

VOLUME XXXI

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

NUMBER 5

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

MAY 1996



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I can't believe I have been your president for a whole year already, and you were all nice enough to elect me to another year. I have enjoyed the past year because of the excellent support I have received from the EXCOM, Officers, as well as the entire membership. I am very happy, proud, and willing to be your president for another year. I would like to thank the departing EXCOM members, Jessma Blockwick, Betty Lawrence, and Charles Boykin for their contributions to PVS during the past two years; as well as welcoming the two new EXCOM members Nancy McKinley and Nat Seeman. It should be noted that a third new EXCOM member will be added by the EXCOM to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of a nominee before the current election.

I would like to point out that the April TOOT contained information by the PVS trip committee listing the "PROPOSED" ski trips for the 1996-7 ski season. The trip committee provided this list to the membership so that you could all provide feedback about the places and dates proposed. So, I want to make a very strong pitch here and now for everyone to give his or her thoughts to the trip committee, as they want positive as well as negative input on this subject. We are making a solid effort to run trips that the majority of the membership would like and be willing to participate in, and the only way for this to work is to get your feedback. Please contact the ski trip committee of Bill Anderson, Nat Seeman, and the chairperson Glade Flake with your thoughts. Thanks in advance for your help on this item.



MONTHLY MEETING

May 21, 1996 - 8 p.m.

Home of Barbara and Fred Leonhardt
606 Firehouse Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Tel: 301-963-8111

For the program (aside from food and conversation) there will be a demonstration of the newest equipment for recreational bicycles.

-Directions to the Leonhardt home are on the next page.

COMING EVENTS

DIRECTIONS TO THE LEONHARDTS': Take the Beltway to 270 N and go to Route 28 (Exit 6B). Head west toward Darnestown (about 4.6 miles) until you reach Tschiffely Square Road which comes in on the right side at Rachel Carson School. There is also a big entranceway marked Kentlands. Turn right and go 3 stop signs to Leekes Lot Way. Go one short block and turn right on Firehouse Lane. #606 is on the right.

Parking at the house is limited, so carpooling is encouraged.



TOUR McCRILLIS GARDENS AND GALLERY 6910 GREENTREE ROAD MONDAY, MAY 6th

We will meet at 10:30 a.m. for a tour of McCrillis Gardens. Azaleas and rhododendron should be in full bloom. After the tour, we will go to lunch (the place will be determined by PVSers making the *Monday* tour. Interested people should call Charles Huggins (301) 424-5725 to let him know you're coming.

Directions: Take River Road exit from the beltway toward the District. After going just a short distance, turn left on Burdette Road. Follow Burdette Road across Bradley Blvd. to Greentree Rd. and turn left. McCrillis Gardens is on the left where Greentree meets Burdette Rd. There is no parking on the grounds, and we will be limited to on-street parking on Greentree Rd.



BRITISH EMBASSY MUSIC HALL -- Tuesday, May 7.

Come at 7 for easy parking; show begins at 8 p.m. The tickets are gone but check with Marilyn Clark (703-978-9435) if you're interested. See directions in April TOOT.



KENSINGTON TEA ROOM - MID-WEEK BIKE RIDE THURSDAY MAY 16th

We will meet at Candy Cane City at 10:30 a.m. for a 15-mile bike ride mostly on bike path. The terrain is flat to rolling. Lunch at tea room in antiques area of historic Kensington.

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

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

**FUN WALK WITH THE CLARKS (formerly known as the Fun Run!)
Saturday, May 18 at 9 a.m. RAIN OR SHINE!**

The brunch is now full, but call Marilyn Clark (703-978-9435) to ask about cancellations. All are welcome to join the hike.

Directions: Take Beltway Exit 5 (Braddock Road in Virginia). Go west 0.1 miles to light and well-marked sign to Wakefield Park on right. Drive to main parking lot (as far as the road goes) and meet by the small bridge immediately on your left as you enter the lot.

**EASTERN SHORE BIKE TRIP - Saturday, May 25, High Noon
(Rain date - Sunday)**



St. Michael's to Tilghman Island, a distance of 13 miles, with a stop at a restaurant in Tilghman Island for refueling. After the bike trip, reservations for dinner will be made at the Town Dock Restaurant for five o'clock.

Directions: Route 50 to Bay Bridge, continue 28 miles, right on Route 322 for 2 miles, right on Route 33 for 9 miles to St. Michael's, right on Mill Street, immediate left into parking area.

Call Ruth Schrider (301-989-4606) or Myron Marquardt (301-460-3269) if you are coming.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND -- THE CATOCTIN MOUNTAINS!

- HIKE, BREWERY TOUR AND DINNER COMBO
- SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 11:30 a.m., RAIN OR SHINE

We will meet at the Visitor's Center in Catoctin Mountain Park at 11:30 a.m. To get there, from Beltway take 270 N to Frederick, left lanes lead to 15 N, continue to Thurmont, exit at Route 77, go west to Visitor's Center beyond the Administrative Office. Jackie Wilson will lead a 6-7 mile hike and Lu Beale will lead a shorter hike to Cunningham Falls.

After hiking, we will proceed to the brewery for a 45-minute tour (beer tasting is free) at 4 o'clock. To get there, return via Route 15 to Frederick, exit at Jefferson Street, go east at 3rd traffic light, turn right on South Street, at 4th traffic light turn left to 103 S. Carroll. The brewery is on the left near end of block. There is parking on All Saints' Street.

Dinner is at 5 at Tauraso's, a **** restaurant featuring pasta, pizza, salads, sandwiches and full-course dinners. Weather permitting, we can eat in the garden. To drive to restaurant, go past Patrick, turn right on Church, go one block to East Street, turn right. Entrance to parking lot is on the left.

Jessma Blockwick will coordinate reservations (703-356-0717). You may sign up for any or all events. Those interested will carpool from Fair Lanes Bowling Alley on Shady Grove Road, leaving there at 10:30.

SECOND ANNUAL PVS GOLF TOURNAMENT has now been scheduled for Tuesday, August 26. Details will follow, but mark your calendar now. Burr Schuler (703-660-9159) and Myron Marquardt (301-460-3269) will coordinate.



PAST EVENTS:

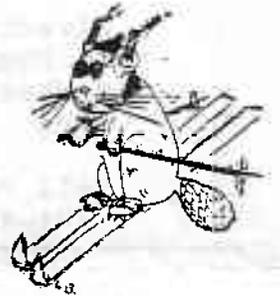


GOODBYE WINTER: HELLO SPRING!

Dot Mills

The Steambeavers finished off the winter in style. What a trip! Celebrating winter and spring at the same time --

We congregated 30 strong at National Airport at 6:30 AM March 13 and took off for Colorado. The heavens smiled --- the snow was perfect, the weather was perfect, the skiing was perfect, we were perfect. Only Aina Thomas was not perfect. She says her problem was being greedy! She arrived 3 days early to get a head start and broke her ankle the first day. But she stayed in unbelievably good spirits and joined in many activities. Her doctor diagnosed her problem - two-buckle Nordica boots - immediately after he looked at her injury! (She left the boots in the trash basket at the hotel).



Two days of ideal skiing, good snow, and warm spring weather at Steamboat were climaxed by a western barbecue at the top of the Silver Bullet gondola featuring roast beef, BBQ pork, fish, chicken, and all the extras you can imagine, followed by a "hold the spoon on your nose" competition that Bill Anderson came close to winning (ask him about his technique), followed by country western music and dancing where Jan and Bob Marx were star performers. Earlier that day Jan Marx discovered a Forest Service nature tour - on skis - which was delightful. We toured down a ski trail with frequent stops and discussions of animal and plant life native to the area. Very special! Jan later told a wonderful story about telling a group of children about the "snow snakes" that come up through the snow and grab you, pulling you down into the snow. The children were enthralled, and left her excited about the prospect of encountering the 'snow snakes'. On the same 'momentous' day June Kelsay, in lunch line with a pizza on her tray was jostled by a fellow 'liner'. The pizza flew into the air and June caught it, face up, on her tray (believe it or not!).

Saturday we had a 3-hour bus ride through the spectacular Colorado mountains to the Beaver Creek all-suite lodge. Ray had made special arrangements for all-day rental and instruction on the new parabolic skis for Sunday. Those participating were challenged and impressed. There was heavy snow all day. They really had a workout. Saturday night there was a special banquet at the lodge, and Monday a 6-course dinner at Beano's Cabin - at the

end of a beautiful sleighride (modern style - pulled by a snowcat!). What a feast! Everybody's favorite was elk! Tuesday we were on our own for dinner. Some of us ended up in the small hotel dining room with Tipper Gore (at separate tables!). We were really hobnobbing with politicians - Gerald Ford was there for the races on Sunday.

In addition to all this - apres ski every night with Nancy and Ray. The final party, awards night, included among innumerable other awards --

- Bob Marx -- the Fred Astaire award
- Marianne Cook -- the "Most Rubbed" award (she loves massages)
- Bob Harmon - the Skiing has Higher Priority than Art award (ask him)
- Gladie Young - the Best Skiing Offspring award
- Sheldon Drews - the Best Imitation of a Mogul award (his new ski parka)

All this -- and then some! in ONE WEEK!!!

🌸 🌸 Cherry Blossom Stroll, April 4, 1996

🌸 🌸 Score one for the leader Betty Byrne for selecting a date for this event well in advance which turned out to be not only at the peak time for the blossoms, but also on one of the few pleasant sunny days sandwiched in between rain and even snow flurries! The walk commenced at the Smithsonian Metro with 16 participants. The strollers then proceeded to the Jefferson Memorial surrounded by lush blossoms and camera-toting tourists. After a sweep around the tidal basin, the group proceeded to the Mall for further festivities and lunch at the Old Post Office. A few hardy souls stayed on to visit the kimono exhibit at the Smithsonian Natural Museum. In view of the enthusiastic response, the leader promises to repeat this trip next year.

A SPRING DINNER TO SING FOR I

by Jan Marx

Even a monotone would not hesitate to sing for this year's choice of menu. Thanks to our menu committee who's reward is to enjoy the dinner twice.

To whet our appetites was champagne served in You-Get-To Keep-'Em Anniversary flutes. (Isn't EXCOM clever?) Two scrumptious appetizers accompanied it (recipes in the April TOOT).

Bette Walker, our hostess, and Dot Mills, our in-house gardener, decorated each table with candlesticks from their private collection. Dot brought Japanese Holly, Mugho pine, heather in bloom, and jonquils from her garden.

The stuffed veal rolls (recipe in the April TOOT) were accompanied by rice, baby carrots at their finest (one dish laced with brandy), and tossed salads containing out-of-the-ordinary greens. Raspberry-walnut and Vidalia onion vinaigrettes were superb dressing choices. Homemade Sherry Cheesecake was light, yet rich, and tasted like more.

The "wait list" turned out exactly to enable 40 of us to relish every bite and the good company. Special guest was Vince Clark, happened to be here on business (gourmet food tasting?) from The Bay Area. Not-Often-Sees were Bill Hagar, Pat and Don Cope, Ron and Nancy Ewing, Carol Parmenter, and LIZ--she's "oot and about".

THE KREEGER MUSEUM AND THE INN AT GLEN ECHO

Marty McNeill

Opinions varied as to the most beautiful place in town on that picture-perfect morning of April 12, but the 34 PVSers gathered at the Kreeger Museum soon knew they had found the spot! We were treated to a guided tour of the David and Carmen Kreeger house and terraces (only open to the public since the summer of 1994) with its stunning contemporary architecture and its fine collection of art and sculpture, all designed to showcase and blend the beauty outdoors with the beauty indoors.

The collection included works of art by Renoir, Gauguin, Van Gogh, Picasso, Cezanne, Monet, and local artist Sam Gilliam. Our preferences differed, but the group especially enjoyed the Monet room where, we were told, Carmen Kreeger could be found each morning eating her Wheaties and staring at her Monets and her breath-taking sculpture garden. (Monet's "Spring at Giverny" reminded Charlie Farwell that he has growing at home hollyhocks brought back from Giverny when he visited Monet's country residence.) In the African art area, the "other world mates" made us smile.

From the Museum we all found our way to the Inn at Glen Echo, its setting made all the more lovely by the radiant sunshine. Nancy and Ray Garrett did battle with a pothole enroute and Ray had to change a flat tire, but they arrived in good humor nonetheless. Also still smiling was Liz Triau on her third day of walking without any assistance. The food was very good--the dessert sinfully delicious--and the conversation was the usual PVS-lively.

Genee Boykin's planning and execution of the arrangements were just superb. The Kreeger group is indebted to her and Charles for such a wondrous day!



APRIL MEETING was at the beautiful new home of Charlotte and Jim Kline--a perfect flow-around design for a PVS meeting. The food was abundant in quantity and superlative in quality. Phyllis Richman would have been impressed! There was a heady buzz of conversation around the food table even without upcoming ski trips to talk about.. Bob McNeill was welcomed back from a winter in Colorado, though it was rumored he had to go back there to fetch his walker-cum-skis.

The lovely curving staircase which graced the Kline's entrance hall seemed to call for a bride to float down it--but it also worked beautifully as a gallery for PVSers to sit upon for the meeting.

The annual business meeting proceeded smoothly, with Serge Triau reelected as president, Nat Seeman and Nancy McKinley approved as new members of the Executive Committee, and Kathy and Don Dillon welcomed into membership in the club. A proposed by-law change calling for biennial audits was also approved.

It was announced that the Colorado buffalo pictured in the last TOOT had agreed to buy all the remaining headbands if accepted into PVS. After talk of champagne flutes and note pads, someone was heard to murmur that perhaps our name should be Potomac Valley Skiers, Eaters, and Merchandisers.

Thankful huzzahs were sounded for Charlotte and Jim--and for Charlotte's father who had been a friendly greeter at the door.

...Jessma Blockwick

SPRING HIKE REPORT

This year's spring hike, organized and led by Bob and Jan Marx (assisted by Lu Beale) was held in the Prince William Forest Park located down Rte 95 in Southern-Northern Virginia. The "Forest" is part of the National Park System and is the largest natural park in the Washington metropolitan area--if you consider 32 miles south of DC still in the area.

Some 20 PVSers and guests, plus one very well-behaved dog, met at the visitors' center at 10:30 and then caravanned to the western end of the park. The hike would take us about 6 miles (3 in and 3 out) along the well-maintained South Valley Trail--relatively easy with few ups and downs. After a stretch of open, light forest, we eventually joined up with the South Fork Quantico Creek, one of the main streams running through the length of the park.

An interesting sight after about a mile in and across the creek from the trail was a horde of large yellow butterflies hovering and alighting onto the carcass of a small deer. Overheard comment: "Carniverous butterflies--yuk!"

After about another half-mile, the creek suddenly widened into a pretty pond formed in back of a long, well-constructed beaver dam, trees chewed down all over the place. (But not an eager beaver in sight!).

Continuing along the creek as it widened, we came to some nice rock outcroppings and clambered aboard for our lunch break. Apres lunch, some of the group headed back (after all, "Saturday nite"), while the rest continued along the stream until it became a nice lake, also formed in back of a dam--man-made however.

Some cabins lined the opposite shore with boat and swimming facilities on the lake. Dam and cabins apparently date back to 30's and 40's CCC construction. We then turned and headed back with a snappy pace set by Ramona Matthews and then by Jan Marx. All in all, a very nice outing and fun hike.

...Nat Seeman



A FERVENT THANK YOU FROM AINA-----

I have not thanked members individually for all the help, kindness, and love I received after I broke my ankle at Steamboat. Thank you for the phone calls (already beginning the day after the accident) and the funny get-well cards. All of that helped me to mend quickly--now just wearing a splint. Love you all!



A further business note: At the April ExCom meeting, an Ad Hoc Nominating Committee proposed Genee Boykin for the third open two-year spot on the Executive Committee. This nomination will be voted on at a future general meeting.



COOK'S CORNER

8-

by

Nancy Garrett

The planning committee taste tested recipes for the Spring Dinner. Featured this month are the winning dessert, the other very good dessert recipe, and a couple of appetizers.

SHERRY CHEESECAKE

Preheat the oven to 275°.

Crust:

Mix thoroughly:

- 1 1/2 cup vanilla wafer crumbs
- 6 Tablespoons butter, melted
- 1/4 cup sugar

Press into 8-inch springform pan.

Filling:

In a large mixing bowl, beat until light:

- 1 pound cream cheese
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar

Add, one at a time, beating after each:

- 3 large eggs

Add and blend:

- 1/4 cup cream sherry
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice

Pour the mixture into the prepared crust and bake for 45 minutes or until cake is firm.

Cool to room temperature. Serve chilled.

Serves 8 - 10. For a change, use sweet wine or after-dinner liquor.

CHOCOLATE CHEESE PIE

Preheat oven to 350°.

Crust may either be 8-inch (6 oz.) packaged crumb crust, or use the crust recipe above.

In large mixing bowl combine and mix well:

- 1 package (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 package (3 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 3/4 cup sugar

Scraping sides of bowl and beaters often, blend in:

- 1/4 cup Hershey's Cocoa

Add, beating well:

- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Blend in:

- 1/2 cup chilled whipping cream

Pour into prepared crust and bake 35-40 minutes. Center will be soft, but will set upon cooling. Cool to room temperature.

CHEDDAR PECAN TOASTS

Combine:

- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1 cup grated sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 teaspoon grated onion
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 8 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled

Spread the above mixture on:

- 12 slices melba-thin bread (Trim crusts)
- (May use whole wheat or white.)

Cut each slice into 4 squares. Bake at 350° 10-15 minutes. Makes 48 squares.

SALMON SPREAD

Mix together well:

- 1 can (14 1/2 oz.) salmon
(Remove skin and bones.)
- 12 oz. no-fat cream cheese
- 6 green onions, sliced - include tops

Place on serving platter. Decorate with red bell pepper slices, sprigs of parsley. Serve with Snack-well crackers or low-fat Triscuits.

Did you know - - - ??????????

ZEST refers to the thin outer peel of a citrus fruit - i.e., orange, lemon, lime. Recipes often call for grated zest or strips of zest to be used for flavoring and color.



THE KNEE - 9 -

by
Ray McKinley

The theme of this rather colorful column will be white. It's the sum of all colors and the color of our favorite stuff (no, not whipped cream!). And of course subject of the award winning astronaut ski movie "The White Stuff."

PVS has an award winner, too. Named as one of the top 100 Federal Executives was our own Bob Marx. Bob's bio notes he drinks his coffee white.

While Jessma Blockwick was away, the April TOOT was Sue Walsh ably supported by Betty Walker. White on.

Our Spring Dinner was a great success. I knew it before I went. That's because the April TOOT arrived before the event and Nancy Garrett's Cook's Corner said the event was wonderful and provided all of the recipes! She was white.

Joan Flake brought her dinner contribution in a lovely, large, soft basket from Ghana. It was a gift, as Glade's father was our first ambassador to Ghana.

Elegant in a Mickey Mouse tie was Bill Anderson. In the same vein, Bill successfully demonstrated and coached Jack Peoples in the fine art of sticking a teaspoon on one's nose.

The exhibit of Bob Harmon's paintings was superb. He should be in the Kreeger! (Actually, he was in the Kreeger, but that's another story.) Whilst standing in front of Bob's snow scenes, Pat Tengel, John Smith, and Mrs. Knee discussed how the new hour-glass skis would work on Bob's white snow.

One of Jackie and Ned Flaherty's children is now an IRS inspector. She recently provided them with a grandchild. Naturally, the baby was born on April 15. Earlier, Betty Lawrence became a grandmother for the 7th time--and they are all boys.

Some of my favorite Whites include Wilbur and Orville.

Last month the Knee delineated PVSers' injuries. I omitted John Waddick who

had foot surgery earlier in the winter. Despite being unable to walk or drive, John continued his work unabated with the aid of a fax and computer modem.

John who is responsible for logistics for U.S. troops in Bosnia, is doing much better now as are our other wounded. Aina Thomas is out of her cast. Not surprisingly, Aina left her ski boots, the cause of her broken ankle, in the hotel trash can. Liz Tria is now off crutches and Gorman Young is just returning home from his daughter's and will continue his recuperation from shoulder surgery.

Dina Taylor notes soporifically that she's not retired, she's been tired all her life.

Malda Elrod was the first woman ever to ski one million vertical feet at Jackson Hole. And she's got the golden belt buckle to prove it. White on. It also turns out that both Malda and Dot Mills grew up in Buffalo Junction, Virginia. I'm certain that's a euphemism.

Did you know that Ham Morton designed the original Clyde's? Instead of royalties, Ham was paid in hamburgers.

Sometimes I can't think of anything to put in this column. It's called whiter's block.

For those of you, like the Knee, who are Aspen fans, the following appeared in a Colorado newspaper last month. At Snowmass the Sheer Bliss chairlift has been repaired and is undergoing engineering tests. The lift was shut down after a tower collapsed, terrifying over 140 riders. White off.

Doing some late season skiing in Colorado Jean and Reg Heitchue skied with Huey Roberts. While there, they also ran into Bob McNeill and Dick Comerford. White on.

A tip of the ol' Knee Cap to two PVSers who each hosted two events in a single month. Bette Walker held an ExCom meeting and our Spring Dinner. This month it's Marilyn Clark's turn. She is setting up the British Embassy Players and later will host, along with hubby Dick the Fun Run--er--Walk.

This column is all white. Auf Whitersehen.

CALENDAR

MAY 6 ... McCrillis Garden Tour and lunch, p. 2
MAY 7 ... British Embassy Music Hall, p. 2
MAY 11 ... Post Steambeaver party at the McKinleys',
7 p.m. Call for information, 703-27-7126
MAY 16 ... Midweek Bike ride and lunch, p. 2
MAY 18 ... Fun Walk with the Clarks, p. 3.
MAY 21 ... Monthly meeting at the Leonhardts', p. 1.
MAY 25 ... Eastern Shore Bike Trip, p. 3.
MAY 28 ... ExCom at the Huggins, 7:30 p.m.
JUNE 8 ... Catoctin Mountain Hike, Brewery Tour and
dinner, p. 3.
JUNE 18 ... Monthly meeting at Betty Lawrence's.
JUNE 25 ... ExCom at Aina Thomas'.
JULY 20 ... Annual Pre-Ski-Trip Party at the Heitchues'.
AUGUST 26 ... 2nd Annual PVS Golf Tournament, p. 4.
SEPTEMBER 21 ... Oktoberfest at home of Mary Ward and Jim
Slack.

Note that Ray McKinley's work number has a 202 area code.

BETTE WALKER
#806
2801 New Mexico Ave., NW
Washington, D. C. 20007

