

VOLUME XXXIX *Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.*

NUMBER 1 WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA JANUARY 2003

President's Message:

Fellow PVS'ers

Our ski season is in full swing. We had a very successful Steamboat trip and we are looking forward to upcoming trips to WISP, Whistler and Crested Butte.

**For those of you who may be thinking of leading a PVS trip in the future,
or
just want to learn about leading a trip and our mentoring program,
please come to the Ski Trip Committee meeting on Monday, Jan 6 at
Barbara Leonhardt's home.
(See notice on pg 2.)**

In April, PVS will select a slate of officers. Marilyn Clark will head a committee to nominate candidates for these positions. If you are interested in helping to lead PVS next year or if you wish to put someone's name forth, contact Marilyn soon:

-- 703-978-9435 --

Happy New Year !!

Reg

January Monthly Meeting

At the home of
Ilse Keel
10021 Weatherwood Ct.
Potomac, MD

301 - 251 - 1710

(directions, pg.2)



OKAY —
SO
BRING ON
THE
SNOW
ALREADY!

CORRECTIONS:

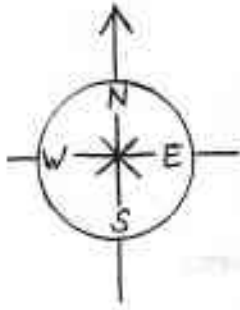
Dillion's email address is: **ddillon39@mchsi.com**

Jack Peoples email address is: **jwpeoples@att.net**

DIRECTIONS to KEEL'S:

From Silver Spring:

Exit Beltway on Old Georgetown Rd going north. Go to Tuckerman Rd and turn left. Go to Falls Rd (189) and turn left. At first light turn right onto Glen Rd. Go to sixth street and turn right onto Gregerscroft Rd. (Note: if you come to Wayside Elementary School on the right, you have missed Gregerscroft.) Go a ways to the first left and turn onto Autumnwood Rd. Take the second left onto Weatherwood Ct. It is the third house on the left --- 10021.



From Virginia:

Exit Beltway on River Rd (190) going west toward Potomac. In "downtown Potomac" turn right onto Falls Rd (189). Go to Glen Rd. and turn left. Go to sixth street and turn right onto Gregerscroft Rd. (Note: if you come to Wayside Elementary School on the right, you have missed Gregerscroft). Go a ways to the first left and turn onto Autumnwood Rd. Take the second left onto Weatherwood Ct. It is the third house on the left --- 10021.

>>>>>>NOTICE<<<<<<<<>>>>>>NOTICE<<<<<<<<

**Calling All of Those Interested in Being a PVS Ski Trip Leader
in 2004.....or Beyond**

On Monday, Jan. 6, 2003, Barbara Leonhardt, Chairman of the Ski Trip Committee will host a meeting of the Ski Trip Committee (Mike Hatanaka, Bob Marx, Jim Slack, and Eloise Strand) along with all PVS members who have any interest in being a ski trip leader for a trip in 2003/2004 season or in years beyond.

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PVS needs those of you who have a desire to lead or be an assistant trip leader or who wish to find out what is involved and what are the responsibilities of trip leaders.

At the meeting, the revised PVS Ski Trip Guidelines will be distributed as well as a suggested format for preparing a final accounting report on the trip.

The meeting will be at the Leonhardt's home in Gaithersburg, MD at 7:30 PM. If you would like to attend the meeting, please call Barbara at **301-963-8111** or by email at **fleonhardt@starpower.net**.

Please indicate if you need directions to the meeting.

ICE SKATING GOURMET

Pentagon Row

Thursday, January 30, 2003

Ice skating – Lunch at 1:00 PM (overlooking rink)

At the Lebanese Taverna



Ice skating: Both skaters and spectators alike welcome at the new Pentagon Row outdoor Ice Rink shown in the photo on the left. Then join your fellow PVS'ers for **lunch** at the Lebanese Taverna (1:00 PM) overlooking the ice rink and enjoy healthy Mediterranean cuisine, schmooze, and exchange photos about your latest skiing adventures, and (if you wish) check out the January sales at the huge Pentagon City shopping complex (Macy's, Nordstrom's).



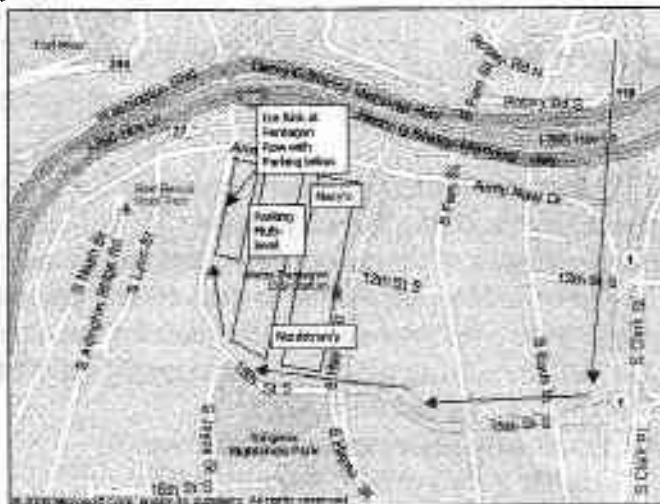
The rink is centrally located in the Metropolitan area (just south of the Pentagon) with both parking and nearby Metro Station. Lunch will take place at scheduled time regardless of weather conditions.

No reservations needed, but further information (if desired) can be obtained from Bette Walker (202) 333-0766 or Marvin Hass (703) 751-4737.

Details: Ice skating: Cost \$5.50 for seniors; \$6.50 for other adults; Skate rental \$2.50.

No special session and you can skate before or after lunch (or both).

Directions: (by car) From G.W. Parkway coming south from American Legion Bridge, take exit near Arlington Cemetery for Rte. 110 and Rte 1 [signs directing you toward Crystal City]. After passing under Shirley Hwy, then take first right exit at 15th St. Proceed four blocks west on 15th St, and bear right onto S. Joyce St., leading you to Pentagon Row on the right. Best place for parking is UNDER Pentagon Row (although ramps may be hard to find). Parking there is \$1.00 for 3 hours. The large multi-level parking structure charges somewhat more, though easier to spot.



Directions: (by Metro) Take Blue or Yellow lines to Pentagon City station. Exit to left and walk through the Fashion Center lowest level (snack bar area) and continue straight through the parking structure to the Pentagon Row complex where you should end up at the Ice Rink flanked by the Lebanese Taverna and other restaurants.

www.potomacvalleyskiers.org



No new stuff, but photos from Snowmass should be posted at the end of January. The latest PVS roster (including email addresses) can be obtained by sending your request to info@potomacvalleyskiers.org. Send photos of PVS events to above email address for posting on the web site.

With ski season now upon us, continue to send your photos of PVS events to info@potomacvalleyskiers.org for posting on the (password protected) web site.

PAST EVENTS

AND A MERRY CHRISTMAS CAROL IT WAS—

Six PVSers met for lunch at the Taverna Cretekou (since Pat and John were going after the theater for a boat parade in Annapolis). In such good spirits were they all that a friendly waiter talked them into having the good house wine instead of the regular house wine!

Then on to the Metro Stage, a relatively new small theater in Alexandria for the Interact Theater's "Crummle's Christmas Carol". It was certainly different from others you have seen: the ghosts acted by a coat rack draped in white, Tiny Tim acted by a very large woman called up from the audience, various members of the cast bursting into song and dance from the British Embassy Music Hall. It was cheerful and fun, just right for early in the holiday season.



- by Jessma

Culinary Sharing...in the Preparing...for the Holiday Feast at the Strand's

by Bob Marx

Those PVSers who ventured to the Strand's festive, expansive, and comfortable (even for the 63 folks in attendance) abode on the Tuesday before Christmas Eve hit the Trifecta. The table was laden with sumptuous delights not once, not twice, but three times in that single evening. First were the appetizers – and they were, indeed, appetizing in both quality and extent. Those present who did not know Eloise's grand plan might have over consumed on this course; but no one seemed deterred as the appetizers were cleared from the table following the command to empty the room temporarily so the remains could be cleared and the "main course" spread in its place.

Again, the quality and extent of the fare was fit for a – well, for a PVS event! Following this course, President Reg blessedly convened the business meeting, providing at least a brief respite for the eager eaters – and Reg holds brief meetings, perhaps recognizing that he was all that stood between this still hungry throng and the always coveted dessert table. Our hosts again used this lull in the crush of PVS bodies at the dining room table to clear it and replace the main course dishes with platters and trays of desserts. As usual, PVS received its just desserts and the evening ended with all in attendance fully sated.



Kudos to Eloise and Mike for their orchestration of such a fine event; please know how much PVS appreciates your repeat hospitality.



SUN AND POWDER AT STEAMBOAT

Six days of sun with temperatures hovering around 30 degrees and a day of snow resulting in four to six inches of powder is what I call a perfect ski week! It was one of those trips where everything worked out well. The flights both ways were smooth and on time. While there were only seven of us on this trip, it was a very easy-going and compatible group. What we lack in quantity, we made up for in quality. Sally and George provided several apres ski parties with wine, cheese, fruit, smoked salmon and other goodies. It was so good, I skipped dinner a couple nights. Nancy Lewis and Gladie Youngblood joined us for skiing, apres ski and dinner one day. They also brought a ski instructor friend from Steamboat with them who gave us all some great ski tips. Then there was the dinner at Cafe Diva with a wide selection of wines. The favorite entree was Elk Tenderloin. We had another great dinner at Cottonwood Grill where the food presentation was a work of art. It looked almost too good to eat but we did not let that stop us. We had things like sizzling shitakes, forbidden black rice and talapia in rice paper. It was a gourmet's delight. We also met in the bar a couple nights, since the Sheraton gave us free drink coupons, and had a variety of exotic drinks. Last but not least the skiing was truly perfect. The first day we took the mountain tour with the ski Ambassador. Some of us skied a couple days with the Over the Hill Gang who offer group skiing at Steamboat practically every day. The ski conditions started out great and improved over the week. We also enjoyed soaking in the hot tub. Overall, it was an extremely enjoyable trip. I am ready to sign up for next year.

Thank you Sally and George for taking such good care of us.

by Rosemary and Dick Schwartzbard



IT MAY NOT BE TOO LATE!

MID-WEEK SKI

WISP DEMO DAY----JANUARY 8, 9, 10, 2003

Call WISP now to reserve your room
Ask for the Ski Chalet Demo Day Rate

Room per night (single or double)	\$59 plus tax
Voucher for Thursday lift ticket	\$2 (free over 70 years)
Apres Ski supplies per person	\$5 (approximate)

**Let Sue Lyon (703-455-4294) know if you are going so she can plan Apres Ski on Wednesday and Thursday nights. Ask her about obtaining your voucher from Ski Chalet.

** Rooms paid individually. For each room call Wisp Hotel (1-800-462-9477) to reserve a room and pay a deposit for one night with credit card or mail a check. There is a one week cancellation policy. Sue will try to match you with a roommate if you need one.

**Lift tickets are obtained individually at the area with your voucher.

**Meals are paid individually.

For mid-week skiing, call Ruth Powers, Mid-Week Event Chairman at 703-821-2431

-----ruthpowers@starpower.net-----

Or if it snows or the day looks good, Nona Lippert if interested in spur-of-the-moment local skiing. Call Nona at 301-942-2799 or lippertf@compuserve.com

SKI TRIPS - 2002 -

Snowmass, CO

Leaders: Barbara & Fred Leonhardt
Jan. 16 to 23, 2003
301-963-811

Whistler, BC

Leaders: Nancy & Ray McKinley
Mar. 1 to Mar 9, 2003
703-527-7126

Crested Butte, CO

Leaders: David Lerner & Bob Marx
Mar 19 to 26, 2003
703-281-6923

Snowmass Jan. 16 - 23, 2003

We have an opening for a single male on the trip.

The trip details are set and we are ready to go. Hopefully there will not be any last minute changes in airline schedule. The **pre-trip** dinner/party will be on **Sat. Jan. 11, at 4:00 PM** at the Leonhardt's. Please **RSVP** if you are coming and also ask for directions if you need them. For this or any questions, please call Barbara at **301-963-8111** or email at fbleonhardt@starpower.net.

The Trip You've Been Asking for--March 1-9, 2003, join Nancy and Ray McKinley to Ski

PVS Whistler/Blackcomb 2003

1 SPACE LEFT—CALL US TODAY

Ski with **PVS friends** at North America's largest ski area: **7000+ acres** of skiing, **200+ trails**, **3 high-speed gondolas**, **12 high-speed quads** and 18 other lifts. A trip that includes North America's **longest vertical (5,280 feet)**. The 4 star **luxury Le Chamois is at the base of the lifts** with 2 people per 1 BR 2 full bath suite. This great trip to Whistler/Blackcomb includes an evening in Vancouver, 5 of 6 Day lift passes good at both mountains, airfare, 3 group dinners at Whistler's top restaurants, happy hours, pre & post trip parties, and gratuities.

GREAT PRICES - \$1,694; 65+ \$1,669; LAND ONLY \$1,299

It's not too late! Please call us immediately for more information or a copy of our flyer at (703) 527-7126.



THE KNEE

by

Ray McKinley

2003 is upon us. Full of bright promise and fluffy white powder. I want to

wish you all a Happy Knee Year.

For skiers it is certainly starting out to be a truly blessed year. Colorado's Front Range—just west of Denver—is setting records for the early season. Utah is overwhelmed (certainly better than being whelmed), Whistler had over 4 feet in two days. Tahoe had "too much snow." (That's simply not possible!) The San Juans—including Taos—had no snow whatsoever, but they were dumped on and had a successful Christmas opening. Now if only United Airlines keeps flying to get us there!

Even DC has snow! Eight inches in mid-December, and enough on December 24 to make it, albeit briefly, a White Christmas. There is so much snow hereabouts that Braddock Heights is thinking of reopening on all natural snow.

Reports back about PVS's first trip of the year are nothing but kudos for leaders Sally Finan and George Welti. They even arranged for a huge starting base, then 5 days of blue skies and a day of light powder. Club secretary, Dottie Villers, arrived home at 5:30 pm and made it to the December meeting at 7:30. That's movin'!

Part of PVS's Colorado contingent, Nancy Lewis and Gladie Youngblood came up for a day and dinner. Nancy had some great runs with Rosemary Schwartzbard.

Not so lucky was Fred Leonhardt. He and Barbara went to St. Maarten for a week of golf and scuba. The golf didn't work out, so Fred decided to try the trampoline. (Why?) He did great until a back flip was suggested. Fred tore a series of shoulder tendons, had surgery, is in a cast and cannot ski this season. Yuck. If there is good news, it's that Barbara was able to replace him on the Snowmass trip with Jessma Blockwick.

We were all "shushed" out of the dining room by hostess Eloise Strand at our wondrous holiday party. This was so the dinner feast could be properly positioned covering every square inch of the table. When the barrier came down, Sara and Charlie Huggins proclaimed it a great feast.

And later we all sang Happy Birthday to Margaret Wyckoff. Now she can vote!

A pleasure seeing John and Ellen Burgess at the meeting. They were back after spending three months hiking and enjoying Jackson Hole. Great way to spend fall!

Pres Reg introduced new Ski Trip Committee Chair, Barbara Leonhardt. She sees a great skiing future for PVS. Earlier, Barbara told several that she hasn't skied in the East in 27 years—too much ice. The Knee agrees about skiing the east; ice is nice—but only in a glass, with vodka!

Last month I reported, Don and Kathy Dillion attended Delaware's biggest cultural event—the Annual Pumpkin Chunkin' contest. According to Jim Slack, the event is called Punkin Chunkin'. Since Jim knows how to toss it, it's time for a *kneea culpa*

PVS will have no more Capitol Explosions. Marilyn and Jim Panagopoulos have sold their restored Capitol Hill townhouse and are now relocated to their recently upgraded Bethany, Delaware abode. They will continue to host their Polar Bears (i.e. swimming in the Atlantic) New Year's Party. And maybe go Punkin Chunkin'!

Skiing isn't quite like Punkin Chunkin'. The mountain vista on a crisp morning chairlift ride is truly consciousness raising. One overlooks trees so laden with snow that the conifers are soft, marshmallow white.

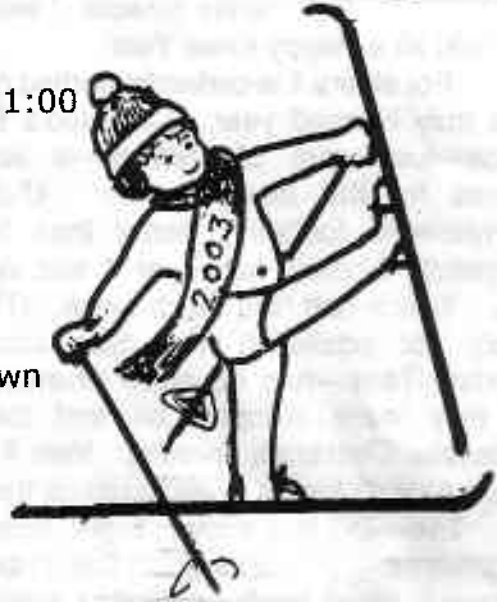
Random hexagonal flakes sparkle prism-like in the warm, morning sunshine. Our sport is a communion with beauty and the outdoors. A chance to observe and partake in nature's art. Wonderment. Joy. Goose bumps on the back on your neck.

It's almost the same on an icy Saturday afternoon at Ski Liberty...

CALENDAR

- Jan. . 6...Ski Trip Committee meeting for all who are (or may be) interested in running'a trip in the future.
At Barbara Leonhardt's 301-963-8111
- Jan. 8, 9, 10...WISP Demo Day
- Jan. 11...Pre-Snowmass Party, Leonhardt's at 4:00
- Jan. 21...Monthly Meeting at the Keel's
- Jan. 28...ExCom, Beale's
- Jan. 30...Ice Skating & Lunch at Pentagon Row at 1:00
- Feb. 9...Pre-Whistler Party, McKinley's at 4:30
- Feb. 17...George Washington Parade, Alexandria.
Light lunch at Rettig's at 11:00;
Parade at 1:00.
- Feb. 18...Monthly Meeting at Schwartzbard's
- Feb. 27...ZooWalk/Lunch
- Mar. 27...Bicycling Gourmet - Glen Echo/Georgetown
- June 1-4...Cabin Trip to Cacapon, WV

March 1844



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