

VOLUME LX
NUMBER 2

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

FEBRUARY 2005

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow PVSers;

The PVS ski season is off to a great start with the successful culmination of this year's Wisp Demo Day trip and the Snowmass/Beaver Creek trip. Wilma and Gene Sharer once again led a fantastic western trip and even provided for exceptionally good weather. Charles Huggins led a fun "spring skiing" trip (see trip report later in this issue).

On a business note, the Nominating Committee has completed its work. This committee under the able leadership of Serge Triau was formed, as is customary for this time of year, to develop a slate of candidates to replace those current PVS officers whose term will end this year. The following slate of officers was nominated for your consideration and approval at the April annual meeting:

For President: David Abraham

For Vice President: Mike Strand

For Ex Com: Charlotte Eddy, Burr Schuler, and Dick Schwartzbard

I believe that this team will provide great leadership for PVS and will carry on the great traditions of this club. We are fortunate that they have agreed to serve as club officers. David and Mike have contributed a great deal of time, energy and creative ability to PVS. Both are highly dedicated and able officers and they both want to maintain and advance PVS as a great ski club for you the members. Please give them your support.

Reg

Monthly Meeting

At Dick and Marilyn Clark's

8953 Falling Creek Ct
Annandale, VA

Tuesday, February 15

7:30 PM

DIRECTIONS:

From the Beltway: Take the Braddock Rd. exit and go West. Approximately 2 miles to Red Fox Drive on the right. (Across from King's Park Shopping Center.) Take Red Fox Dr. to the third left, which is Falling Creek. The Clark's house is at the end of the cul de sac.

703-978-9435



A RECOGNITION and CONGRATULATION

Most of our members surely are aware that our friend and club president, Reg Heitchue, officially retired from his very senior government position a while ago, only to continue his devoted service to the country's security establishment in a somewhat changed capacity. More than a year ago he was chosen to head an effort of national significance. Reg became the leader of a panel of distinguished experts charged with responsibility for a thorough examination of our Nation's intelligence collection capabilities.

A few months ago this undertaking was completed, and the Director of Central Intelligence, in his capacity as the country's top intelligence official, recognized Reg for his outstanding contribution to future intelligence capabilities. He was awarded the Intelligence Community Seal Medallion, a high honor bestowed exclusively on non-government officials for outstanding service and dedication to critical National needs.

We can be very proud of our friend and club leader for his many professional achievements, his long-term leadership and service to our country and our club. We congratulate him with this expression of our gratitude, and our best wishes for him and his family.

David G. Abraham

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## 2005 PVS NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

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Nominating Committee Members:

Serge Triau (chair person), Mike Hatanaka, Bob Knopes, Ruth Powers,  
June Read-Martin, and Mary Ward.

The nominating committee is presenting the following slate of candidates for 2005, to be voted on at the PVS membership meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2005.

President = David Abraham  
Vice President = Mike Strand  
Ex Com = Charlotte Eddy  
Burr Schuler  
Dick Schwartzbard

The nominating committee chair person thanks the committee members and other PVS members for their support, suggestions, and comments for this activity. We also thank the candidates who accepted the nominations.

### CURRENT PVS BOARD & OFFICERS -2004-05

#### EXCOM:

President – *Reg Heitchue*  
Vice President – *David Abraham*  
Secretary- *Dottie Villers*  
Treasurer – *Ray Jones*  
Membership- *Wilma Sharer*  
Program Cmte Chair –  
*David Abraham*  
Events – *Ray McKinley*  
Mid-week Events: *Dave DeVilbiss*

Theater Czar – *Margaret Wyckoff*  
40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Chair – *Rachel Abraham*  
Ski Trip Cmte Chair – *Bob Marx*  
TOOT Editor – *Jan Marx*  
TOOT Proofreader – *Bob Marx*  
TOOT Mailer – *Marilyn Clark*  
Meeting Records – *Sara Huggins*  
Historian – *Jan Marx*  
Webmaster - *Marvin Hass*

First Term:  
*Marilyn Clark*  
*Dave DeVilbiss*  
*Mike Strand*

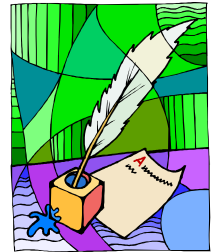
Second Term:  
*John Brunelli*  
*Ray McKinley*  
*Dottie Villers*

## Changes:

E-mails: Mary Riley = [Mriley7138@aol.com](mailto:Mriley7138@aol.com)  
Myron Marquardt = [mdm3269@webtv.net](mailto:mdm3269@webtv.net)  
Burr and Byoung Schuler = [oburr2byoung@yahoo.com](mailto:oburr2byoung@yahoo.com)

## New applicant member:

Mary Beale  
4040 51<sup>st</sup> St NW  
Washington, DC 20016  
202-363-3521  
[lubeale@starpower.net](mailto:lubeale@starpower.net)



## Injuries:

Ellie Thayer broke her hip during the Beaver Creek trip. We wish her a speedy and successful recovery.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A simple line drawing of an elephant standing and facing right.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ZOO WALK 'N LUNCH</b></p> <p><b>Thursday, February 24, 2005 10:30 AM</b></p> <p><b>Starting Point:</b> National Zoo, Education Building, which is the first building on entering from Connecticut Ave. NW.</p> | A simple illustration of a white plate filled with spaghetti, with a knife and fork placed on either side. |
| <p><b>Route:</b> Join us on this popular annual February Zoo Walk followed by lunch nearby (location to be announced at walk). Will explore the more interesting exhibits at the National Zoo with preference to those with docent tours. Generally there are few visitors at this time so that both the animals and docents will be glad to see you.</p> <p><b>Logistics:</b> <i>Parking:</i> available at Zoo, though it might set you back \$8 (hey, that's life in the big city!). <i>Metro:</i> the (Connecticut Ave) Zoo entrance is located midway between the Woodley Park and Cleveland Park stations of Metro (Red Line).</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> We will adjourn in time for lunch around 1:30 PM at a nearby location to be announced at the walk. OK to join the group at around 1:30 PM for lunch only, but check with leader prior to walk for location.</p> <p><b>Weather:</b> This event is apt to take place under most weather conditions (including rain/snow).</p> <p><b>Information:</b> No reservations needed, but further information can be obtained from Betty Byrne (202) 483-4048 or by email at <a href="mailto:info@potomacvalleyskiers.org">info@potomacvalleyskiers.org</a>. A link to a map of the luncheon location (when known) will be posted on the PVS web site <a href="http://www.potomacvalleyskiers.org">www.potomacvalleyskiers.org</a></p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                            |



Betty and Marvin meet a movie star at Park City. It is "Mailowl" in the first Harry Potter movie. They were told that the "mail" in the movie was added digitally, but the owl's handler thought "Mailowl" could be trained to do the job. "Mailowl" is set loose at midnight and goes off to hunt his own chow (mice and other small animals). He does return home to show up for his primary job (getting his picture taken with people who agree to undergo a Marriott time-share presentation. [No, they didn't sell them one.]



**PVS is celebrating its 40th Anniversary**

Saturday, November 5, 2005  
at The Bolger Center  
9600 Newbridge Drive Potomac, Md.  
**Please mark your calendar.**

January Meeting

by *Myron Marquardt*



**To Margaret's home we did go,  
Even though a cold wind did blow.  
A skier likes cold brisk air  
And will not hesitate to declare:  
Without cold air, there could never be snow.**

It was certainly cozy once we all got inside Margaret's home. There was a nice fire going in the fireplace and refreshments and a variety of nourishment were waiting for us. No group of people is more adept at finding goodies than the members of PVS.

Conversations among the various members were going full blast about various trips and experiences when President Reg called the meeting to order. A few regulars were missing, presumably many had gone skiing, a normal thing for January. Twenty-five members were present and 3 guests.

Reg called on Charles Huggins to tell us about the ski trip to Wisp MD. Charles said that 8 skiers went to Wisp and they all had a good time. The slopes were in excellent condition.

David Abraham filled in for missing trip leaders. All trips are expected to go as planned. News reports indicate that there is plenty of snow. Jan Marx said everything is progressing as planned for Mammoth Mountain in California.

A nominating committee has been formed to submit names for the members to vote on in April. The names of candidates for President, Vice President, and 3 Ex Com positions will be presented in the February TOOT.

The January TOOT listed "vacant" for Mid-week events. That position is no longer vacant. Dave DeVilbiss has agreed to fill that position. Dave invited the members to submit suggestions to him for mid-week events.

President Heitchue announced that business for the evening was complete, after which Margaret announced that coffee and dessert was being served.

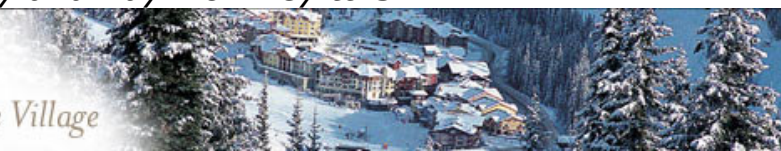
Our sincere thanks to Margaret for making her home available to PVS for its January meeting.

February 12-20, 2005, join Nancy and Ray McKinley to Ski



# Sun Peaks

Three Mountains ~ One Village



*~Due to injury, there are 3 spaces available for HALF price.~*

We continue to look for new areas that PVS will love. We've found a true gem in Sun Peaks, Canada's newest destination resort. "Big" describes Sun Peaks--**big fun, hospitality, mountain, terrain and vertical** and a charming, Tyrolean, car-free village. The Resort logs an average of 2,000 hours of sunshine. Combined with 220" of dry snow and an **average mid-winter temp. of 20 to 25 degrees F**, make Sun Peaks a favorite ski holiday

**Access is a piece of cake!** We fly from Reagan National on Alaska Air non-stop to Seattle, leaving at a civilized 9 am. A brief layover to switch flights gets us to Kamloops, and then to the resort, by 2:30 pm. Wow!

**Sun Peaks has 3678 acres, a vertical of 2,891 feet, 87 runs, 10 lifts including 3 high speed quads.**

It's huge! For non-skiers, there is oodles to do including; sleigh rides, gallery hopping, snowmobiling, back country snow cat adventures, snowshoeing, 30 mi Nordic skiing, a new tube park, sports center, and dog sledding.



Nancy Greene's Cahilly Lodge

We're at **Olympic Gold Medallist Nancy Greene's Cahilly Lodge**. It includes **heated tile floors in the bathrooms and kitchens**, convenient **ski in/ski out** location. There is a **hot tub** and a work-out room. We have **full, hot Canadian Breakfasts daily**. We selected Studios featuring 1 or 2 queen beds, TV, VCR, kitchen, most with fireplace, and bath. We also offer Hotel rooms.

Aside from **air, lodging and 5 of 6 day lifts** Our trip also includes **3 dinners, happy hours, pre & post trip parties, bus & bellman tips, etc.**

**GREAT PRICES. - ~~\$1,732~~, 65+ ~~\$1,685~~, LAND ONLY ~~\$1,173~~, \$36 less in Hotel Rm (now about 1/2 price)**

**Call us, Ray or Nancy, IMMEDIATELY to get the details.. (703) 527-7126 or**

[ranmckinley@juno.com](mailto:ranmckinley@juno.com)



Come along to SEE the \_\_\_\_\_ and SKI the \_\_\_\_\_

**m a m m o t h**

**Contact us to be wait-listed.**

**Saturday, March 19 to Saturday, March 26**

**\$1,350 >> Seniors 65 and over = \$1,313 > Land only = \$1,020. > Single suplmt is \$480.**

15% expert, 20% advanced, 40% intermediate, 25% beginner Base elevation is a comfortable: 7,900 feet; the top elevation is 11,000 feet: and 3,100 vertical feet.

**THE TRIP INCLUDES:**

- ~ Round trip United Air Lines from Dulles to Reno
- ~ Round trip bus from Reno to Mammoth Lakes
- ~ 6 nights at the Shilo Inn on Main St in Mammoth Lakes (breakfasts included)
- ~ 1 night at the Sands in Reno (Maybe you can win and pay for the trip!)
  - ~ 5 day lift ticket – option for the 6<sup>th</sup> day.
  - ~ Welcome wine and cheese party
  - ~ 2 group dinners; 3 après ski parties
  - ~ Baggage handling, transfers, and hotel gratuities

**>>>> Marty Rine, 5256 Lonsdale Dr, Springfield, VA 22151 or call 703-978-0179 <<<<<**

Marty Rine = [mrine@cox.net](mailto:mrine@cox.net)

Jan Marx = [jebbmarx@aol.com](mailto:jebbmarx@aol.com)

**SKI MAMMOTH**



SPRING TIME AT WISP ----- in JANUARY

by Burr and Byoung Schuler

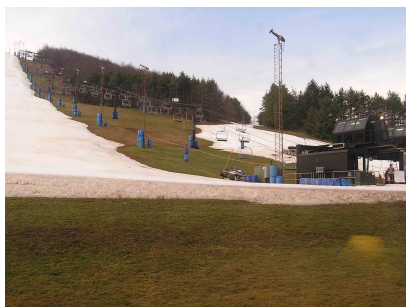
On Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, eight PVSers arrived at WISP for some good Spring Skiing. Charles Huggins and Burr Schuler were the only visible creatures on the mountain. Jan & Bob Marx, Mary Beale, Sue Lyons, David Phillips and Byoung Schuler all showed up for the apres ski gathering at Charlie's Pad. Eventually the subject of dinner came up; Charlie was well prepared with a list of local restaurants. The group's decision was UNO restaurant about 2 miles south on route. 219. The place was packed with a forty minute wait with colorful vibrators. Bob Marx had the Honors. The service was great and the food delicious, someone mentioned seniors discount & after filling out a Double Nickel Card everyone received a 40% discount with the exception of David (non senior). No new snow Wednesday night.



Thursday was Ski Chalet's Demo day which brought out many Skiers. The temperature was around 60 degrees, good spring skiing. Charlie, Burr, and Byoung demoed several new skies and Byoung purchased a pair of K2s (one luv.) Mary Beale, first time skier, viewed ski videos before she came, & with her new helmet took a group lesson. Only Mary showed up and received a private lesson. Jan & Bob spotted Larry Pease & we all had lunch in the now-completed main



lodge. After apres ski gathering we had dinner at the D\_C Restaurant located in the WISP Hotel. (D\_C stands for Deep Creek.) Larry Pease bought the wine and provided us with many years of historical information about WISP & PVS, plus his 49 years on the ski patrol (22 at WISP). A very enjoyable evening! About 1 inch of snow for Friday morning. Blustery. Only Charlie skied, and just one run. Thanks to Charles Huggins for leading an enjoyable trip. At \$2 per lift ticket & 40% off dinner, we should do it again next year!



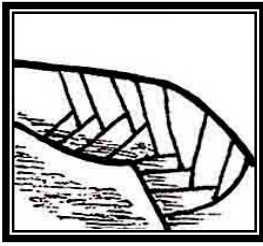
6 The slopes WERE covered.



Sue and Dave



Burr and Byoung



# THE KNEE

By Ray McKinley

As you read this, the Knee is in *absentia* (that's a tiny town near Snowmass) skiing on the Sharer's trip. I am skiing—unless you are reading this in the evening and I am most likely eating or drinking.

Several of you have told me that you enjoyed reading this column. I have a name for you. You're kneeophiles. And if you've just started reading it, you are kneeophytes.

Despite having an early deadline for this month's Knee, I still have oodles of new information for you. The Knee loves the word oodles. And other words beginning with "oo." However, most of these "oo" words, such as oology, only come up once in a bird's age.

PVS will soon be incorporated as a Virginia nonprofit corporation according to Ray Jones who is overseeing the effort. (Since we don't predict the future, we could also be a nonprophet) "Why give a flying ski?" you might ask. We were incorporated in DC. In these litigious times, Sheldon Drews and John Brunelli discovered that Virginia has better laws. An officer in a Virginia nonprofit (but not in a nonprophet) can only be sued for twice his salary. And since our highest paid officer makes \$0, two times that ain't much!

Last month, the Knee reported that we got a deal on incorporating if we heard the CMH heli skiing promotion. It was a very good presentation and has likely convinced Kirk Burns and Judy Macaluso to try it in '06.

PVS's nominee for Vice President, Mike Strand, has a solution to an important problem. He finds it amazing that the US Government can track a single cow born in Canada over three years ago, to the stall where she sleeps in Washington State. And we keep track of all of food the cow ate. We can also track her calves to their stalls and tell what they ate. Yet we are unable to track 11 million illegal aliens as they wander throughout the US—even those trying to destroy our monuments. Mike's solution: As soon as they enter the US, give each illegal alien a cow! And that's not bull.

PVS is getting older. Soon our 40<sup>th</sup> Ankneeverary will be upon us. It is November 5, 2005. Put it on your calendar David and Rachel Abraham have found a wonderful location, and Rachel has the program under way. Watch for a

reappearance of PVS's Moron Tabernacle Choir. They're ours since no one else would have them!

Marvin Hass was in Park City skiing a few days before the killer avalanche struck. Marvin said it was raining in town! Raining, in Utah!

At a recent event, Betty Lawrence was complaining about bad sushi. John Brunelli told her that the secret to getting good sushi is to order it well done. Sounds fishy.

Let's talk local skiing. Burr Schuler and Charlie Huggins got to Wisp a day early for "demo days." They were, literally, the only ones on the mountain.

It was 61 degrees and empty at Wisp the next days too. Our group decided to go to Uno's for Pizza. It was jam-packed. It seems Uno's offers seniors 40% off on Wednesdays. And a senior is 60+. Only Dave Phillips didn't qualify. Pity the youth!

It was more than 61 deg in the Caribbean. Whilst some were at Wisp, Polli Brunelli visited there with girlfriends, on the Queen Mary II. Cool!

The Knee has been taken to task by Charlie Huggins. He says that Ski Liberty is kaput. For the last three years it has been called Liberty Mountain, and the Knee is the last not to recognize the name. (Not the last. Jan Marx still calls it Charnita!) Let's talk Mountains. There's Mt McKinley at 19,000 ft, Mt Whitney at 14,400 ft, Mt Baker at 14,000 ft and Mt Liberty at 1,190 ft (with a whopping 600 ft vertical). Perhaps Liberty Hill, or Liberty Rise, but certainly not Liberty Mountain. FYI their web page is [skiliberty.com](http://skiliberty.com).

Charlie Huggins further states that "People the Knee's age go to the mountains for skiing. Today, the younger generation goes to the mountains for snow gliding...The Potomac Valley Skiers might become the Potomac Valley Gliders." And the Knee will become the Wrist. (Snowboarders hurt their wrists not their knees) It will be wristed from me, I note wristfully. We'll remain Skiers; perhaps old Skiers if the Knee has any say whatsoever.

Sally Finan warmed up for a western trip at Timberline (near Canaan Valley, WV). There were four runs for those wanting to ski in the rain.

As we age, our foibles simply provide additional Knee fodder. And being non-sexist, also more Knee modder! You kneed to think about that. Maybe not.

# CALENDAR

- Feb 15 Tue Monthly Meeting at Clark's, 7:30 PM
- Feb 22 Tue Ex Com at Viller's, 7:30 PM
- Mar 5 Sat Mammoth Pre-Trip Party at Welte/Finan; 4:00 PM
- Mar 5 Sat Snowmass Post-Trip Party at Sharer's, 7:00 PM
- Mar 15 Tue Monthly Meeting at Leonhardt's; 7:30 PM
- Mar 16 Wed Dinner &/or Hexagon Show, 5:30/8:00 PM
- Mar 22 Tue Ex Com at Triau's; 7:30 PM
- Mar 24 Thu Bicycling Gourmet = Glen Echo to Georgetown
- April 19 Tue Monthly Meeting at Vagonis', 7:30 PM
- April 26 Tue Ex Com at Abraham's; 7:30 PM
- Nov 5 Sat 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party at The Bolger Center



|                                        |           |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|
| <a href="#">2005 Western Ski Trips</a> |           |
| Feb 12-20, 2005                        | Sun Peaks |
| Mar 19-26, 2005                        | Mammoth   |

**Change of postal or email address:**  
Call Wilma at (301) 975-9411  
or send e-mail message to  
[wilma@sharerassociates.com](mailto:wilma@sharerassociates.com)

**E-mail Notice**  
If you want to start receiving Toot electronically, please let me know.  
Thanks, Jan = [jebbmarx@aol.com](mailto:jebbmarx@aol.com).

POTOMAC VALLEY SKIERS Website ~~~~~ [www.potomacvalleyskiers.org](http://www.potomacvalleyskiers.org)

Marilyn Clark  
8953 Falling Creek Ct.  
Annandale, VA 22003