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Greetings PVSers,

October is over, and PVSers and guests did their best to celebrate the month at our annual Oktoberfest held at Louann Eadie's house this year. Incidentally, someone left a nice beer glass with handle attached at the party. Please contact me if it's yours. The end of October also signals the end of our biennial membership renewal deadline. Unfortunately, this usually means that the member roster is lower than usual, and we need to work at building up the membership level again. ExCom is considering various ways that we might bring in more (and younger) members, but probably the most tried and true method is for current members to bring potential members to meetings, events and ski trips. So I'm asking everyone to please make a special effort to seek out fellow skiers (OK, snow sports enthusiasts) and invite them to a meeting or event. Who knows, there may be some "closet skiers" out there in other organizations you belong to who would welcome the opportunity to get back on the slopes. (It's a bit difficult to ski in a closet.)

As we begin the month of November, we look forward to the upcoming holidays. We also anticipate our annual meeting at the Washington Ski Center. Brian Eardley will be on hand to do his usual "show and tell" of new ski gear and tempt us to buy a holiday gift or two for those on our list (especially ourselves). For those who have not been to one of these meetings, Brian does a great job of demonstrating the latest and greatest in skis, boots, and other equipment.

November is also the month that marks the "birthday" of PVS. Next year, 2010, will be the 45th anniversary of the beginning of PVS, and we celebrate this momentous event every five years by having a very special gala anniversary dinner evening. Starting a year ahead of the event is not too soon to begin planning, since we need to decide on and reserve a place to hold the dinner. So I have selected the following people who have agreed to serve on a committee to plan this event: Ray McKinley, Rachel Abraham, Betty Lawrence, Suzanne Boisclair, and myself. Stay tuned and be sure to contact a committee member if you have any ideas or suggestions.

We have a new ExCom member, Liz Warren-Boulton, who is replacing Dave Calloway, who resigned recently. Liz was approved unanimously by the current ExCom members, and we welcome her to the group.

Lastly I will end with yet another sad note as another longtime PVS member has passed away. Wally Lukens will be remembered as a superb skier and a loyal PVSer. We send our condolences to Sylvia and the family.

Best wishes,

Dottie

Monthly Meeting

**November 17, 7:30 PM at the Ski Center of Washington DC
2300 Fordham Road NW
Washington, DC 20016
(202) 966-4474**

We will meet at the Ski Center for our annual briefing by Brian Eardley on ski equipment and happenings in the ski industry. The Strands/Schwartzbards will host an array of refreshments and snacks starting at 7:30 PM. Brian will begin his demo about 8:15 PM.

<http://www.skicenter.com/hours.aspx>

Parking is free with validation of the parking lot ticket in the Ski Center. The shop normally closes at 6:00 PM, but it will reopen at 7:00 PM for our 7:30 meeting. Take a ticket from the machine as you enter the parking lot. Enter the Ski Center from this lot. There also is parking on the street and in an open lot on 49th Street.

Directions from I-495 inner loop and American Legion Bridge.

From Beltway and River Road - Take River Rd. southeast toward Washington, DC for 3.5 miles, then right at Little Falls Pkwy (traffic light at end of commercial section, just past a Citgo gas station), left at 1st light (Massachusetts Ave), then right at 3rd light (49th St), 1/2 block and left into the gated parking lot.

Directions from I-495 outer loop. From Beltway and Connecticut Ave. - Take Connecticut Ave. south toward Washington, DC for 2.6 miles to Chevy Chase Circle. Take 3rd right off of circle (Western Ave) and go 2 miles to the next traffic circle (Westmoreland Circle). Go 3/4 of the way around and get off on Massachusetts Ave toward Washington, DC. Go right at 2nd light (49th St), 1/2 block and left into the gated parking lot.

Directions from Key Bridge (Take GW Parkway to Key Bridge, if coming from I-395). From Key Bridge - Go left onto M Street. After 1/2 mile, keep to the right where the street name changes to Foxhall Rd. Go 2 miles until it ends at Nebraska Ave. Go right, take Nebraska Ave to Ward Circle (at American Univ). Get into the outer part of the circle and go 3/4 of the way around, taking Massachusetts Ave headed northwest. Go 3/4 of a mile until you see Crate & Barrel on your left. Make the next left at 49th St. then 1/2 block and left into the gated parking lot.

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Coming Events

SCWDC November Membership Meeting & Fashion Show

Friday, November 13, 2009

[Crowne Plaza Tysons Corner Hotel](#) , Vienna Room, McLean, VA

Busting out this year with snow, board and tennis gear! Calling both cold weather and warm weather sports enthusiasts. Join your SCWDC friends for the FRIDAY, November 13, 2009 Ski Fashion Show Meeting and get great ideas for what the well-dressed skier or rider will be wearing on the slopes this season, and what the chic indoor tennis player can choose. Come see attractive SCWDC members modeling the latest fashions from the local shops. We will be in the upstairs hall and Vienna meeting room at the Crowne Plaza at 7:00 PM..

Directions: From I-495, take exit 46A to Rt. 123 South/Chain Bridge Rd. towards Tysons Corner. At the 2nd light, turn right on to International Dr. and then left at the next light, Greensboro Dr. Go about 30 yards, look for sign on left, turn into driveway. (Landmark: "Taste of Saigon" restaurant on Greensboro Dr.) Free parking is provided in both covered garage and surface spaces.

Terra Cotta Warriors:

Guardians of China's First Emperor



The National Geographic Museum in Washington will be having an exhibition entitled "Terra Cotta Warriors: Guardians of China's First Emperor". The finding of the terra cotta warriors and other treasures from the tomb of the first emperor was one of the major archeological discoveries of the 20th century. Cara Jablon will be leading a PVS group to see this exhibition on Thursday, December 3. After visiting the exhibition, we will go to a nearby Chinese restaurant for lunch. If we have a group of 10 or more people, the cost will be \$8 per person for the exhibition. Please contact Cara at (202)333-5332 or rcjablon@aol.com if you would like to join the group. For more information about the exhibition, click on the following link: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/terracottawarriors/>.

In Remembrance

Service for Bob Marx

People gathered some 200 strong to honor Bob Marx's life at the Springfield Christian Church on October 10th, 2009. Many braved long distances and complicated travel plans to be present. One after another the speakers described the attributes which identified Bob and the interests and activities that consumed his days. "We knew that he loved his family," said a long time co-worker. Another, reading from Bob's Caring Bridge website, noted that Bob made no mention of his 36 years with the Census Bureau. He wrote only of his family. Jan's brother Keith acknowledged the enormity of the loss but offered reassurance that Bob's memory would continue in our lives.

Bob's younger son Brian spoke from his heart when he told the congregation that his father was his motor. An accomplished wood artisan, Brian learned from his dad the importance of doing a job right. There were many projects that they worked on together. In recent years, Bob helped Brian paint the interior and exterior of two houses and assisted in installing an elaborate drainage system in one of the yards. Brian's wife Tanya offered some insight into Bob's philosophies. "Regarding his fashion sense," said Tanya, "Bob's approach was to decide on an outfit and stick with it." This explains the red shirt, black pants, and Santa Claus suspenders that he wore each Christmas. His views about children were equally straight forward. "Never interrupt a child when they're talking," said Tanya, and "let children lead." "His basic rule of life was to love unconditionally no matter what." Tanya told of Bob's penchant for picture taking. She recounted a 3 week family trip to Spain in 1998 in which Bob took a mere 1400 photos using only 37 rolls of film. This was not entirely surprising to PVS since Bob had delightfully captured so many of its trips and events over the years with his wonderful cameras.

Tanya was followed by the smallest and perhaps the youngest speaker on record. In an unscripted moment, Tanya's and Brian's 5 year old son Geordie requested a turn. Brian carried him up to the microphone. In a strong and unfaltering voice Geordie told the congregation that he liked playing with his grandpa in the sandbox very much and that he wanted him to come back and play again. As Jan later said, "there wasn't a dry eye."

Three of Bob's coworkers from the Census Bureau spoke glowing of his work there. They told of how Bob was the first to envision a system of computerized digital maps. In what was an impossibly short period of time and with Bob at the helm, the Bureau converted from a manual approach to maps to digital techniques used in the 1990 census. Bob also introduced the acronym TIGER for the new system. TIGER is the basis for the private companies that provide us with such references as MapQuest and GPS.

The Club's own Ray McKinley was the final speaker. Ray estimated that there were about 50 PVS members (actually 62) and 8 ex-Club presidents present. "This speaks to the effect Bob had on people." "The most significant thing about Bob was his demeanor," said Ray. "He never lost his temper." To emphasize this Ray described Bob's leadership when the club decided to have sweatshirts. "They had to be purple and they needed to have zippers. Bob was a rock." "Bob's first job in PVS," continued Ray "was the kind that requires a senior executive. It was to do the layout, printing, stapling and mailing of TOOT. Talk about TIGER, this involved enormous skill and Bob volunteered to do it."

After the service, people adjourned to the nearby reception hall for refreshments and fellowship. Later Jan said that she had hoped for more time for PVSers to comment if they had wished. She felt that the service had been wonderful adding, "It was so good to see everyone".

(The Club made a donation to the National Marrow Donor Program in Bob's name. Bob and Jan had received a grant from the Program to help with drugs and housing.)

Heroes
By Robert Marx
July 2009

Heroes few,
Brave and true,
May your acts inspire us.
Do our best,
Never rest,
Light a fire inside us.



by Mary Beale

A NOTE FROM JAN:

Dear PVS Family,
Yes, you are Bob's and my second family. We have wallowed in all of your cards, phone calls, e-mails, and prayers that have helped to carry us through this last year. How fortunate we have been. I was grateful so many of you could attend Bob's memorial service. Obviously he had a place in your hearts, too. We will all continue to miss him. I will be seeing you soon.
Love to you all,
Jan



Walter P. (Wally) Lukens

PVS lost long-time member Wally Lukens on October 9, 2009. Wally was a graduate of the US Military Academy, West Point, and Stanford Law School. Wally served in the Army with Glade Flake. During their twenty years as Club members, Wally and wife Sylvia were active club participants, hosting many events and joining most PVS trips to Europe. He is remembered by his many PVS friends as an excellent and elegant skier. In one of last ski trips, to Portillo, Chile in 2004, Wally persisted in skiing every day, while acknowledging the difficulties he already faced from Alzheimers. A funeral service with Full Military Honors will be held at the Ft. Meyer Chapel on Wednesday, December 30, 2009 at 11 a.m., with burial to follow at Arlington National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Association, Northern VA Chapter, 11240 Waples Mill Road, Suite 402, Fairfax, VA 22030.



Vivian Barry 1937-2009

by Ray McKinley

Vivian Ann Barry passed on September 25, 2009 at the Delaware Hospice Center after fighting a yearlong battle against cancer. She was born on Ground Hog Day, February 2 in Middleboro, Massachusetts. Bob and Vivian met in Dewey Beach in 1964 and married in 1966. Vivian and Bob joined Potomac Valley Skiers in October, 1980. They remained members through 1995.

Before moving permanently to Dewey Beach, Vivian and Bob hosted many PVS meetings in their chalet-like home in Falls Church. They also ran at least one trip to Wisp where we ate very well and Vivian did some cross country skiing. Vivian was employed by the Central Intelligence Agency. She took early retirement from the Agency in 1982 and returned to school, earning a degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management. She then started her own catering company and soon afterward converted their Dewey Beach beach house into a bed and breakfast. Together they operated Barry's Gull Cottage Bed and Breakfast for 22 years. The B&B became the home of yearly PVS Beach Weekends. There were many memorable events and lobster feasts. Marilyn Clark recalls one time when we all (Men and Women) donned hats from Vivian's collection. And who can fail to remember the "Lobster Feast on the Beach." Vivian had set out some 8-10 quilts on the beach and a small tent. It resembled an oasis, with Vivian overseeing the wonderful dinner in a huge white chef's apron and white toque.

Vivian was vivacious, vibrant and a local civic leader. Final arrangements are being handled by Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Lewes, DE. Sign guestbook at: www.parsellfuneralhomes.com

Notice concerning Marty McNeill:

Martha Ann (Weirich) McNeill peacefully passed away at Sibley Hospital at 12:30 p.m. on October 30, 2009.

There will be a public viewing at 9 -10:15a.m.at St. Barnabas Church on Wednesday November 4, 2009 followed by a celebration of Martha's life at 10:30 a.m. and burial in the cemetery behind the church. A reception will follow in the church recreation hall.

In lieu of flowers, Martha would appreciate contributions to St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, 5203 St. Barnabas Road, Temple Hills, MD 20748.

To get to the church, take exit 4A off of the Capitol Beltway (I-495). Bear right to St. Barnabas Church, which will be about a 1/2 mile up on your left.

If you would like to view Marty's obituary online, please click on the following link; and then click on her name: <http://www.kalasfuneralhomes.com/index.cfm>

Members Corner



By J. D. Warthen, Jr.

PVS Membership Records

dwarthen@verizon.net, 301-774-2653

Getting to know Jannes J. Gibson (Applicant):

My first skiing experience was to go with my family to Aspen, Colorado, Christmas of 1957 - we stayed at the old yellow jail building under #1 lift. My parents and a group of friends from Cedar Rapids, Iowa started going to Aspen to ski in 1949. During those early years we also enjoyed visits and stays with the Maces at Toklat above Aspen. After traveling to Colorado in my high school years I chose to return there to go to college at the University of Colorado 1960-64, where I met my husband who was also a keen skier. From Boulder, we went to Kabul, Afghanistan with USAID 1967-70. Outside of Kabul with other skiers, we built a rope tow and skied on the weekends in the winter . . . we carried our skis up from the road about a quarter of a mile. In 1970 we returned to Washington, DC and Potomac, when my husband joined the IMF. We either lived in Potomac, Maryland or abroad (Indonesia 1972-74, Bangladesh 1975-6, Ethiopia 1994-98, Malawi 1998-2002). In Europe, we skied in Arosa, Switzerland, Val d'Isere, France and Bormio, Italy. In the U.S., most of the skiing was in Colorado or near DC at Bryce or Canaan Valley. I still meet college friends once a year in Aspen, but am interested in group-trips almost anywhere. Since my husband died in 2002, I have travelled a lot, but want to be sure to ski while I still enjoy it so much. I do have a love for the mountains anywhere . . . the last seven years I have travelled to Peru, but not for skiing . . . I've hiked the last day of the Inca Trail each year and support The Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco. My job in DC was working in the education department of The Textile Museum.

Roster Changes:

Maryann Rozzell (new e-mail address)

ptmaryann@cox.net

Roster Corrections:

Changes in postal or e-mail address, telephone number, method of TOOT distribution, version of TOOT format, choice of Hotline, desire to host an event or write TOOT articles, etc. should be reported to Dave Warthen.

TOOT Distribution to 145 PVS Members:

pdf: 76; USPS: 32; MS-Word: 20;

Emb. Text: 1; and Text (Att.): 2

Biennial Membership Renewal Draws to a Close:

July 1, 2009 was the beginning of the 2009-2011 biennial membership cycle. October 31 was the end of the grace period, permitted by PVS By-laws, to pay those dues. From the statistics above, it is evident that we have lost members (25) for various reasons. For those who have chosen not to renew for another biennial period, we bid a fond adieu and good health. For those who have renewed, we welcome you for another 2-year cycle of PVS events, skiing, TOOTs, and great fun. Thank you for renewing your membership.

As ExCom looks at different ways to attract new members, let us not forget our personal obligation to bring in new members. Please consider approaching friends, co-workers, relatives, etc. who have an interest in snow sports, and encourage them to attend a general meeting or an event as your guest. Invite them to the Ski Center on November 17 for our general meeting. Invite them to participate in a ski trip, either locally, out West, or in Europe. In short, sponsor them as an Applicant.

Daisy & Buddy Beale Co-host October Meeting:

Not only do we thank Mary Beale for hosting the October PVS General Meeting, but we also thank her co-hosts – Daisy & Buddy. The canine duo provided amusement for all, accompanied with ooooh's and aaaah's at how tiny, well-behaved, and just so loveable they are. They were also the perfect vacuum cleaners for the evening, as they spotted delicious tidbits here and there. They were just the right size to scoot around table legs, human legs, chair legs, and any other obstacle in the house.

All this activity was really way too exhausting, and it was not long before they headed for their L. L. Bean bag beds under the kitchen table, for a long winter's nap.

We all look forward to the slopes this winter, and may be surprised to see two, four-legged, vertically challenged canines joining us, since we have all adopted them as PVS members.



PAST EVENTS

October Meeting

Mary Beale graciously hosted the October Meeting for forty PVS members and one guest in her inviting and recently-renovated home. Everyone was warmly welcomed by Mary and her two four-legged companions, Daisy and Buddy, on a pleasant fall evening. PVSer's were treated to a well-laid table of snacks and treats and a variety of wine, beer, and soft drinks. After the business meeting, Mary provided a delightful assortment of tasty desserts.

President Dottie presided over the business meeting. Dottie emphasized the need for everyone to actively recruit new PVS members. She also noted that 2010 is PVS's 45 Anniversary and that planning for the anniversary celebration had already begun.

Rosemary Schwartzbard briefly covered the BRSC fall meeting and led a discussion of upcoming ski trips. Rosemary observed that Arapaho Basin and Loveland ski areas in Colorado had already opened. She noted that the only Demo Day this year is on 14 January at Timberline, West Virginia. Rosemary encouraged anyone who might be interested to consider organizing day trips to local ski areas. She also stressed the need for trips and trip leaders for the 2010-2011 ski season. Dick Comerford covered the Steamboat Springs and Bormio, Italy trips, both of which still have openings for anyone interested. Dick noted that he is still looking for a single woman for the Steamboat trip. Dottie covered the Jackson Hole trip, which has 39 skiers signed up, and pointed out that she also needs a single woman for that trip.

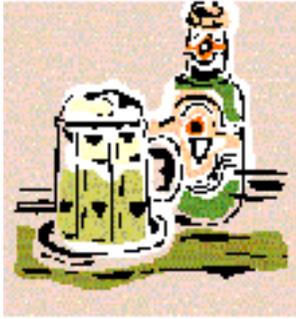
Ray McKinley stimulated a lively discussion of recent and upcoming events. He stated that the Oktoberfest was one of PVS's best-attended events in recent years. Ray advised the members that the Paynes were developing a Finger Lakes Winery & Distillery Tour for August 2010. The discussion also included mention of the SCWDC Ski Fashion Show on November 13th and a possible PVS Fasching party at Blob's Park in February 2010.

Thank you Mary for your kind hospitality. You made us feel right at home.

Evening at the Fife & Drum Restaurant, Fort Myer Officers' Club:

Joe Jevcak & Liz Warren-Boulton graciously hosted a wonderful evening at the Officers' Club Fife & Drum Restaurant at historic Ft. Myer on Friday, 2 October. Ten PVSer's were entertained by the Strolling Strings of violin and guitar, while dining on delicious entrées, wine and scrumptious desserts. The Strolling Strings responded to many of our requests for nostalgic songs. At 8:30 PM, an excellent 3-piece band provided a variety of music for our dancing pleasure. We dined, enjoyed wonderful conversations, and we danced the evening away. Thanks Joe and Liz for organizing and hosting a delightful and memorable evening.





Oktoberfest 2009

by Nancy McKinley

What does it take to experience a real *Oktoberfest* in America? First, you don your *Oktoberfest* apparel of lederhosen and dirndl. Next, grab your favorite Stein/Krug off the shelf. Last, you arrive at Louann and Bob Eadie's spacious home in Reston (masquerading as German Beer Hall) ready to celebrate the season and enjoy the company of your PVS *Freunden* (or "friends", if you will).

No lederhosen? Try cotton shorts and striped suspenders like Ray McKinley. No fancy German sweater? There's always Jan Marx's gorgeous New Zealand-bought Tyrolean-style wool cardigan. If you squinted, you were in *Deutschland* already! But a level of never-before-seen-at-a-PVS-event authenticity was brought by applicant members, John and Barbara Holt, whose perfect German outfits from the old country were riveting to us all even before we knew their secret – they're superb dancers!



Before dancing, though, came the food – ach, the food! Appetizers abounded! Wursts were *wunderbar!* Desserts – delicious! Bob labored over the grill to finish the many special wursts

already plumped by Louann at the stove. There were three kinds of potato salad and a brimming pot of sauerkraut. Among the desserts: German chocolate cake, *Apfel kuchen*, and the beautiful and traditional *Pflaumenkuchen*. (See Jan's recipe below.)

Dottie Villers, co-host of this fabulous fest, made sure we had German beers to savor and there were other beverages to quaff. (One of life's conundrums: How do you get that pewter Krug cap out of the way when you're trying to get a sip of beer from the Krug?)



After the Redskins fans got over the latest let-down, we were ready for some fancy stepping and John and Barbara Holt did not disappoint. Former members of the famous *Alpenveilchen Schuhplattler* dancers, John and Barbara launched into a spectacular display of fancy footwork – Barbara spinning til watching her we all became dizzy; and John performing the tricky hand and foot moves that we have all loved in traditional German dance.

This was the 31st PVS *Oktoberfest*. And it was special. *Vielen Dank* to Louann, Bob and Dottie for all of their work bringing the old country to Reston for us.

PFLAUMENKUCHEN from Jan Marx
 1 unbaked pie shell
 1 ½ lbs Italian/prune plums
 ½ C sugar
 Wash, halve and pit prunes. Toss in sugar to coat.
 Arrange decoratively in crust.
Topping:
 1 egg
 1/3 to ½ C. sugar (depending on tartness of fruit)
 2 ½ T. flour
 Cinnamon, (salt) squirt of lemon juice
 Mix together and dribble on top of plums.
Bake: at 400 for 15 minutes. Reduce to 350 and
 bake 45 minutes longer or until golden on top and
 you see the sauce bubbling up.
 May also be made with peaches, apples, or
 rhubarb. Rhubarb will require one cup of sugar.



BRSC Fall Meeting, October 17

The Blue Ridge Ski Council (BRSC) is an association of ski clubs from MD, VA, and DC. PVS is one of the 29 clubs in the Council. The fall meeting was held at the Tysons Corner Crowne Plaza and PVS was represented by Dottie Villers, Rosemary Schwartzbard, and David Lerner.

Old business included the earlier promise of BRSC to provide credit reports on tour operators for member clubs. Wayne Homens, the BRSC president, reported that the costs would be prohibitive. The best available alternative appears to be tracking payments by tour operators to providers. This provides only partial protection for clubs, but it may avoid the total default that was encountered last season.

Dues payment by member clubs was reviewed. This amounts to \$0.15 per member for PVS. We paid the dues at the spring meeting but the payment had not been correctly recorded.

The major business of the meeting was the review and approval of proposals for the 2011 Western Carnival and the 2011 Eurofest. Proposals for the Western Carnival were provided for destinations of Snowmass and Park City. Proposals from Group Trips Unlimited, Sportours, and Winter Ski and Sport were evaluated. Park City is the selected destination. The dates are February 5-12. Group Trips Unlimited is the winning tour operator. The Eurofest bids were for Courmayeur, Italy with an alternate destination included with each bid. The bidders were Group Trips Unlimited and Ski Europe. The bid by Ski Europe to the alternate destination of the Aosta Valley, Italy was the winner. Trip dates will be March 10 or 11 to March 19 or 20, depending on the travel dates selected by the individual clubs.

There was a brief discussion about a group purchase of low-cost helmets. Snell approved ski helmets are available for \$17 each from www.prorider.com. However, shipping costs will exceed the price of the helmet for individual purchases. There is a special offer for free shipping on an order for 10 helmets.

The spring 2010 meeting will be at Solomons Island, MD at the end of April or the beginning of May depending on facility availability.

Report by David Lerner

***** **2009-2010 SKI TRIPS** *****



Steamboat Springs

December 12 – 19, 2009

A good relaxing way to start the new ski season for **\$690**

The [Potomac Valley Skiers](#) invites you to attend a Wedel Week in Steamboat Springs, Colorado with Dick & Betty Comerford as your host and hostess. [Steamboat Springs, Ski Town USA](#), has a base elevation of 6900 feet, ideal for anyone who has difficulty adapting to high altitude (sleeping below 7500 feet keeps the headaches away). --- I skied 10/29/09 at Loveland – the season has started!!!!

- * 7 Nights Lodging, Ptarmigan Inn
- * 30 Yards to the Gondola
- * Rooms Have 2 Queen Size Beds
- * Coffee in Each Room
- * Heated Outdoor Pool & Hot Tub
- * 3668 Vertical Feet
- * 165 Named Ski Trails- 18 Lifts
- * 18 % Beg, 42% Int, 44% Adv
- * Average Snowfall > 27 Feet



Cost: \$690. Due with application. **Still looking for a single woman!**

It is **not** too late to sign-up for Steamboat.

Included in cost: Lodging at the Ptarmigan Inn for 7 Nights; Daily Breakfasts; Three Dinners – Yacht Club, Ore House Restaurant, Western BBQ (with Entertainment); Private Après ski in Trip Leaders Room

Not included in the cost: Airfare and ski tickets.

Contact me if interested, Dick Comerford (H) 703 777-9374 (C) 571 426-3098

or send the Release 307 Lounsbury Ct dick.comerford@verizon.net

Agreement with deposit: Leesburg, VA 20176

Snowmass 2010 *Wednesday, January 13-20, 2010*

- We're returning to Snowmass!! The developer has delayed plans for renovation of our beloved Snowmass Mountain Chalet! Join us again in 2010 for this PVS favorite.
- Snowmass offers direct access to 3,100 acres of slope-side skiing just outside the door.
- The skiing terrain totals more than 5,000 acres with interchangeable lift tickets and free bus service to Aspen Highlands, Ajax Mountain, and Buttermilk ski areas,.
- Slopeside lodging at Snowmass Mountain Chalet includes a daily family-style breakfast and daily soup lunch, greatly appreciated by trip participants and other guests, many of whom return year after year. This small hotel, with its welcoming staff, is unique for its convenience and friendly ambiance.
- The trip will include group dinners, après-ski parties, and other activities available in the Aspen environs.
- Complete trip cost is \$2,138, which includes air, lodging, lift tickets, and party events.
- For more information:
- Contact trip leaders Carolyn and David DeVilbiss at 703-370-4865 or
- To reserve: -- Send payment of \$1000 per person, trip application, and signed waiver to:
Carolyn DeVilbiss
4508 Peacock Avenue,
Alexandria VA 22304
- Note "PVS-Snowmass 2010" on the memo line.

**Possible single female vacancy;
call trip leaders.**



February 18 to 25, 2010

Jackson Hole, Wyoming

We now have 39 people going on the trip, but I am looking for a single female to room with someone who would like to go on the trip and share a room.

Slope side accommodations are at the Alpenhof Lodge, a cozy Bavarian style lodge with ski in ski out access. There are five of six days lift tickets included (seniors over 65 can deduct \$100). Go on an optional trip over the Teton Pass to Grand Targhee where "the snow comes from heaven not hoses". Cross country skiers have trails outside the front door or options to ski in Grand Teton National Park and Grand Targhee. The trip begins at Dulles, then goes to Jackson, Wy, then a short bus ride to the "Hole". We have a welcome reception of gluwain and fondue.

Full buffet breakfasts are included every day at the hotel. Two group dinners are included, pre and post trip parties, and two après ski gatherings. A short bus trip into the town of Jackson reveals many opportunities for shopping, dining, touring, skiing, and reliving history in a true western town. Yellowstone N.P. is 60 miles north accessible by snowmobile or snowcoach, and a visit to the nearby National Elk Refuge will give you the opportunity to see a herd of 12,000-15,000 elk in winter.

Trip cost is \$1625. See complete trip flier for more details. Contact trip leaders Dottie Villers: 703-476-9259 or Marty Rine: 703-978-0179 to put your name on the waiting list.



Bormio Italy Update – 2

March 6-14, 2010 -\$1895 double occupancy

The Potomac Valley Skiers invites you to participate with the Blue Ridge Ski Council (BRSC) for the 2010 Bormio *Eurofest* with Dick & Betty Comerford as your host and hostess.

Relevant Links:

- [Bormio trip flyer](#)
- [Potomac Valley Skiers](#)
- [Bormio, Lake Como](#)
- [World Cup skiing](#)
- [Hotel Baita dei Pini](#)
- [Livigno, Santa Caterina Valfurva](#)

Dick Comerford (H) 703 777-9374
307 Lounsbury Ct (C) 571 426-3098
Leesburg, VA 20176
dick.comerford@verizon.net



We still have room on the trip to Bormio in the Italian Alps. Come and join us for the great food (big breakfasts and gourmet dinners included), beautiful sights, and good skiing. There will be a number of non-skiers on the trip, so touring will be a significant activity. Don't forget your bathing suit; everyone must experience the Roman Baths. The only whining on the trip will be spelled wining, and it will involve a bottle and cork.

The quote for a Trip extension to the Italian Riviera is \$575; this offers easy touring to Monaco, Milan, and Cinque Terra - *Italian Riviera optional extension:* Four nights lodging at the seafront [Lido Palace Hotel in Santa Margherita](#).

Sign-up soon so you have an opportunity to win a prize from our travel agent.

ROSEMARY'S SKI TALK

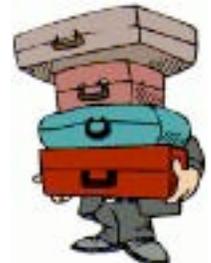
We are looking forward to a great ski season beginning in December at Steamboat. Now we have to start planning for 2011. As reported by David Lerner, we just attended the BRSC meeting and their 2011 trips have been set: Park City in Feb, 2011 and Aosta Valley, Italy, March, 2011. Both sound like great trips. I would like to hear from you if you are interested in leading one of these trips or a ski trip to some other destination. We have many experienced ski trip leaders who would be glad to mentor new potential leaders.



LOCAL SKIING. We are looking forward to some local ski days as well. Charlie Huggins will probably go to Liberty on Dec. 22. Please check the Dec. TOOT for details. Ski Chalet is having a ski appreciation day at Timberline on Jan. 14. Lift tickets will be \$2.00 with a Ski Chalet voucher. Kerry Hines may lead a day trip there. There will also be spontaneous day trips when good snow comes. Let me know if you are interested in adding your name to our local ski notification list. Send me an email at rosemaryphd@verizon.net.



TRAVEL ALERT



Be aware that there are new travel requirements that you will have to comply with for the upcoming ski season. Under a new program, "Secure Flight", the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) requires the following:

1. When making flight reservations, you must provide your exact name as it appears on the ID you use to get on a flight, which means either a passport or driver's license. This will present no problem if your passport and driver's license are issued in the form you normally use when traveling.
2. You must also provide your date of birth and gender when buying tickets.

TSA has built in some flexibility for the near future but you should strive to obtain consistency between the name on your ID and travel documents.

Rosemary Schwartzbard



KNEE

by Ray McKinley

As the **Knee** writes this at the end of October, it's the end of November in ski country. Denver has had its first blizzard of the season. Snoqualmie Pass in Washington State, at an altitude of only 3,022 ft, has been closed by snow. Angel Fire ski area in NW **Knee** Mexico just had 12" and Aspen collected 10". Wow!

Rarin' to ski? It's easy. Loveland, CO opened October 6, and had 100+ people in line. Arapaho Basin opened the next day. Mammoth Mountain, CA and Sunday River, ME opened October 24. And Wolf Creek, CO, Ski Norquay in Canada and (get this, Dick Comerford) areas above 2,500 meters in Bormio, Italy all open on Halloween. Give a big cheer for global warming!!

Last month, to help with the membership drive, I became poetknee. The results are in from the Membership Daves (Warthen and DeVilbiss). Four PVSers rejoined, and six others immediately dropped out. Oh well...

Bet you didn't know this about Bob Marx. After his memorial service, Marvin Hass talked to Bob's successor at the Census Bureau. Marvin asked if Bob's seminal efforts on digitizing the US map database, impacted today's mapping programs. The answer was a big yes. His countrywide map and address database is employed for all of the nationwide software programs including MapQuest and GPS. So the next time, you use a map software program you could be benefitting from Bob's foresight in instigating this approach. Bob was so modest he never discussed (at least not with Marvin or the Knee) his involvement in this significant fallout from his endeavors.

In an attempt to increase membership amongst younger skiers (not young, but younger), PVS will examine changing our Internet web appearance. ExCom discussed putting some new words on the PVS web page. Old, stodgy and exclusive were rejected. Most liked "The club that drinks wine." I like it.

Liz and Serge Triau returned from a Savannah, Elderhostel (now called Exploritas "we're not elder any more." Perhaps just plain "old?") They really enjoyed the week there. Said Serge, it's definitely not an Elderhostile.

It's not true that I have a large **kneego**. It's just that I'm really good.

Aside from spending a Sunday afternoon at PVS's *Oktoberfest*, Dick and Betty Comerford attended the German one, in Munich. But they only spent a day there, partially due to a liter of beer being 8 Euros! With not enough snow to ski, they spent their time in the Alps. Dick was sporting an *Oktoberfest* brown felt *chapeau*. (Bet you didn't know the **Knee** knew German!)

In what is a first for PVS, Betty Comerford is retiring. Betty now has a job in the new Leesburg Wegmans Deli. Right on!

Ellie Thayer and Jack Chapman will fly to Amsterdam for Thanksgiving weekend. They spent last Thanksgiving in Brussels. Perhaps they should plan Thanksgiving in, ahem, Turkey.

Other PVSers are also traveling. June Read has recently returned from Istanbul (and that's not bull). After celebrating a birthday with friends, Betty Lawrence (who can now drink legally) heads to her hometown in upstate **Knee** York "for the first time in decades."

For the first time in a while, Barb and Fred Leonhardt missed *Oktoberfest*. They were at the Mercedes factory in Germany, picking up Fred's new Mercedes. And boy was it heavy!

The **Knee** also has great travel plans upcoming. I'm going to Manassas! Oh well...

This next part of the column is a big run around. Congrats to Rosemary Schwartzbard. She successfully finished the Marine Marathon; and she was fourth in her age group. Son Aaron, who has been on several PVS trips, also ran; he finished 39th overall with a time of about 2 hr 40 minutes. I've owned cars that couldn't do 26+ miles that fast!

If one marathon wasn't enough, there is another marathon coming up in mid October. Rosemary and fellow (fellowperson? Gal? The **Knee** has such problems being non-sexist) PVS runner (runnerperson?) Ellie Thayer will run in the Outer Banks (those are some of the few remaining banks that FDIC hasn't closed) Marathon in mid-November.

Cara Jablon also discussed running recently. She got winded running to catch a bus in the morning. So she had some testing done; no problems. So Cara has given up on the bus!

This guy could be a PVSer. He's Tom Szwedko, from Denver, Colorado. And he has skied every month since 1979. He has to do over 50 linked turns to count as skiing, and Tom only uses lifts if they're free!!

Calendar and Information

Local Event Calendar				Ski Trip Calendar	
Nov	13	Fri	SWDC Fashion Show	Dec 12-19	2009 Steamboat (<i>D. Comerford</i>)
Nov	17	Tues	Monthly Meeting Ski Center of DC (<i>Strands/Schwartzbards</i>)	Jan 13-20	2010 Snowmass (<i>C&D. DeVilbiss</i>)
Dec	3	Thur	Terra Cotta Warriors (<i>Jablon</i>)	Feb 18-25	2010 Jackson Hole (<i>Villers/Rine</i>)
Dec	8	Tues	Nov/Dec ExCom (<i>Thayer</i>)	Mar 6-14	2010 Bormio, Italy (<i>D. Comerford</i>)
Dec	15	Tues	Christmas Party (McKennas)		
Jan	3	Sun	Snowmass Pre-trip Party (<i>Powers</i>)		

PVS Roster information updates

Change of postal or e-mail address, telephone numbers, TOOT email format, etc.

Call David Warthen (301) 774-2653 or send e-mail message to dwarthen@verizon.net

Many thanks to Kerry Hines, Temporary Editor, for an excellent November '09 TOOT issue.