 1994.



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