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*Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.*  
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

SEPTEMBER 2007

[www.potomacvalleyskiers.org](http://www.potomacvalleyskiers.org)

[info@pvskiers.org](mailto:info@pvskiers.org)

Dear PVSer,

The word for September is **procrastination**! The word itself comes from the Latin word *procrastinatus*: *pro-* (forward) and *crastinus* (of tomorrow). Or as Gerald Vaughn stated: "Procrastination is something best put off until tomorrow." In one form or another, probably all of us are guilty of this behavioral flaw. But the trait has a tendency to diminish with age. We know we are getting old when it takes too much effort to procrastinate.

Basic research into this phenomenon reveals that "structured procrastination" is the art of making this bad trait work for you. The key idea is that procrastinating does not mean doing absolutely nothing. Procrastinators seldom do absolutely nothing; they do marginally useful things, like gardening or sharpening pencils or making a diagram of how they will reorganize their files...when they get around to it. That reminds me...

- The two rules of procrastination are: 1) Do it today. 2) Tomorrow will be today tomorrow.
- After all, according to Don Marquis, procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.
- Alternatively, if anything is worth doing, it would have been done already.
- Historically, only Robinson Crusoe had everything done by Friday. (I just had to slip that last one in.)

So there you are. Personally, my philosophy is if it weren't for the last minute, I wouldn't get anything done. Which reminds me, I've got to get this to Jan right away...and then go sharpen some pencils.

Best Wishes,

*Mike*

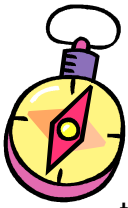
**P.S: 34 PVSers have not yet paid their dues.**

## Monthly Meeting at the Waddick's

**Tuesday, September 18  
at 7:30 PM**

**1605 N. Howard St.  
Alexandria, VA 22304  
703-751-3143**





## Directions to Waddick's:

**Take Shirley Highway (I-395 inside the Beltway) to Exit 4, Seminary Rd East.** Proceed about 0.6 miles east on Seminary Rd (four traffic lights) to N. Howard St and turn **left** (Hospital will be on the right at this intersection). The second house on the **right** on N. Howard St. is the Waddick's (1605 N Howard St). Park in the driveway or drive past the house to the first street, Maple Tree Court. Turn **right** into Maple Tree Court and park on the street. (Maple Tree Court is a cul-de-sac with public street parking.)

## Changes

Jessma Blockwick - add 'Apt 185' to mailing address

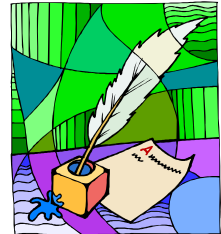
Dave Callaway - new e-mail address = [dscal@comcast.net](mailto:dscal@comcast.net)

Gail Pease - corrected e-mail address = [gailp14926@aol.com](mailto:gailp14926@aol.com)

Jackie Rosen - New address = 801 N. Howard St., Apt. 349, Alexandria, VA 22304  
(New home telephone number will be provided)

Dottie Villers - New address = 2520 Farrier Lane, Reston, VA 20191  
New home telephone number = 703-476-9259 (H)

Barbara and Jonathan Wilson - new e-mail address = [bwilsonmd@embarq.com](mailto:bwilsonmd@embarq.com)



## Welcome New Applicant Members

Paralee White  
595 S. Green Valley Parkway #322  
Henderson, NV 89012  
202-255-8265  
[pariwhite@msn.com](mailto:pariwhite@msn.com)  
sponsored by the DeVilbiss'

Sherri and Tom McKenna  
1431 Fallsmead Way  
Rockville, MD 20854  
301-424-2328  
[Mckennt3@comcast.net](mailto:Mckennt3@comcast.net)  
sponsored by the Strand's

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## **PVS Membership Renewal, 1 July 2007 – 30 June 2009**

For those of you who have not renewed your biennial PVS membership, which expired 30 June 2007, I urge you to renew as soon as possible. A Membership Renewal Application and Personal Information Sheet were transmitted to you on 1 July 2007, either electronically or by USPS, depending upon your request. A reminder also was sent in early August concerning membership renewal.

PVS By-laws stipulate the following in Section II, D: '...Any member whose dues have not been paid within four months of their due date shall be dropped from the rolls of the club.' This means that if your dues are not paid by 31 October 2007, you will be dropped from the rolls of PVS. Please act quickly so that you can continue to qualify for PVS ski trips, meetings, events, Hotline, and TOOT.

Thank you,

Dave Warthen (PVS Membership Records)

## PVS' FIRST LADY IS HONORED AS A ROLE MODEL

Our own **Eloise Strand** was one of six Montgomery County residents who were honored recently with the county's 2007 Path of Achievement Award in recognition of her many years providing outstanding community service. Eloise, who began volunteering as a bereavement counselor at Montgomery Hospice in 1985, was elected to the organization's Board of Directors in 1995, and served as its chairperson from 1999 to 2001. She was elected a Life Member of the Board in 2002, and she continues to serve on the Nominating Committee and as a bereavement volunteer.

That's not all. Her volunteer activities include serving as a guide at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, assisting the Montgomery County Food Network with administrative services, and working in thrift shops in support of the American Cancer Society and the Humane Society.

Not generally known in club circles is that this civic-minded lady retired from the Army as a colonel, having served as the first African American Chief of the Army Medical Specialists Corps with oversight responsibility for all occupational and physical therapists and dieticians worldwide.



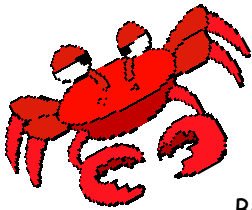
The award bestowed upon our first lady is reserved for county residents at least 60 years old and having benefited our citizenry with extraordinary accomplishments, enthusiasm, and commitment to their community.

We congratulate Eloise and thank her for her most valuable contributions benefiting folks and critters in need.

We're also glad that we finally know more about this great role model in our midst. **Right-on young lady!!!**

David G. Abraham

### Coming Events



## CRABFEST

**Saturday Sept 8, at 4:00PM**

**Rain or Shine**

This popular event will take place again at Betty Lawrence's home in Vienna, VA

Betty orders bushels of crabs. And the rest of us bring salads or desserts.

If you wish, you also can bring "uncrabby" food that can be grilled (grill provided).

**RSVP** Betty by Tuesday Sept 4th or so. (703) 319-1860 or [lizl@verizon.net](mailto:lizl@verizon.net)

(Small fee for beverages, etc. and market price of crabs)

**Parking:** Street parking available (SAFETY NOTE: Please have every person get out of the car on the street side due to deep culverts, no sidewalks, and no shoulders OR drop off any passengers in the circular driveway in front of the house.)

**Directions:** Easiest (\$1 toll): Take Dulles Toll Rd (Rte 267) 5.5 miles west from the Beltway to Hunter Mill Rd. exit 14; turn **left** (south) onto Hunter Mill Rd. (Rte 674) and follow it (you will have to make a **left** turn after 1/3 mile to remain on Hunter Mill Rd. at T) 3.4 miles to Vale Rd. --(Rte 672). Turn **left** on Vale Rd and proceed 1/5 mile to Trott Ave and turn **left** and then take next **right** (one block) onto Woodrow St. Proceed one block to corner of Woodrow St. and Gerken Ave. Betty's house is on the corner.

NOTE safety concerns above.

**Alternative:** Take Rte. I-66 to Nutley St North Exit and proceed 1.1 miles (crossing Rte.123-Maple Ave) until it ends at Malcolm Rd. Turn **left** on Malcolm Rd (Rte 672) and remain on it when it changes name to Vale Rd (remains Rte. 672). After proceeding about one mile, turn **right** onto Trott Ave and then take next **right** (one block) onto Woodrow St. Proceed one block to corner of Woodrow St. and Gerken Ave. Betty's house is on the corner.

NOTE safety concerns above.



## BLUE KNOB

### Tenth Annual Fall Foliage Weekend Sat – Mon, Oct 6-7-8, 2006



**WHERE:** Betty Lawrence's lodge at Blue Knob, PA

**LOTS TO DO:** Hiking from her lodge – long and short walks. By car, visit flea markets, RR museum, Johnstown Flood museum, a spa, and antique stores. Serious eating, hot tubbing, partying, and lots of laughs.

**COST:** Approximately \$15/person/night, two-night minimum.

Accommodations limited

**EATS TO BRING:** We eat in so....Betty will assign you to part of one dinner, some lunch stuff, or snacks.

**CONTACT:** Betty Lawrence 703-319-1860 [lizl@verizon.net](mailto:lizl@verizon.net)



## CHILI HIKE

Sat Nov 10 1:30 PM  
Great Falls Park, VA

This is the 21st anniversary of the PVS Chili Hike and it will be held on Saturday, November 4. Meet at 1:30 PM at the Great Falls Visitor's Center, Virginia side.

After hiking through the gorgeous wilderness along the river and the falls just a few miles from the White House, we'll have a hot and not-so-hot chili supper at Ray and Nancy McKinley's house. The fall foliage should be perfect!

All are welcome to hike (but call to sign up so that we don't miss anyone) but space for chili is limited.

**Call** Ray or Nancy at (703) 527-7126 to sign up for hiking and/or to reserve a place at the chili supper and also to sign up to bring an appetizer, salad or dessert. Cost for supper will be about \$8.

**We hope You will Join us!**



## Oktoberfest Volunteer Needed

Due to schedule conflicts, Pat Vagonis and Margaret Wyckoff cannot host Oktoberfest this year.

We need a volunteer for this always fun PVS event.

Please call Ray McKinley, Program Chair, at (703) 527-7126 for more information.

The projected date is the first weekend in November, but other dates are possible"

*Food and drink notes from previous years can be provided to assist you.*



# SNOWMASS

SNOWMASS 2008

January 17 through 24

**Needed** = one male to share a room.

*Hurry! This may be a last chance to stay at our much loved Snowmass Mountain Chalet. Recent purchase by a large developer will make major changes with new construction and concept within the next two years.*

- Join us for this perennial favorite-- slopeside skiing at Snowmass with interchangeable lift tickets and free bus service to Aspen Highlands, Ajax Mountain, and Buttermilk ski areas, more than 5,000 acres of skiing. Direct access to 3,100 acres of Snowmass slopes is just outside the door.
- We will stay once again at the charming and friendly Snowmass Mountain Chalet to enjoy the convenience of slopeside lodging served by the welcoming Mountain Chalet staff. Lodging 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.
- The trip will include group dinners, après-ski parties, and other activities available in the Aspen environs.
- Approximate trip cost is \$1,900, details to be announced when air transport is arranged.

For more information:

Contact trip leaders Carolyn Maurer and David DeVilbiss at 703-370-4865 or by e-mail at [Carolyn.maurer@verizon.net](mailto:Carolyn.maurer@verizon.net).

To reserve:

*Call to be placed on the Waitlist.*

Carolyn Maurer at 4508 Peacock Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304

- Note "PVS-Snowmass 2008" on the memo line.

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Bulgaria

## Last Call to Ski and See the Balkans with PVS



Slovenia

**Sunday, March 2 through Thursday, March 13, 2008**

Sign-up for this unique trip, which visits the European region where eastern and western cultures merge, closes on 20 September. The trip goes first to Sofia, Bulgaria, where we overnight in the 4-star Hotel Sofia Princess (breakfast included). The next day we tour the Bulgarian capital before transferring late in the afternoon by bus to the 5-star Kempinski Grand Arena in Bansko at the gondola station (breakfast and dinner included). After four nights and three days skiing (elective day tours available to Rila Monastery, town of Bansko, and other sites), we return to Sofia and fly to Ljubljana, Slovenia. We overnight in Ljubljana in the 4-star Grand Hotel Union (breakfast included), then tour the Slovenian capital city the following day. Late in the afternoon we transfer by bus to Kransjka Gora to the slopeside 4-star Hotel Miklic (breakfast and dinner included). After four nights/three days skiing (elective tours available to Lake Bled and other local sites) we return by bus to Ljubljana for the flight home.

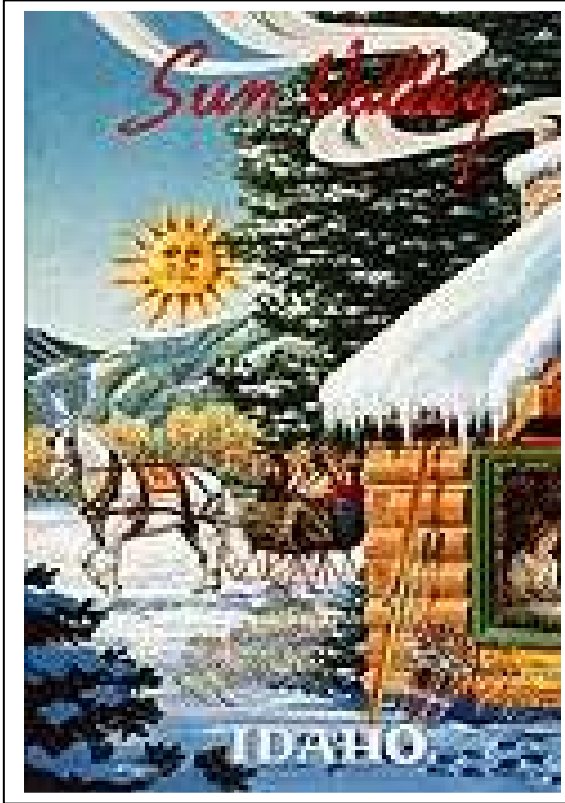
Total Price \$2,900 (double occupancy) *includes* all air and bus transportation, city tours of Sofia and Ljubljana, 4/5-star hotels with meals as indicated above, plus pre-trip party, portage of baggage, and post-trip party. (Price based on exchange rate of \$1.33 US to Euro). Single supplement of \$313 based on single room availability. The package price *does not include* lunches, lift tickets, ski equipment rental, elective tours, or Medical Insurance and Trip Cancellation/Interruption Insurance.

**We have a nice enthusiastic group of skiers and can take additional participants only until September 20<sup>th</sup>.**

Contact Marianne or Kerry Hines at 540-364-4810 or

by e-mail at [mchines@erols.com](mailto:mchines@erols.com) or [klhines@erols.com](mailto:klhines@erols.com).

## WOW! Feb 9-16, 2008, join Nancy and Ray McKinley to Ski World-Renowned



*If Sun Valley were a person, it would be a Renaissance man – worldly but capable of being down to earth, equally accomplished in sports and culture, broad in interests, sophisticated in tastes. But, Sun Valley is America's original destination ski resort, an enduringly beloved Idaho enclave that's "as classy as any mountain out there, and without the Bogner bling." Known for its long steady-pitched groomers (perfect for raising World Cupper Picabo Street), its lack of crowds ("forgot what a lift line was!"), its opulent on-mountain lodges and its celebrity-studded history, Sun Valley has won over skiing's well-traveled visitors for decades. It has sunshine and a top-flight lift network, an authentic Old West town with metro-quality cuisine, sagebrush vistas and a friendly and easygoing vibe. The resort's facilities are appropriate for couples, aspiring starlets and global financiers.*

*Sun Valley's expansive slopes work for virtually everyone. "All the skiing you can handle in a vacation," says one fan. In fact, Sun Valley and adjacent Ketchum draw people back again and again. They return to sit in the sun over lunch at the Round House, to dance down funnel-shaped bowls and ride the mountain as surfers ride big waves. Some come back to glide through their turns and take it easy. Others return to bend in to the mountain and feel the burn. They come back for free cookies after breakfast at the Kneadery and for après at divey Apples. They come back to eat fresh trout amid the rosy chintz and fine china of Gretchen;s at the Sun Valley Lodge or to float in natural hot springs. "There is an incredible amount to do other than ski."*

*The Sun Valley Lodge, where we'll stay, was built with every amenity a skier could imagine. Complete with a outdoor pool and Sun Valley's famous outdoor ice rink and Terrace. Guests enjoy Gretchen's Restaurant, the elegant Lodge Dining Room, the Eddie Duchin Lounge, Spa, Exercise Room, bowling alley and game room. Re-live the luxurious accommodations enjoyed by Clark Gable, Erol Flynn and Lucile Ball, with the unmatched service of a bygone era.*

Our complete trip cost is \$2,157. This includes pre and post trip parties, 3 dinners, lodging, air fare and lift tickets. Land only cost is \$1,681, the single supplement is \$856. Non-skiers cost \$1,896. We have only limited space. To reserve a spot on this memorable trip, send your check for \$1,630 per person to Ray McKinley at 2326 N Upton Street, Arlington, VA 22207. Please call us for more information at (703) 527-7126.

### Past Event

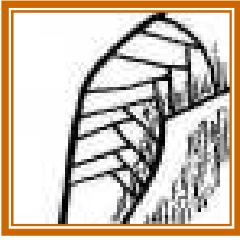


### *Fun with the Brits at the Old Time Music Hall*

*by Bob Knopes*

Twenty-three PVSers attended the 43rd British Players Old Time Music Hall held at Kensington Town Hall on June 27. Before the program, we all sang lustily from song sheets provided, helped along by carafes of wine and bottles of beer provided by friendly barmaids. The lively program of skits, songs, dances, and spoofs mixed British and American songs and humor. There was scarcely a break in the program as the talented cast kept us laughing, clapping, and tapping our feet. After the last number, the appreciative audience brought the cast back for five encores.

We thank **Betty Lawrence**, who organized this wonderful PVS outing.



# THE KNEE

by Ray McKinley

Gosh, an entire month off! Now what is it that I'm supposed to be doing? Ah, yes, a gossip column. I believe it's called the Elbow. Do you know what that is? It's the Spanish term for the front of the boat. The back of the boat is El Sterno, which is also a homonym for the small can with fire in it.

No, that's all incorrect. The Knee is feeling a bit disjointed. And I promise not to ankle for any more body parts. Even though it may be dis-arming, I'll head it off. I may also be sticking my neck out. Wait! We don't kneed this.

It's September. We've made it through the summer's wretched excesses of heat and humidity. Although to be perfectly honest with you (and the Knee is always perfectly honest), this summer wasn't all that bad. Let's ski!

At the end of August, at the request of Pres Mike Strand, PVS held its first ever Conference Call ExCom meeting. The meeting went OK, but trying to pass the food and drinks through the telephone's mouthpieces tended to clog the conversation.

The previous ExCom, held at Treasurer Dick Laeser's lovely Reston waterfront home, was very lightly attended. Several hours before meeting on a hot July eve, Dick sent out a hot e-mail saying dress coolly as the air conditioning is broken. Thus, only a few stalwarts showed up. But luckily the repairman had been there and fixed the problem. Cool!

If you visit the Laesers, don't forget to see the three-foot-long, cut throat trout on the wall. Dick caught it two summers ago off their deck in Reston's Lake Thoreau. It's absolutely true. The Knee would never pull your leg—but I might pull other parts of your body.

Pat Vagonis and family spent a week in August in a house rental in one of my favorite cities, Santa Fe, NM. They had a great time. Pat says, it's Santa Fe, all the way!

In local ski area news, Liberty "Mountain" plans its earliest opening ever. They hope to open on September 21. This is if they can get the ice making machine going.

Nudes on Ice: According to AP and Marvin Hass, Hundreds of naked people formed

a "living sculpture" on Switzerland's *Aletsch* glacier on August 18th, hoping to raise awareness about climate change. Apparently most Swiss glaciers will disappear by 2080 if global warming continues at its current pace. Afterwards, several of the participants were hospitalized suffering from the rare diseases, "frozen buns," and "frostbitten tush."

*This item has meat in it:* On a trip to Montana, Mary Ward and Jim Slack saw a really u-kneek bumper sticker. "Vegetables isn't food—vegetables is what food eats." There's nothing to beef about there.

Recently, Gene Sharer was in a minor fender bender accident with his late model Mercedes. (Which, incidentally, cost over \$6,000 to repair.) On arriving home Gene told Wilma, "That's the way the Mercedes Bends."

Looking for the perfect ski home? Marvin Hass has found the perfect place. At \$135 million, Hala Ranch, just northwest of downtown Aspen, is the most expensive single-family residential property for sale in the nation. At 56,000 square feet, Hala is bigger than the White House, with a staff of 12. It has 15 bedrooms, 16 baths, a private barbershop and beauty salon just off the master suite and enough space for a party of 450 people. Carolyn Maurer-DeVilbiss thinks PVS should dip into our treasury and buy it, to be used for our club house. Kneet!

It's membership time, don't forget to renew yours. To help you with this, next month, the Knee will again provide poetknee. In the meantime, Marianne Cook called the Knee with a membership question. Marianne said, I'm too old to be an "Active Member." Could I just become a passive member? Unfortunately, no.

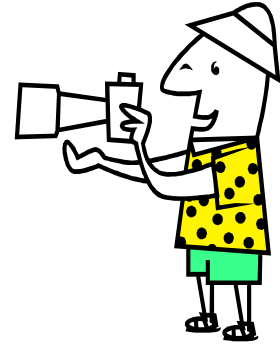
*I'll have to peddle this one for you:* This last summer was the summer to bicycle in Eastern Europe. In July, Cara and Bob Jablon took an extensive bike trip through the Czech Republic, Germany and Austria. The trip was so long, that Bob Jablon grew a chrome plated handlebar moustache.

Two weeks later Liz Warren-Boulton and Joe Jevcak did some serious peddling around Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia. They also toured some other parts of the Balkans.

Last month Jim Slack and Mary Ward, along with Maryann Rozzell and Dick and Rosemary Schwartzbard visited Mike and Eloise Strand at their Wintergreen home. The skiing conditions were poor, only 1 run was open and it was slushy. But they were open before Liberty!!

## Calendar

|      |              |     |                                       |
|------|--------------|-----|---------------------------------------|
| Sept | 8            | Sat | Crabfest at Betty Lawrence's          |
| Sept | 18           | Tue | Monthly Meeting at Waddick's          |
| Sept | 25           | Tue | ExCom at Strand's                     |
| Sept | 29           | Sat | Blue Ridge Ski Council Meeting        |
| Oct  | <b>6-7-8</b> |     | <b>Blueknob Fall-Foliage-Get-Away</b> |
| Oct  | 16           | Tue | Monthly Meeting at Jablon's           |
| Oct  | 23           | Tue | ExCom at DeVilbiss'                   |
| Nov  | 10           | Sat | Chili Hike                            |
| Nov  | 20           | Tue | Ski Gear Info Meeting                 |
| Nov  | 27           | Tue | ExCom at Marx'                        |



## Ski Trips -- 2008

Snowmass - January 17-24 -- Carolyn Maurer  
Sun Valley - February 9-16 - Nancy and Ray McKinley  
Balkans - March 2-13 - Marianne and Kerry Hines



Jan and Bob Marx  
8312 Oakford Dr.  
Springfield, VA 22152