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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

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VIRGINIA

www.potomacvalleyski.org

info@pvskiers.org

Greetings PVSers,

What were you thinking? Snow, obviously, and plenty of it. I know I asked everyone to “think snow”, but perhaps I should have been more specific and asked for it to be delivered not in our driveways, on our roads, and at the airport but more appropriately on ski slopes that we might be visiting. No matter, there was plenty of snow at Steamboat Springs and some fresh stuff arrived while the group of eight PVSers was there. We had a grand time, thanks to trip leaders Dick and Betty Comerford, and if some in the group were forced to stay and ski another day because Dulles Airport was shut down due to excessive snow, so be it. Ah, another day in snowy paradise!

The year has come to a close, and for PVS it has been a year marked by the loss of some dear friends and members who will be missed greatly. However, it has also been a year of great ski trips, fun events and shared good times together. All this has been made possible by an outstanding group of hard-working members who volunteer their time and talents to make this club keep rolling along smoothly. I want to take a moment to thank all those members who helped out this year, especially our temporary TOOT editors and those who have helped to send out the “snail mail” version. This month Mike Strand is our editor and Sue Lyon is doing the mailing. And thanks as always to Dave Warthen, who sends out emailings of the TOOT and other important club messages.

We look forward to another great year in 2010. This is a special year for PVS because it is the 45th anniversary of the founding of the club, and we will celebrate this auspicious event with a gala anniversary dinner in November. The annual meeting in April will be here before we know it, and the nominating committee will be looking for a few good men and women to serve as PVS officers. I urge everyone to consider helping the club out by volunteering to host a meeting, lead an event, help with the TOOT or do anything else that will make 2010 a terrific year for PVS.

Happy New Year y'all!

Dottie



Kick off the new PVS year on 24 January at 2:00 pm with the monthly meeting at Dottie Villers' house.

**2520 Farrier Lane
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 476-9259**

Directions:

From the Beltway (I-495) take the Dulles Toll Road (Rte 267) west to exit 12, Reston Parkway. Turn left onto Reston Parkway. Go about two miles and turn left at the light at Lawyers Road (note that if you turn left it's called Lawyers Road, if you turn right it's called McLearen Road). Take the first left onto Farrier Lane. Dottie's house is the third on the left.

From the South take Fairfax County Parkway north. Turn right at Fox Mill Road. Right at Reston Parkway. Left at Lawyers Road. First left onto Farrier Lane. Dottie's house is the third on the left.

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SKI TALK

By Rosemary Schwartzbard

Now that we have lots of snow we can take advantage of our local ski slopes. Cara Jablon is planning on leading a trip to Whitetail in January when the conditions are good. Please send an email to Cara if you want to be notified when she is going – rcjablon@aol.com



Also, Ski Chalet is having a ski appreciation day at Timberline on January 14. Lift tickets will be \$2.00 with a voucher from Ski Chalet. Let me know if anyone is planning on going.

Now that we have officially entered 2010, it is time to plan for 2011. I would like to hear from anyone who would like to lead a ski trip next year. BRSC is planning trips to Park City and Aosta Valley, Italy. The Ski Trip Committee would like to have some preliminary proposals/ideas by February. See David Lerner's article for information on leading a ski trip (page 7). Send questions, ideas or proposals to me.

rosemaryphd@verizon.net

In Remembrance



Bing Ting Poon February 26, 1924 – December 14, 2009

My good friend, Bing Poon died while skiing with me at Killington, Vermont on December 14, 2009. I knew Bing for several years, as his snow sports school director at Whitetail, and PSIA-E Educational Staff member.

Bing was born in San Francisco in 1924 and moved to Keokuk, Iowa, as a child. During World War II, he volunteered for the Army Enlisted Reserve Corps and ended the war with the Fighting 69th Division, the first Army unit to meet up with the Russians on the Elbe River in Germany. During the war he received a Combat Infantry Badge, a Purple Heart, a Bronze Star

for Heroic Achievement and another Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster. He never missed a reunion or a trip with his army friends and was on the Board of Directors for the 69th Infantry Division Organization.

Bing completed his University Studies after WWII at the University of California and then earned a Masters and a Ph.D. at the University of Colorado in 1951. Bing had a 35 year career with the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, DC. At Walter Reed he was part of a team that developed antiparasitic drugs for the military. Bing co-authored many papers on his work at Walter Reed.

We will miss Bing, his silly jokes, his constant smile through his wire rimmed glasses, his passion for skiing, and achieving Level III. I am hoping that when God calls me home that I go as Bing went with a smile on my face over a snow covered bump.

Mac Jackson, PSIA-E Education Staff, Training Director, Ski and Ride School, Sugarbush Resort

Bing Poon (85) joined the club in 1974; therefore, he had been a PVS member for 35 years. He served on ExCom, beginning in 1978. Jan Marx shared that he was a physicist, a ski instructor at the Homestead, and skied New England frequently.

David Warthen

He was in my tour group on two tours of Europe with the 69th Infantry Assn. in 2005 and 2008. He was a funny, energetic, smart, sweet man.

Amy Rose, Daughter-in-law of a late 69th veteran, Pacifica, CA

He was also a long-time member of the Richmond Ski Club. It just seems so appropriate to me that Bing died at Killington. He was one of the most committed skiers I knew in a club of pretty committed skiers.

Mary Ward

I recall a meeting in the early 60's upstairs in the old Lavender Hill Mob Pit Stop that I believe it was Dick King who introduced Bing as prospective member with a memorable name. My memory is not perfect but I thought Dick said his name is Bing Ting Poon. He might have been joking but nevertheless it's a memorable name and I remember he had a great personality.

Keith Lyon

Bing worked on the weekend ski patrol at the Homestead in Virginia for a number of years until he retired. After retirement, he moved to Mercersburg, Pa. He wanted to be near a ski area (Whitetail) and a state that did not tax government pensions. He worked at Whitetail for a number of years giving ski lessons, and I think he was also on the ski patrol. For the upcoming year they would not let him give lessons, but he was to be the Whitetail Ambassador giving mountain trail tours to new skiers. After Whitetail closed in March, he would go on a number of western ski trips.

Charles Huggins

I knew Bing from trips, but do not recall a conversation with him, just heard his clever remarks. I was deeply moved by the thoughtfulness he expressed in a condolence card for David. Here is what he wrote with ink on the other side of this card.

“He will be remembered as a great individual and a wonderful skier. His spirit will be with all of us, PVS Skiers, with every turn we make.”

Rachel Abraham

Members Corner



By J. David Warthen, Jr.
dwarthen@verizon.net
301-774-2653

Reflections of 2009:

Two thousand nine was an interesting year for our country, the world, and for PVS as well. 'Change' seems to have been a 'buzz' word in many areas of our lives: a new political climate, an economic upheaval, wars, ad infinitum. However, life moves on. PVS saw a change in administration, as it began its 44th year. Mike **Strand** completed his term as President, and Dottie **Villers** stepped up to the Presidency. Others assumed positions of service, and there was the usual change of ExCom members. We are grateful for their service. Perhaps PVS should be running things in a larger arena. ;-)

During 2009, PVSers had great ski trips to Snowmass, Park City, Taos, and the local slopes, as well as, a special adventure of sailing to Tahiti & French Polynesia. Other special events and general meetings were also filled with great camaraderie and fun. And, we can't forget the adventures of **Daisy & Buddy**. ;-)

At the same time, it is hard to believe that so many PVS members completed their journey here on earth during 2009: Karen Nielsen **Devorshak** (former member), Mike **Hatanaka**, Sally **Finan**, Bob **Marx**, Vivian **Barry** (former member), Wally **Lukens**, Marty **McNeill**, and Bing **Poon**. We also remember **Josie** Beale (adopted dachshund member). We cherish the memories of these dear friends.

During 2009, we cannot forget the daunting task of trying to fill the shoes of our TOOT Editor, Jan Marx and husband Bob, in the monthly challenge of producing a newsletter. Thanks to temporary editors Marvin **Hass**, Dottie **Villers**, Kerry **Hines**, Mike **Strand**, yours truly, and snail mail helpers Barbara **Leonhardt**, Carolyn & Dave **DeVilbiss**, and Sue **Lyon**, PVS continued

producing the newsletter. We all learned far more than we ever wanted to know. ;-)

This also was the 30th year for the Knee, authored by Ray **McKinley**. Wow, what faithful service! Not only does Ray create the Knee, but he also is PVS Event Coordinator.

Happy New Year 2010:

This year promises to be as exciting as ever for PVS Members. As I write this, during the blizzard of 2009, some PVS Members are trying to get home from Steamboat Springs, CO.



Other trips are planned for the 2010 season: Snowmass, Jackson Hole, Bormio Italy, local ski trips, and Finger Lakes, NY. So, join the fun of skiing and travel. Take advantage of PVS local events throughout the year, and don't forget our monthly general meetings for socializing. It is bound to be a good year with all that is planned.

*Blue Skies &
Happy New Year!!!*

Roster Changes:

Walter Flowers (**New e-mail address**)
wflowers6@earthlink.net

TOOT Distribution to 146 PVS Members:

pdf: 77; USPS: 34; MS-Word: 22;
Emb. Text: 1; and Text (Att.): 2

Roster Corrections:

Report changes of postal or e-mail address, telephone number, TOOT e-mail format, etc. to Dave Warthen.

[PVS thanks Mike Strand, Temporary Editor, for an excellent January 2010 TOOT issue.](#)



PAST EVENTS

December – Holiday Party/Meeting

Sherri and Tom McKenna hosted our December Holiday Party/meeting with an extravaganza unmatched in previous history...at least in the last 12 months.



Somehow they got most of the crowd out of the kitchen...perhaps it was that dust buster distraction (see the Knee)...or was it the initial dispersion of goodies/wine throughout their home?...at any rate it worked!

What also worked was the “scheduling of assignments” (appetizer or dessert) based on proper name starter...who’d-a-thought we’d* develop such a “system” at PVS after all these years of these events with attendees bringing whatever. (*Yea, I know it aint grammar)

Almost everything was there if you were attending the dining room attentively. Otherwise you missed the meatballs and that great (what-may-call-it) dip. Missing was the ultra thin sliced prosciutto ham...and also missing was Bing Poon who traditionally brought that tasty morsel. Bing, we miss you in so many ways. (See page 3) Next year, please somebody, bring the prosciutto in remembrance of Bing. Oops, not everybody...perhaps those with last names starting in...but I’m way ahead of myself.

Kerry Hines presided over the business meeting in excellent order. Of special note are the next two monthly meetings on SUNDAY afternoons at 2:00 p.m. in January and February. (See page 12)

In summary, a good time was had by all.

Thank you Sherri and Tom.

Happy New Year



Submitted By: Mike Strand
Photos by Marvin Hass



Skiing Liberty Mountain Tuesday December 22nd

With 22 inches of snow on the ground Sunday morning, PVSers dropped out of the Liberty trip until only John Smith and Charles Huggins remained. Some were still digging out their cars on Tuesday, and others were afraid to leave their cleared off spots on the streets as somebody would claim them before they returned from Liberty.

John and Charles experienced some of the best pre Christmas skiing in years. All but two trails were open on Tuesday, and the mountain was expected to be 100% operational on Wednesday. All schools were out, but the mountain was not crowded until almost noon. They enjoyed the new one million dollar lift on the back side of the mountain skiing until noon, had lunch, and then returned home. By then the main parking lot was full so it was going to be a very busy afternoon and evening with crowded conditions on the mountain.

STEAMBOAT

December 2009

All eight in our Steamboat ski trip arrived safely at the Ptarmigan Inn on December 12th. It was a long day of travel but well worth it when we hit the slopes Sunday morning to newly fallen snow! Dick Comerford, our fearless leader, led us through some fog and the heavy snow coming down gave us some great runs with fresh powder. Dick and Betty Comerford, Dick and Rosemary Schwartzbard, Sharon Mulholland and Dave Leonard, Dottie Villers and Louann Eadie had a wonderful après ski party in the Comerford's room Sunday night and each night thereafter with stories of sailing,



water skiing, and past ski trips! We were joined by a lovely couple; Sally Phillbrook (a past PVS'er) and Richard, who now live in Colorado.

The snow fell all through Monday evening and we awoke to good powder, challenging slopes and snow throughout the day on Tuesday. Wednesday brought SUNSHINE, plenty of powder and corduroy slopes to meet everyone's needs! Some took to the trees and others swished down Vagabond and other wonderful slopes to complete a magnificent day of skiing.

Dottie wore her "armor" (underarmour), as she called it, and we all exclaimed how warm the day was because of the intense blue skies and brilliant sun!! We had to have our picture taken with the statue of Buddy Werner at the top of the mountain and then ski down Buddy's Run on this glorious day! Thursday, also, was a picture perfect day with groomed slopes. Additional slopes, including High Noon, and more lifts were opened.

Stoker's Bar at the top of the gondola became a favorite lunch hangout for a respite and hot soup of the day (sorry Dick, no tomato basil). We had terrific dinners each night carefully picked by Betty and Dick—another highlight of our trip. Each morning we met for a big breakfast of choice in the hotel's restaurant (Betty loved the Mexican and the hotter the better) and then headed out to the slopes right out the back door!

On Friday, at high noon on High Noon slope where it intersects with Fawn we had a special memorial service for Sally Finan. Dottie read a poem, remembrances were shared and Dick took pictures to give to Sally's family. Dottie and others released some ashes to mark Sally's "spot" on the slope. It was a poignant moment and a fitting resting place for Sally who loved skiing at Steamboat.

Friday night was literally a "hoot" when we all traveled up to the top of the mountain by gondola to a fabulous buffet and entertainment by the group "Sun Dog". We had a blast dancing and enjoying the music. Dick entertained the crowd swinging his red-checked scarf (napkin) and danced with all the girls! Rosemary and Dick S. also sure can cut a rug!



The only difficulty that we had to deal with at Steamboat Springs was leaving!! Friday morning we heard about the storm that was expected in Washington. Anticipating closed airports, people scrambled to make plans to reschedule Saturday flights. Getting home was a challenge. However, most of us had an extra day at Steamboat. Rosemary, Sharon and Dick C. skied with Billy Kidd on that bonus day.

It truly was a fantastic trip with wonderful people who enjoyed every minute of the week in Steamboat. Our heartfelt thanks to Dick and Betty for organizing an unforgettable skiing and eating bonanza!

Submitted By: **Louann Eadie**

Ski Trips 2010

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.

**Call Trip Leaders Regarding
Space Availability**

Jackson Hole, Wyoming

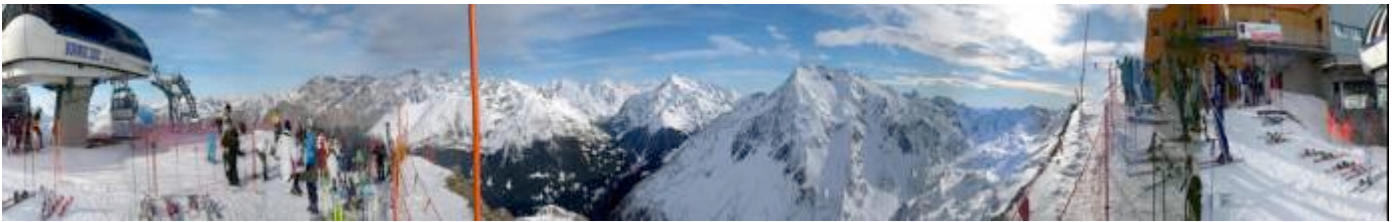


February 18 to 25, 2010

As of this point in time we have 39 people going on the trip and are awaiting word from a possible 40th person. Slope side accommodations are at the Alpenhof Lodge, a cozy Bavarian style inn 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 - 3
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.

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.

Reservations are now being taken for the day trips to the lakeside towns of Bellagio and Varenna; and the historic town of Borsamo which is surrounded by Venetian walls built in the 17th century. (Call for a flyer.)

Group airfare is being released soon; late sign-ups will be on a best effort basis.

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

Be The Leader

Being the leader of a PVS club ski trip is both demanding and rewarding. As leader you are the host of the party, providing a great vacation for you fellow club members. You get to choose the resort, the lodging, and the dates. You also get part or all of your trip paid for as a "Comp" from the resort, the airline, and the tour operator.

Experience as a trip participant is more important than experience as a trip leader or as an assistant leader. You probably know where you like to ski best, what kind of lodging you like, and the importance (or unimportance) of price. Not everyone makes the same choices, but that leads to a nice diversity in our trip offerings.

Most of the work in running a ski trip is done before the trip leaves. Trip leaders normally consult with tour operators in making selections of destination, lodging and flights. It is difficult or impossible to get better prices by dealing directly with the ski resort and airlines. The trip committee will help you find a trusted tour operator who will do much of the work in planning the trip. The trip leader needs to promote the trip answer questions and collect payments from members. PVS trip guidelines require a co-leader who will help with the work. During the trip the leader will attend to details of group dinners or apres-ski parties and make sure that everyone is informed of transportation arrangements. The PVS Trip Guidelines are posted on our web site in the Club Docs. Section. These guidelines serve as a manual for running a trip.

Talk to the leader of a trip that you are on or to a member of the Ski Trip Committee to get various personal accounts of what it is like to run a ski trip. You may find that it is an activity that you will enjoy doing.

Dave Lerner

Finger Lakes Winery & Distillery Extravaganza 2010

Potomac Valley Skiers

Thursday, August 26, 2010 – Sunday, August 29, 2010

Enjoy the beautiful Finger Lakes Wine Country with your hosts and vintners David & Susan Payne. Act now as participation is ***Limited to 20 participants!!***

The total package is \$300 per person. It includes:

- Visits to 8 wineries and distilleries
- A behind the scenes tour of a vineyard and winery
- Two (2) group dinners
- Two (2) group lunches
- Chartered bus transportation to wineries/distilleries and meals
- A boat excursion on Seneca Lake with refreshments
- Arrangements will be made to drive cars on the Watkins Glen International Race Track, but each participant will pay separately
- Also, participants will have time on Saturday morning to do things on their own such as visit the Corning Museum of Glass, the Windmill, hike the Gorge at Watkins Glen, shop, fishing excursion on Seneca Lake, etc.

All participants will make their own arrangements for:

- Transportation to and from Watkins Glen
- Lodging. After submitting a deposit, you will be provided with a list of inns/B&Bs located in the Watkins Glen area. Three (3) nights (August 26, 27, 28) lodging is estimated at \$210 - 300 per person (based on double occupancy, including tax). The cost of the lodging depends on the B&B or inn selected. When your application is received, the Payne's will send you a preferred lodging list.

Schedule

Participants should plan to arrive on Thursday, August 26, 2010. Dinner is on your own Thursday evening, but you will be provided with a list of recommended restaurants that are within walking distance or a short drive of the lodging. The Payne's will be happy to organize an informal gathering at a local restaurant upon the request of the participants. The program starts bright and early on Friday morning, August 27. Participants will be on their own to explore on Saturday morning, but the afternoon and evening will be filled with activities. Staying Sunday night is an option for participants, when making lodging reservations.

Payment Schedule

\$100 deposit per person is due with application on February 15, 2010 (fully refundable until June 1, 2010). Final payment of \$200 is due June 1, 2010.



Sign-Up

To sign up: Please send (1) the Application/ Liability Release (reverse side of flier), (2) a Deposit of \$100 per person or full payment to Susan Payne at 5598 Dutch Street, Dundee, NY 14837 (put PVS FLWC 2010 on the memo line). For more info, call Susan Payne at 607-727-1190 or vineyard100@frontiernet.net.

Cancellation Policy and Fees

If it becomes necessary for you to cancel your trip, the trip leaders will try to minimize your losses although some fees are mandated by the bus tour operator. All cancellations must be in writing. Cancellation fees and dates and costs are consistent with requirements and penalties imposed by vendors per contracted agreements. We expect none prior to June 1; June 2 – July 15, \$75; July 16 – August 25, \$150. Final cancellation fees are dependent upon actual costs.

**Application, Assumption of Risk & Release & Waiver of Liability Agreement
POTOMAC VALLEY SKIERS, INC. (PVS)**

By signing this application to attend the **Finger Lakes Winery & Distillery Extravaganza 2010**

1. I acknowledge that I understand the nature of driving, hiking, and the various other Extravaganza activities. I am willing to determine those activities in which I am willing to participate and will restrict myself to participate only in those parts of this Extravaganza in which I am qualified.
2. I fully understand that PVS activities involve risks and dangers of bodily injury and death, and dangers of property damage. I fully accept all such risks as a result of my participation.
3. I hereby release, discharge, covenant not to sue, and I waive and hold harmless PVS, its officers, executive committee, Extravaganza leaders, and volunteers from liability damage and claims arising from injury sustained by me or property damage related to any activity or event.
4. I agree that I am not entitled to any credit or refund for any included trip service that I do not use.
5. Having read this agreement, I fully understand its terms, and understand I have given up substantial rights by signing it. I intend this to be a complete and unconditional release from all liability.

Participant #1

Name(s) as on your Official ID: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Participant #2

Name(s) as on your Official ID: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Total Amount of Deposit Enclosed with Application: \$ _____

Make Check Payable to: Susan Payne (put PVS FLWC 2010 on the memo line)

Mail to: Susan Payne at 5598 Dutch Street, Dundee, NY 14837



THE KNEE

by Ray McKinley
RaysKnee@gmail.com

I wish you a most joyous 2010! Full of bright promise and fluffy white powder. As the **Knee** moves into its 31st year, let me again be the first, and likely only, one to wish you a Happy **Knee** Year. It will be tough to top last year's brilliant **Knee** puns, but I'll continue to try. The **Knee** isn't complaining. It's just diff**kneecult** coming up with wit**knee** (a mountain in Califor **kneeia** which is the tallest in the US, except—I note—for Mt McK**inknee**) comments.

Kneenuf! It's on to the real purpose of this column—you. Let me remind each and every one of you how important you are. First you are my subjects. Without you there would be no **Kneesworthy** events to report on. Secondly, you are my (loyal?) readers. Without you there would be no **Kneed** for a **Knee**. Keep up the silliness.

Pres **Dottie Villers** missed the **McKenna's** December meeting. She had a reasonable excuse. **Dottie** was skiing at Steamboat! The Beltway traffic had its impact on the meeting. It took **Sue Lyon** two hours to get there due to a **VirginKneea** accident. And **Betty Lawrence** gave up after sitting in traffic for three days.

Several questioned hostess **Sherri McKenna** about the funny, modern looking gadget on her kitchen wall. She said it was a dust buster. **Bill Anderson** asked what **Sherri** had against dust!

Fully in "vest"ed was **Jean van der Tak**. She had on a **red** and **green** vest. **Jean** recalled bargaining for the vest in Uzbekistan. Right on!

Glade Flake was also in a vest emblazoned with "Snowflake." It's the name of their sailboat!

A tip of the ol' **Knee** cap to **Wisp Resort**. The resort celebrated its 55th **ankneever**sary in mid December. **Wisp** rolled back prices to 1955. A two-day lift ticket was \$7. (That's for 2 days!)

It's always a pleasure to hear from PVS's Conway, **Knee** Hampshire contingent, **Jim Arnold**. Now, after years of retirement, he is continuing, two days a week, as the Curator of the Conway Historical Society. **Jim** invites all of PVS visiting the area in for a personal tour! Here's an unexpected (?) development. The results of the membership survey are now all in. We listed ski areas where we

would like to take a trip. **Charnita** (aka **Liberty Mountain** (sic)) was not on anyone's list. Give me death or give me **Liberty!** (FYI **Wisp** was mentioned twice.)

Joan and Glade Flake's 12 year old grandson, **Kyle**, is on the **Liberty Mountain** Ski Team. Small world: His coach is none other than **Brian Eardley**. In December, **Kyle** was on **Liberty's** new lift and it broke. He was stranded for 30 mins. Give me death or give me **Liberty!**

Ski Liberty has competition. **Jerry Farwell's** **Liberty U**kneever**sity**, also has a **Liberty "mountain,"** on campus. It has a single, fairly steep slope covered with some 40,000 sq ft of a white **Astroturf-like** substance, but with wider "leaves." It's the first such installation in the US. You can even ski there in August. And they give lessons. But, being at **Farwell's U**kneever**sity**, when you take ski lessons, they only teach you how to turn to the right!

Betty Byrne and **Nancy McKinley**, whilst chatting, discovered that they both have relatives with the surname "Otto" from Bremen, Germany. So they are likely distant cousins.

Several months ago the **Knee** reported that **Rosemary** and **Dick Schwartzbard** spent a long weekend in New York City and saw 4 plays. That record has been eclipsed. **Dick** and **Sandy Laeser** returned from a weekend where they saw five plays! Noted **Dick**, the play's the thing!

The **Knee** and **Nancy** have returned from a weekend in Williamsburg where we saw no plays, but we did find that former PVSer **Mary Jane Harper** chaired the Colonial Williamsburg house tour. And **Marilyn Clark** has given up bridge and now plays Mah Jong. Hubby **Dick** does not play Pah Jong.

Have you noticed that the **Washington Post** is getting smaller and smaller? They should change their name to the **Washington Po**.

Pres. **Dottie Villers** pointed out that last month I missed a **Knee** pun. I should have written **Mediterrakneean**. **Kneea culpa**.

According to **Marvin Hass**, fake snow is filling Beijing's Olympic Bird's Nest. "Happy Snow and Ice Season," kicked off in December. The program has the stadium transformed into a frosted extravaganza, complete with a ski-slope, ice rink and 3.7 square miles of artificial snow that is heralded to be one-and-a-half feet deep. There's a lot riding on all that fake fluff as **China** seeks a use for its Olympic behemoth.

Another winter sport: **Sue Lyon** is on a cruise to the Bahamas from Baltimore. She is cruising with 26 of her neighbors. Right on!

Calendar and Information

Local Events Calendar				Trips Calendar	
Jan	3	Sun	Snowmass Pre-trip Party (<i>Powers</i>)	Jan 13-20	Snowmass (C&D. DeVilbiss)
Jan	24	Sun	Jan 2:00 p.m. AFTERNOON Meeting (Villers)	Feb 18-25	Jackson Hole (Villers/Rine)
Jan	26	Tue	ExCom by Conference Call	Mar 6-14	Bormio, Italy (D.Comerford)
Jan	30	Sat	Jackson Hole Pre-trip Party (Villers/Rine)	Aug 26-28	Finger Lakes Tour (Paynes)
Feb	23	Tue	ExCom by Conference Call		
Feb	28	Sun	Feb 2:00 p.m. AFTERNOON Meeting (Holts)		
Mar	16	Tue	7:30 p.m. MEETING (Leonhardts)		
Mar	23	Tue	ExCom (Jablons)		
Nov			PVS 45TH Anniversary Gala		

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

