

President's Message

SKIING AND FOOD

Persuading others to act positively – that is, to act as you want them to - is a most difficult task. One tried and true method is bribery. *See* <u>Jerry Bock</u>, *Fiorello: A Little Tin Box*, reporting on Tammany Hall's getting its members to save money by having them place donations into tin boxes. As I have relayed previously, I grew up in an environment where people did not purposely attach boards to their feet to go down snow laden, or worse rock laden, slopes. Cara bribed me to ski by offering savory meals at restaurants close to nearby ski mountains.

Cara began by taking me skiing near Manchester, Vermont, at Stratton Mountain. Even after I discovered that the only way I knew to stop was by falling, Cara found a way to get me to return, using the enticement of a striking, purple, Manchester restaurant called the *Reluctant Panther*. When she took me there after my first day of skiing at Stratton, having just gotten off the slopes, we were dressed – a mess.

A young wisp of a girl, the daughter of the owners answered the door, maybe she was twelve. I said that we had three questions: could the restaurant take us for dinner as we were, could it take us now (we had to drive back to Albany, New York) and could it take a check (this was before the common use of credit cards). She responded yes to one and three, but she had to check on two. We waited for her answer with anticipation. She said, "Yes." We had the best gourmet meal that I had ever had.

The restaurant, off the main street in Manchester, was and remained a gem. But after the owners' daughter grew up and the owners, the Cornells sold the restaurant, the restaurant remained good, but it became less special. Looking at Open Table now, with a more recent chef, the *Reluctant Panther* looks as if it has reverted to being different, unique and gourmet. It states that it serves fresh local food to those who will wait for the panther, who, legend has it, is reluctant to come down from the mountain to meet people, but does so when given sufficient incentives. Those going to Mount Snow or Southern Vermont may want to give the *Reluctant Panther* a try.

Another strong Vermont recommendation is the *Chanticleer* in East Dorset. If you have to wait, a quintessential Vermont doll house and toy store is nearby. The *Chanticleer* has the feel of a classic Vermont restaurant. It serves hard to find, old fashioned, plentiful Duck à 1 'Orange and mouthwatering rack of lamb. Again, if you are going to Mount Snow (or even Bethesda, but the drive would be longer), the *Chanticleer* is worth a trip.

Many are going to Snowmass. The *Little Mammoth Steak House*, up the stairs from the Snowmass Chalet at the end of the mall, has large, succulent steaks. You've been skiing. You deserve it. Although the steaks are truly excellent, one of our members was turned off by the restaurant's having cooled red wine, but you can't have everything. The *Little Mammoth* is a treat.

Il Poggio, an Italian restaurant behind the mall, is also very good. The fish is recommended. *Venga Venga* also just up the stairs from the hotel (conveniently past the infirmary) is informal and good. Cara attests the quality of the Margaritas (that is a plural). I recommend the Carne Asada.

In Aspen at the *J-Bar* at the *Hotel Jerome*, one gets history plus a good lunch – well worthwhile.

I know nothing other than TripAdvisor about Big Sky Restaurants, but if you are in Taos, do arrange to eat at the *Hotel St Bernard* at the base of the mountain. The meals are preset, planned by the owner and chef each night, and outstanding. They are worth it. You get not only dinner, but also history from contemporaries of the mountain's founders. Bookings in advance or great charm (*i.e.*, hanging around and judiciously pleading for an opening) are

necessary to get in because tables are reserved first for hotel guests. Lunches are also recommended during which you can plead to get in for dinner.

When getting to Taos through Santa Fe go to the *Coyote Café*. The restaurant is downtown near the Plaza. Founded by Mark Miller, formerly of the *Red Sage* in D.C., the *Coyote Café* is one of the best restaurants, anywhere.

At Park City, you cannot beat *Chimayo*, uniquely Southwestern and very good. Also, *Yuki Yama*, a Japanese restaurant, as I remember and the reviews attest, is well recommended. Unfortunately, Robert Redford's Zoom has closed. You need to get to special restaurants when you can.

In Steamboat Springs, just off the slopes, *Café Diva* is very, very special serving French, gourmet food. And every once in a while when you get there late, a wine seller is promoting wines and offering wine tastings to those at neighboring tables. We have been so advantaged.

I close on Pittsburgh. If you take John Smith up on his extended multi-day ski options, the best steak I have had may have been at *Meat and Potatoes*; the best Seafood combination is at *Eleven*. Pittsburgh restaurants are a good incentive to go to Seven Springs for skiing or just to visit Pittsburgh.

That is all for now. Other free recommendations for restaurants near ski areas will be supplied on request.

--Bob Jablon

Addendum to President's Message – Local Activities and Events

John Smith has been successfully coordinating local day ski trips for many years. John also plans an informal system under which he would disseminate information about local music and other events and invite interested PVS members to join him.

Later in this TOOT, John has a proposal in which he recommends and offers to coordinate extended local ski trips. These would be more informal than our extended ski trips. John's proposal can expand PVS skiing (and perhaps restaurants and sightseeing opportunities). Those who have an interest in having this opportunity should inform John so that he can organize potential trips. Extended local trips could be combined with tourist activities, such as visits to the Wright architectural houses, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, etc. Others may have ideas for local outings in which PVS members may be interested. Examples would include cultural events, plays, concerts, hiking and biking, museums, and the like. We hold many such events now, for example, theater trips such as *Pajama Game*, hikes, and local concerts such as the *Eclipse Recital*.

Any who have suggestions for events and trips that they want (or are willing) to lead should please inform any member of ExCom, who will then also inform the Events and Meetings co-chairs. If a proposal is approved as an appropriate PVS event, we shall publicize it in the TOOT, if there is time, or by email. Of course, nothing prevents club members from jointly participating in events, but where it is desired to have an event open to all club members, subject to space limitations, we would be pleased to facilitate communications among club members.

NOVEMBER MEETING

Sunday, November 12, from 6pm-8pm

Sun and Ski 6280 Seven Corners Ctr. Falls Church, VA 22044-2407

See details on Page 4

IN MEMORIAM GERDA M. PICCO

Gerda Picco, a four-year member of Potomac Valley Skiers and long-time member before then of Capital Golden Skiers, died peacefully at her home surrounded by family on October 4, 2017. She suffered for a short time with pancreatic cancer.

Gerda was a founding member of Capital Golden Skiers and hosted meetings at her home. She also hosted bridge there once a month until chronic back pain forced her to cancel. She insisted that it was not the members who were "a pain in the back." Gerda also joined a number of ski trips out West with the club. Her warmth, hospitality, generosity, and good cheer were appreciated by all.

Gerda was born in Cleveland, Ohio, and came to Washington DC after graduating from college and never left. Her career included working as a mathematician for the Propulsion and Power Division of the Naval Air Systems Command. She was a pioneer in the formulation and use of computational methods in the design, development, and performance prediction of the engines in our modern-day turbine powered aircraft. She was also active in many organizations -- her garden club, the Widowed Persons Group, the ski club, and her golf group. She was a devoted member of The United Church, made desserts for the annual fall sale, and was the coordinator for the Trichur Project in India.

She married John Picco in 1971. John died in 1991. She is survived by a brother, sister, several nieces and nephews, and a family of grandchildren, great grand-children and great, great grand-children!



A number of ski club friends (Inge Lesjak, Paul Levy, Don Vierimaa, Blanca Hotaling, Bob Kramer, John and Gisela Storm) shared memories of her time with both clubs and as her friends. The following is a compilation of some of their comments:

Gerda provided her home for Board meetings of the Capital Golden Skiers and for bridge nights, providing coffee, tea and snacks (and, sometimes "two buck chuck" wine!). She always had a smiling face and warm, personal greeting for everyone. Her house was always neat, clean and decorated with fine taste. She was someone who could make anyone comfortable. Although we knew she suffered from back problems, she did not complain nor did it affect her smile. She never spoke an unkind word about anyone. She was quiet, elegant, did everything well, and was just plain nice, a true lady. She will be missed by all who knew her and will remain in our hearts forever.

Submitted by Marianne Soponis

Hey, hey, have you heard the latest about ski equipment?



PVS has missed our yearly visit to learn what is new at the ski areas and with the equipment.

Our SKI TALK creator, Rosemary, has arranged to have our November meeting at the Sun&Ski store where we will hear about the latest trend in skis, boots, goggles, and other noteworthy gear.

Even if you aren't looking for new equipment, come and get acquainted with the store, meet some of the staff, and join in the discussion.

Sun&Ski is offering our group 10% off any purchases and 25% off any service work if they'd like to drop off any equipment for service that night as well for pick up at a later date.

Sunday, November 12, from 6pm-8pm

6280 Seven Corners Ctr Falls Church, VA 22044-2407 Phone: 703-521-1700

The store is located in the Seven Corners Shopping Center in Falls Church, which is at the intersection of Route 7 (Leesburg Pike) and Route 50 (Arlington Blvd.). It is on the lower level (Rt. 50 side) and has plenty of parking in front of the store.

There will be no \$3.00 door fee for this meeting.

We will have snacks and beverages available, and short meeting before the main event.





Coming Event

Come join PVS and see the Tony-award-winning musical

The Pajama Game!



On Wednesday, December 13 at 12:00 PM

Set at the Sleep-Tite Pajama Factory, this toe-tapping musical show is a classic - a comedic love story that gets steamy as the new male factory superintendent locks horns with Babe, the trouble-making head of the union grievance committee. Sparks fly and ignite an outrageous battle of the sexes when a workers' strike pits management against labor. Packed with seductive dance numbers like "Steam Heat" and "Hernando's Hideaway," The Pajama Game is sure to give us a delightful musical afternoon as the holiday season gets under way.

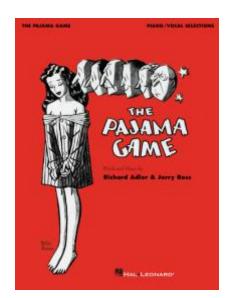
Called a "Golden Age Musical," this performance is at the Arena Stage at the waterfront in D.C. at 1101 6th Street SW just a block from the Waterfront METRO stop. Parking is available at the theater if reserved in advance or at other nearby locations at a discounted price.

After the show those who are interested may join us for a late lunch/early supper at a nearby restaurant.

Tickets are \$54 per person, non-refundable group rate.

We have sold our original batch of tickets to other PVSers. We may be able to get additional tickets. So don't delay!

If you're interested, first please contact Nancy McKinley ASAP at 703 595 8375 or by email at nancymckin@gmail.com. Then pop your check in the mail made out to Nancy McKinley and send to 1805 Crystal Drive #813, Arlington, VA 22202. Also, please note if you expect to join us to eat after the show.



SKI TALK NOVEMBER 2017



We are happy to report that we have formed a new alliance with a local ski shop. **Sun and Ski**, which was formerly Ski Chalet, is hosting our November meeting. Mark your calendars to join us at their Falls Church store for a meeting and information on the latest ski gear on **Sunday**, **November 12**, **from 6:00pm to 8:00pm**. See the flier elsewhere in this TOOT. During this meeting we will meet the staff and get discounts on ski clothes, ski gear and services. We are hoping to have a good turnout at this event. Please plan to attend.

The Blue Ridge Ski Council (BRSC) is an umbrella organization of 29 ski clubs in the Mid-Atlantic area. The Council meets two times a year and representatives of each club attend. The fall meeting this year was at Tysons Corner, on September 30. Barry Lake, Tom Tycz and I attended. The primary business of the meeting was to choose the vendors for the 2019 BRSC ski trips. The following were voted on:

2019 Western Carnival, Sun Valley, Idaho. February 2-9.

Sports America Tours, Encompass, and Sport Tours each gave 15-minute presentations. **Effic Rubinstein at Sport Tours won the bid**. She under bid the other vendors and was thrilled to win. She reports that The Lodge at Sun Valley has been updated.

2019 Eurofest, Val Di Fassa, Italy, March 8-16.

While Val Gardenia was supposed to be the destination in 2019, two of the vendors proposed staying down the valley at Val Di Fassa, which is also on the Sella Ronda. Sports America came to the meeting with an Italian couple who just moved to Florida and who are from the Val Di Fassa area. He is a ski instructor and will be accompanying the trip. **Sports America won the bid** with Val Di Fassa and the Italian guides!

2019 Winterfest, Sunday River, Maine, March 3-8.

Joe Ferrara of Banchi Outdoor Adventures runs the local trips.

Spring 2018 Ski Show.

The Paul Weber Spring Ski Show will be on Friday evening, May 4, at the Marriott Tysons Corner. Mark you calendars.

2018 PVS Trips:

Please see fliers in this TOOT and sign up for Snowmass or Big Sky. Also, let us know if you have interest going to Mt. Snow, Vermont. This would be a perfect way to end the ski season.

Rosemary Schwartzbard rosemaryschw@gmail.com

LOCAL SKIING AND BEYOND

During ski seasons, we currently have and are continuing a program of daily, local ski trips. In addition, if there is member interest, PVS could consider making opportunities available for local skiing a bit further away from Whitetail and Liberty mountains, such as Wisp, Seven Springs, Hidden Valley or other more distant, but still relatively close, areas too far for day trips. Note: at Wisp those who are over 70 years old, ski free; at Hidden Valley those over 70 ski for half price and those over 80 ski free. One ticket is good at Seven Springs, Hidden Valley, and Laurel Mountain, allowing us to visit multiple areas. We could add non-skiing events, such as the Frank Lloyd Wright houses, Pittsburgh sites, restaurants, and the like.

We could go to one or two of the further away "local areas," staying at lodges on selected mountains. Convenient arrangements ought to be possible midweek. If there is interest, PVS could coordinate lodge and carpool arrangements. If you may want to participate, please contact John Smith (301-299-8376) or at johnhsmith@juno.com. If there is sufficient interest, we shall look further into possible arrangements, logistics, and costs.

Proposed Ski Trip

New *New* *New*

PROPOSAL FOR SKI TRIP TO MT. SNOW, VERMONT

March 18-24, 2018

If interested, please let us know by the end of November



This is an opportunity to ski at Mt. Snow, Vermont, with Alice McNulty and Dick Lau who have been skiing there for years. This is a beautiful mountain with a total acreage of 589. The base elevation is 1,900 feet; with a summit elevation of 3,600 feet; and vertical drop of 1,700 feet. There are twenty lifts and tree terrain available on all four mountain faces. The percentage of terrain for different abilities is: 14% green, 73% blue and 13% black.

HOTEL: We would stay at the ski-in/out **Grand Summit Hotel**. It has an exercise room, pool and spa.

LIFT TICKETS: Senior 4-day midweek \$140; senior 5-day midweek \$170. People might want to get the 4-day and ski at Stratton Mountain one day. It's about a 45-minute drive.

PROPOSED DATES: Proposed dates March 18-24 to provide 5 full days of skiing.

TRAVEL FROM DC: Air: Flights from Dulles to Hartford on United are 1.5 hours and are \$199-\$169 depending on whether you fly Sunday or Monday.

Transportation to the resort from Bradley Airport (Hartford) to Mount Snow is provided by Thomas Transportation in a private van for about \$41-\$46/per person depending on whether we would need a trailer for skis and baggage.

ESTIMATED COST: The **estimated** cost would be approximately \$900:

Airfare \$200

Airport transfer \$84.

Room approximately \$400 (per person/shared).

Senior midweek lift ticket (5 days) \$170.

No meals included but we will try to set up a welcome wine and cheese party. We will also check with the hotel (or other local restaurants) for a farewell dinner and the cost.

I have been skiing at Mount Snow for almost 25 years. It really has something for everyone in terms of terrain, and each year the snowmaking gets better and better - so there are virtually no gaps. Dick Lau and I would be happy to ski with anyone and show you the mountain. West Dover and Wilmington are charming, postcard VT towns with some excellent restaurants. There is also the possibility of a moonlight sleigh ride (weather permitting), snowmobiling, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing.

If interested, let me know by the end of November

Alice McNulty

Email: mcnulty@optonline.net

With a copy to:

rosemaryschw@gmail.com



Potomac Valley Skiers

2018 Snowmass, Colorado Ski Trip

Wednesday, January 10-Wednesday, January 17

Looking for a Male Roommate!

Trip Details

Once again, we will be staying at the Snowmass Mountain Chalet (SMC), which offers a convenient ski in, ski out location. Check the web site at http://www.mountainchalet.com. The "Land Only" package includes: transportation to and from Aspen airport (7am -11pm); 5-day Senior lift pass (good for all four ski areas in the Aspen complex, free shuttle bus) with option for extra days; 7 nights lodging (double occupancy); daily breakfasts; daily soup lunch; luggage handling; a welcome reception; an "all guest" hotel sponsored party; a pizza party and a farewell group dinner to celebrate our trip. Additional nights at Snowmass are an option based on availability. Trip insurance is available through Encompasse Tours and is highly suggested. For trail information, check http://www.aspensnowmass.com.

The basic package at \$1,630 includes a lift pass discount for skiers 65 and over. Skiers under 65 will have to add \$93.00.

Costs:		Price
Basic Snowmass Package (65 and older)	\$1,630
Under 65	add	\$ 93
Single Supplement	add	\$1,044
Extra hotel night (pending availability)	add	\$ 310 per room per night
Non-skiers	deduct	\$ 224
Extra ski days (65 and older)	add	\$ 65 for a 6-day Senior pass
	add	\$ 110 for a 7-day Senior pass
Under 65	add	\$ 172 for a 6-day pass
Silver Pass (70+ skiing 8 or more days)	add	\$ 196

NOTE: The Silver Pass is available for skiers 70 and older for an additional \$196. If you are over 70 and plan to ski 8 or more days, you should buy the Silver Pass.

Payment Schedule

Final payment is due immediately.

To sign up please send:

- (1) the Application form -- one per person or one per couple residing at the same address
- (2) a Deposit of \$300 per person and/or your payment due, and
- (3) the signed Waiver of Liability Agreement by each party taking the trip

Checks should be made out to **Kathy Lake** and mailed to 11677 Fox Glen Drive, Oakton VA 22124 (put PVS Snowmass 2018 on the check memo line).

Kathy and Barry Lake are the trip leaders. For an application and more information, please contact us at 703-625-2715 or kathylakehomes@yahoo.com



The Potomac Valley Skiers invite you to ski Big Sky Montana

February 14 - 21, 2018



Come ski with us at Big Sky, Montana

When: February 14 - 21, 2018

What: 5 day ski pass, 7 nights lodging at The Huntley Lodge (ski-in ski-out), with hot and cold breakfast buffet daily, roundtrip air from IAD including coach from Bozeman to Big Sky. The price includes welcome party, Happy Hours, at least one dinner - not to forget the great company and fun!

Price: \$2,350 per person

We are staying in Queen Rooms at the Huntley Lodge incl. many amenities and within walking distance to lifts and restaurants. We have 1 vacancy for a male skier so bring your friend for a great week!

If you are not a member and want to secure a place on the trip we do recommend you join our Club.

Deadline for registration/final payment is 15th November.

For further questions please contact Inge Lesjak lesjak.inge@gmail.com



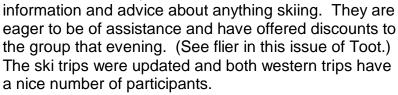
October Meeting

Look there --- it must be Melissa's house. The mailbox has a peanut balloon tied to it that says "Have A Nutty Party" in honor of her SIGNIFICANT birthday last week.

Melissa welcomed twenty-one of us to her Reston home on one of our perfectweather-in-October days. She served an array of interesting choices of food to enjoy: salmon, chicken salad, pizza, couscous salad, shrimp, melon, and an assortment of cheeses. All tasty.

This daytime meeting welcomed far-away Marylanders, Liz and Serge Triau, Marsha and Dave Warthen, and June Read.

Everyone adjourned to the family room downstairs for our business meeting. Events were discussed and it was pointed out that Nancy McKinley can probably obtain more tickets for *Pajama Game* at Arena Stage on Dec 13th if those interested call her soon. The club is excited about the November meeting at Sun and Ski (formerly Ski Chalet on Columbia Pike). S&S can be our resource for



We all thanked Melissa for hosting and she thanked Marianne and Clare Soponis for arriving early to help take care of last minute items.

Submitted by Jan Marx











dwarthen@verizon.net

2017-2019 PVS Membership Renewal:

PVS dues for the 2017-2019 biennial cycle were due on July 1, 2017. However, the PVS By-laws allow for a 120-day grace period for remittance. Today is the end of that grace period. PVS has gained members, and has lost members. Fourteen members were removed from the membership today due to lack of response in paying dues even with numerous reminders, notes, and phone calls. The current membership now stands at 145. Thank you for your response, and we look forward to a productive year of skiing, events, and fellowship.

Today, the following lists, compiled from the Survey on the PVS Renewal Applications, were sent to the indicated Chairpersons:

Coordinate an Event ----->R. & N. McKinley Host Event/Meeting ----->R. & N. McKinley Write up for TOOT ----->E. Thayer Run Local Ski Trip ----->R. Schwartzbard Run Major Ski Trip ----->R. Schwartzbard Local Skiing Interest ----->J. H. Smith Preference 1 for Future Ski Trip --->R. Schwartzbard Preference 2 for Future Ski Trip --->R. Schwartzbard Preference 3 for Future Ski Trip --->R. Schwartzbard Thank you for completing the Survey and providing the above information. If you forgot to fill out the survey or chose not to, contact the people to whom the lists were forwarded to make your preferences known.

Updated, Quarterly, PVS Roster:

Distributed with this TOOT issue is the November 1 quarterly-updated PVS Roster. Included with a welcoming letter to all New PVS Members, the following updated statement is and will be always included: "It is club policy that contact information in the club's roster not be used for promoting personal business, for advertising, or for personal financial gain without the advance permission of the individual member to be contacted."

This statement will also appear on the last page of the pdf PVS Roster and the Excel version of same, as well as every TOOT issue.



Thanksgiving:

November means Thanksgiving. It means gathering of family, delicious food, and great fellowship. It is also a time of personal thanks for the blessings of living in a free nation. No need to take a knee; just be thankful for provision in our great country. It is difficult, in this age of outrage, anger, hate, rudeness, among other politically trendy fads, to focus on all the good with which we are blessed. However, join me as I try to focus on the good. Do not be consumed by the negative, the constant complaining, and the constant barrage of awful news.

Enjoy the preparation of the meal and celebrate with a merry heart. Have a good time with your grandchildren. Plan your ski trips. Watch a football game. Gather around the fireside and enjoy the company of others. Give thanks, for we have such an abundance!



TOOT Distribution to 145 Members:

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Thanks to:

- -TOOT Coordinator E. Thayer
- -TOOT Layout Editor K. **Hines**
- -TOOT USPS B. Leonhardt, J. Read, & L. Triau
- Electronic TOOT J. D. Warthen

Roster Changes: (dwarthen@verizon.net)

See the quarterly-updated PVS Roster, electronically distributed with this issue of TOOT.



PVS Calendar 2017:

Nov	12	Sun	Monthly Meeting, 6:00-8:00 PM, Sun and Ski, Falls Church, VA
N	12	VA / I	Direct Control Name Agency Charles May alter the D.C.

Dec 13 Wed Pajama Game, Noon, Arena Stage, Washington, DC Dec 19 Tue Holiday Meeting, 7:30 PM, Hotalings, Arlington, VA





PVS Ski Trips 2018:

January 10-17, 2018

Aspen/Snowmass 2018, Colorado (Barry & Kathy Lake)

February 14-21, 2018

Big Sky Montana, (Inge Lesjak & Marianne Soponis)

Useful Ski "Links"

Potomac Valley Skiers
BRSC Sanctioned Trips
DC Ski Online News
Best of Times Ski Club

Officers:

President – *Bob Jablon*V. President – *Janet Marx*Secretary – *Ellie Thayer*

Treasurer – Dick Schwartzbard Ex Officio - Carolyn DeVilbiss

Board Members:

First Term:

Inge Lesjak Nancy McKinley Tom Tycz

Second Term:

Barry Lake

John H. Smith

Ellie Thayer

Chairpersons:

Ski Trip Committee – Rosemary Schwartzbard

Events – Ray and Nancy McKinley Membership Records – Dave Warthen

Membership PR Reps – *Inge Lesjak* &

Marianne Soponis

TOOT Coordinator - Ellie Thayer

TOOT Layout Editors – Jan Marx, Kerry Hines

& Dave Warthen

TOOT (E-Distribution) – Dave Warthen

TOOT (USPS Distribution) – Barb Leonhardt,

June Read, Liz Triau

Webmaster - Mary Ellena Ward

Meeting Records - Sue Lyon

Historian – Jan Marx

Reminder: It is club policy that contact information in the club's roster not be used for promoting personal business, for advertising, or for personal financial gain without the advance permission of the individual member to be contacted. Membership contact information shall not be distributed outside PVS.