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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

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President's Message

As you know, PVS has not held a meeting since February, owing to the coronavirus. ExCom discussed the June PVS meeting and decided to hold it via ZOOM on June 16, 2020 at 7:30PM. (A link to 'join' the meeting will be sent to your email address.) This ZOOM meeting will be an opportunity to discuss how everyone is doing and to see each other once again, even though it will be electronically. The meeting may need to be structured somewhat to allow everyone to share any stories, information or events that have transpired since we last met. We will also hold a regular PVS business meeting during the ZOOM meeting to review and discuss what has been happening regarding next season's skiing trips.

As you may recall, PVS normally does not have meetings in July and August (though, we usually have an event or two). Therefore, after June, our next scheduled meeting will be in September. On a monthly basis, ExCom will consider the schedule and how to hold meetings through the upcoming year, in light of the coronavirus situation. We may need to continue the PVS meetings using ZOOM; we will keep you posted.

In any case, skiing next season will most probably be different. There may not be a ski season at some resorts next year. If ski resorts open, we need to be aware of possible additional requirements. For example, the [Timberline \(Mt. Hood\) website](#) provides current information about restrictions and precautions in place while the mountain is still open to skiers. Scroll way, way down.) There are three main points. First, with regard to having a pass to ski on any given day, there are several requirements. You need to request a reservation a day in advance of each day that you ski, regardless of whether you

already have a ticket of any kind (season, daily, multiple day etc.). The open period for requesting a reservation begins at 2pm the previous day. If you do not have a reservation, you will not be allowed to enter the ski resort. There will be a limit on the number of skiers allowed on the mountain on any day. Second, when requesting a reservation, you must fill out a covid questionnaire providing the ski resort with information regarding your coronavirus health status. Third, you must wear a cloth facemask at all times. Other mountains may have other requirements, and it will be important to check online on a daily basis for any skiing limitations or requirements that apply to a specific mountain where you plan to ski.

On a more upbeat note, summer is the time to be outside. Although we are staying at home, Mary and I have been walking, swimming and doing yard work to get some exercise and to enjoy the good weather and sunny days. We walk on non-rainy days in our neighborhood. We have been observing front yard gardens to see what wonderful plants have bloomed and examining garden designs for any ideas that we could use. During these walks, we are able to maintain social distancing without having to wear a mask (as we walk on the other side of the road when there are other walkers). However, we always carry masks and gloves with us.

I am ever mindful that if we are planning to ski next year, we must stay in shape. Everyone needs to continue to exercise despite the limitations imposed by the coronavirus.

Have a pleasurable and safe summer and stay healthy!

President, Tom Tycz

See p 2 re Zoom June Meeting

Join Us at Our June Meeting!

We miss you! It's been awhile since we've met at members' homes for our monthly meetings. Of course, in these days, social distancing is key to keeping healthy, so we decided to be a bit creative!

We will be holding our June meeting [via Zoom on Tuesday, June 16 at 7:30 p.m.](#) For those of you who have used Zoom, you know that we will be able to see other attendees, share some stories, and watch our president, Tom Tycz, and others, cover some agenda items.

You will receive an invitation via email a day or two before the meeting. We will also send information as to procedures and agenda items. If you are not familiar with Zoom, there is free information on how to use it. Just look on the Internet. If you have any additional questions, you can contact Marianne Soponis at Marianne.Soponis@gmail.com.

Looking forward to "seeing you" on June 16!





SKI TALK June 2020

I hope everyone is well and adjusting to this simple life. I miss seeing our PVS members at meetings and other social activities. After over two months of quarantine, I would really welcome a PVS social event.

This time of year, the Ski Trip Committee and trip leaders are usually busy working on contracts and ski fliers for next season. This year, we are looking at contracts and trying to figure out what to do. The 2021 ski season looks more and more uncertain. No one can predict what will happen next winter. Even with liberal cancellation policies, committing to a trip would be a risk. One of our vendors said not to worry, just tell our members to take out a Cancel for Any Reason insurance policy. Well, after checking on that, we find most insurance companies no longer offer it and, if they do, it is very expensive and pays only 50 to 70% of the trip cost.

Here is what I found on the [Travel Guard](#) site:

“On March 11, 2020, the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO) declared Coronavirus ([Covid-19](#)) a pandemic. Therefore, any losses for trip cancellation, trip interruption and/or trip delay caused by or resulting from quarantine due to Covid-19 is not considered “unforeseen” and will not be covered under the terms and conditions of this insurance policy.”

While we would like to contract for our usual week of skiing at Snowmass Mountain Chalet, it is too early to know if the ski resorts will even open. If they do open, what will it be like? Some rumors are that there would be no food service on mountains; a limited number of people would be allowed on the lifts; there would be reduced hours of skiing. At [Timberline](#) at Mt. Hood, Oregon, they are requiring reservations for the slopes (even if you have a pass) and you have to fill out a Covid questionnaire before your reservation is accepted. Lift lines will be managed with 6’ social distancing. Skiers and riders will be required to wear glasses or goggles, masks and gloves. You may ride the chairlifts with those you came with, ride single or ride double on opposite sides of the chair.

Please let us know your thoughts about when you would be ready to ski/travel again. Contact [Kathy Lake](#) if you are interested in Snowmass and [Inge Lesjak](#) about Davos. See short fliers in this TOOT.

The [Blue Ridge Ski Council](#) is planning a trip to Telluride February 6-13, 2021. Some of our members have expressed interest. If you think you may be interested, please let me know and I can send you more information. While PVS will not have a formal group going, you can sign up with another club.

Looking forward to [hearing](#) from you about next ski season.

Rosemary Schwartzbard
rosemaryschw@gmail.com

Snowmass, Colorado 2021

January 6-13, 2021

We are ***planning and hoping*** to go back to Snowmass next year from January 6-13, 2021. Due to the current situation we are proceeding cautiously and still in negotiations with our travel agent. We will strongly recommend travel insurance, in particular the “cancel for no reason” policy. As it turns out, the insurance companies are revising their terms and conditions. Most companies will refund only 50 – 75% of the cost of the trip when cancelling for any reason. Note: you will need to get the “cancel for no reason” insurance within 10-14 days of first deposit, which is why we aren’t asking for deposits at this time.

The plan is to stay at our favorite [Snowmass Mountain Chalet](#) which offers a convenient ski in, ski out location. As in recent years it will be a “Land Only” package that will include lodging and a 5-day lift pass. We anticipate pricing to be similar to last year.

At this point we are NOT asking for deposits until we iron out most of the wrinkles. However, we would like to know if you are interested in participating. If so, when would you be willing to sign up? Please contact us at 703-625-2715 or at kathylakehomes@yahoo.com

Stay safe and healthy!

Kathy & Barry Lake
Trip Leaders



SAVE THE DATE
BRSC EUROFEST
DAVOS, SWITZERLAND
FEBRUARY 26 - March 6, 2021
With Post-Trip Option to Portugal
Led by Inge Lesjak & John Hotaling

Downhill and cross country ski areas at Davos include Jakobshorn, Pischa, Rinerhorn and Parsen; plus the "Glacier Express," a scenic train ride, connects Davos to the Matterhorn. The cost is approximately \$2,200 per person in a Double Room (add additional \$200-250 for 6-day lift ticket).

Package Includes:

- Roundtrip air transportation between IAD, DCA, BWI to Zurich, Switzerland and ground transportation.
- Seven nights lodging in Davos at the 4 Star Hilton Garden Inn: with welcome reception, full hot and cold breakfast, buffet daily, - 5 night's dinners at the hotel, Mid Week Après Ski Party, wellness center, Farewell party.
- Medical Evacuation Insurance. (This does not include cancellation. More information will be coming about trip insurance.)

Because of the travel uncertainty with Covid-19, we are not accepting reservations at this time until we are clear about cancellation policies and trip insurance. However, we do need to know who is interested in going on this trip. Please let Inge Lesjak know if you would sign up for Davos.

Lesjak.inge@gmail.com

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Members' Corner

By J. David Warthen, Jr.
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Thanks to:

- TOOT Coordinator - E Thayer
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June TOOT – D Warthen
- TOOT Electronic Distribution – D Warthen

Roster Changes: contact <dwarthen409@gmail.com>

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Classification of PVS Members FYI – [PVS By-Laws](#)

- Applicant** – (an intended member) Individual or Couple >18; must be approved by members at the Annual Meeting for full membership
- Active** - Individual or Couple, live within the DC Metro Area, sponsored by Active or Absentee Member, may hold office and vote; must have been approved by members at the Annual Meeting for full membership
- Absentee** - Individual or Couple, was a former Active Member, lives 75+ miles from DC, may not hold office or vote
- Associate** - Individual or Couple, lives 75+ miles from DC, sponsored by Active or Absentee Member, may not hold office or vote; must have been approved by members at the Annual Meeting for full membership
- Junior** - <18 Individual, may live within the DC Metro Area or 75+ miles from DC; must have been approved by members at the Annual Meeting for full membership

**Difficult Times Can Bring Out the Best in All of Us –
Call to Community**

The Coronavirus-19 worldwide pandemic is an event like which none of us has ever experienced. Even the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918 was an event that our PVS centenarians escaped. I remember my parents speaking of the Spanish Flu, but they were only in their teens or preteens. That pandemic is an event which is completely foreign to us. Who would have thought the ski slopes in the Rockies would close down so abruptly in March? Who would have thought that jet travel would also shut down so quickly?

Being a part of the older vulnerable age group has proven to be a challenge to all of us, especially for obtaining

groceries and essentials. However, while being physically isolated from others, we are so blessed with electronic technology to order things online, to communicate virtually with relatives via Zoom, FaceTime, etc. and to be informed via TOOT electronically, to have telephonic ExCom Meetings, to do our banking and pay bills electronically, and to do our dreaded taxes.

I live at Riderwood in Silver Spring, MD; we have 2500 residents (the median age of which is 84) and 1500 employees. As a result of the pandemic, each resident now receives a weekly call by a fellow resident as to our well-being, needs, etc. A group of residents who sew have made 2 masks for every resident and employee on campus – the ‘best bubbling forth’ from trials and tribulations. This is just another example of the ‘best’ coming forth during a difficult time – “A Call to Community.”

These times bring to mind when I dislocated & separated my right shoulder at Snowmass in front of the Medical Clinic in 2018. The community of PVS members rallied around me immediately, helping me with the purchase of clothing that would fit, helping me dress, cutting my food, helping me to insert contacts, helping with luggage, getting me home, and scores of other necessities – “A Call to Community.”

Stay well and stay safe dear friends. The ‘Best’ comes out in ‘Difficult Times.’



Yellow Peony



Peony – moon river

Looking Back

[Finger Lakes Wine Country Trip](#), New York, *August 26-28, 2010*, hosted by David & Susan Payne





PVS 2020 Calendar

Jun 16 Tue June Zoom General Meeting, 7:30 PM
 Aug 15 Sat Steak & Swim, Hines, Delaplane, VA



Louann's Peonies

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**2021 Ski Trips**



January 6-13, 2021, Snowmass, CO, Kathy and Barry Lake

February 26 - March 6, 2021, Davos/BRSC,  
 Inge Lesjak and John Hotaling

**Useful Ski "Links"**  
[Potomac Valley Skiers](#)  
[BRSC Sanctioned Trips](#)  
[DC Ski Online News](#)

**ExCom**

| <b>Officers:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>Chairpersons:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President – <i>Tom Tycz</i><br>Vice Pres. – <i>Kal Nossuli</i><br>Secretary – <i>Ellie Thayer</i><br>Treasurer – <i>Dick Schwartzbard</i><br>Ex Officio -<br><b>Board Members:</b><br>First Term:<br><i>Cara Jablon</i><br><i>Kathy Lake</i><br><i>Don Vierimaa</i><br>Second Term:<br><i>Jannes Gibson</i><br><i>Jan Marx</i><br><i>Mary Rose de Valladares</i> | Ski Trip Committee – <i>Rosemary Schwartzbard</i><br>Events – <i>Marianne Soponis</i><br>Membership Records – <i>Dave Warthen</i><br>TOOT Coordinator – <i>Ellie Thayer</i><br>TOOT Layout Editors – <i>Jan Marx, Kerry Hines &amp; Dave Warthen</i><br>TOOT (E-Distribution) – <i>Dave Warthen</i><br>Webmaster – <i>Mary Ellena Ward</i><br>Meeting Records – <i>Sue Lyon</i><br>Historian – <i>Jan Marx</i> |

**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.