

Volume 56
Number 7

Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

July 2021

www.pvskiers.org

info@pvskiers.org

President's Message



As I write this column, it seems summer has come in full force with a slew of 90+ degree days along with that dreaded humidity. While a lot of people love this time of year, I yearn for the cooler temperatures. Perhaps that's why I'm a skier.

The talk the last several weeks – at least in our neighborhood - seems to be around the IFOs (Identified Flying Objects, or using the new term IAPs – Identified Aerial Phenomena) otherwise known as the cicadas, and the continual never-ending drone from their ritual. Seems like you couldn't walk anywhere without having to avoid 10-12 of them flying at your head – or landing on your person for that matter. Now they are mostly gone, and we just have to wait until the next emergence of Brood *whatever*.

I hope that all the fathers in the club were able to have an enjoyable Father's Day, and hopefully had the opportunity for some face-to-face get-togethers with family.

Many thanks to Sharon Mulholland and Marianne Sponis for planning and running SummerFest, our first face-to-face club meeting in over 14+ months, at the wonderful Windridge Vineyard. We had beautiful weather and an excellent turnout with over 20 club members attending! Look for more details elsewhere in this TOOT.

Also coming up next month is the face-to-face Steak & Swim at the home of Kerry and Marianne Hines on August 7th at 3 PM. It is always a wonderful event.

The Anniversary Luncheon (55+1) & Time Capsule unveil/opening is scheduled for September 29th from Noon to 3PM, at the wonderful L'Auberge Chez Francois restaurant in Great Falls, Virginia. Look for more details in this or upcoming TOOT.

July 1 is the beginning of the PVS fiscal year. Dave Warthen will be sending a reminder email to all members about the biennial dues for continuing PVS membership. Look for the membership renewal form in a subsequent email and please be responsive so that we can maintain our membership.

Things are starting to open up more and more, and we successfully transitioned to our first face-to-face club meeting since early last year. It was a nice feeling getting together with old friends, and I think that was felt by all that participated. So if you feel comfortable in hosting a monthly membership

meeting at your house, please reach out and let us know so we can start building up the calendar for the fall and winter meetings.

And last but certainly not least (for a lot of us), I for one am very excited about, and looking forward to, our ski trip to Snowmass in January (12th-19th). While there are some details still to be worked out at the moment – you can be assured that it is ON and will happen. And it is looking very promising that we will be able to return to the Mountain Chalet!

Cheers, Barry

Coming Event



PVS is 55+1 YEARS OLD!

Come Celebrate at PVS'

Anniversary Luncheon

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Noon to 3:00 p.m.

At L'Auberge Chez Francois

332 Springvale Road, Great Falls, Virginia 22066

(Free parking on site)

- Seated, plated lunch (appetizer, entrée, dessert)
- Some stories
- Opening of the Year 2000 Time Capsule
- PVS is subsidizing our lunch at this special restaurant
- Cost to you: \$45 per person OR just \$35 per person if paid by August 15, 2021
- Last call for all reservations is September 1
- Send check payable to "Potomac Valley Skiers" to Nancy McKinley (with registration sheet attached)



PVS 55+1 Anniversary Luncheon Registration

**Wednesday, September 29, 2021
At L'Auberge Chez Francois
332 Springvale Road, Great Falls, Virginia 22066
Noon to 3:00 p.m.**

Name(s):

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of Reservations: ____

Check, *payable to Potomac Valley Skiers*, enclosed for: \$ _____

\$45 per person OR \$35 per person if paid by August 15, 2021.

Note: last call for reservations is September 1

Do you need a ride? ____ (yes) ____ (no)

Are you willing to give a ride? ____ (yes) ____ (no)

- **Please note that this is an indoor event held in accordance with prevailing Covid-19 guidelines.**

Please send registration and check *payable to "Potomac Valley Skiers"* to:

Nancy McKinley, 1805 Crystal Drive, Unit 813, Arlington, VA 22202

Coming Event

Special Event !!!

Join us at PVS' 30th (*not* annual)

STEAK AND SWIM



At the HINES'
Saturday August 7, 2021 -- 3pm
Rain or Shine



This is PVS' oldest annual club event, except that it's not quite annual!
Celebrate summer in the Blue Ridge foothills in Delaplane, VA.
Enjoy good food, camaraderie, open space, and maybe even a dip in the pool!

Limited to 25. Reserve Now!
Deadline to sign up or cancel is August 1st.

BRING: Your own bathing suit and towel and either an **appetizer or dessert.**

INCLUDED: steaks, baked potatoes, salads, fixings, beverages and (hopefully) sunshine!!

Cost: \$20 per person (unfortunately, inflation has overtaken us).

NOTE: All participants will be asked to follow the then in-place State of Virginia COVID guidelines, if any.

To sign up or for directions phone Kerry or Marianne at 540 364-4810, or email mchines@erols.com and tell them what you'll bring.

SKI TALK

July 2021

Life is beginning to feel more normal. We are going out more; meeting friends; going to restaurants; planning trips. We were hoping to have definitive information on our Snowmass trip by this time, but that is not to be. We are in close contact with the new owners of Mountain Chalet in Snowmass, and they assure us they will be open next ski season. Our vendor, Doug Horstman, from Encompasse Tours, is in the process of working out a contract for our club, but it is not finalized in time to be included in this TOOT. We will send a blast email once details have been worked out. In the meantime, we strongly encourage you to let Kathy Lake know if you are planning on going. See her email address below.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is more important now than ever to take out travel insurance. We **STRONGLY** recommend that everyone accept coverage. With pricing starting at just 7% of your trip cost, protecting your investment is a reasonable thing to do. Claims on ski trips are significantly greater than typical travel packages for logical reasons. Skiers confront weather delays, cancellations, the peak of the flu/covid season, and occasional injuries sustained by participating in an active sport. You may want to start your research. Most companies have at least three levels of coverage. Cancel for any Reason is the most expensive but often only covers 70-80% of the trip. If you do decide on Cancel for Any Reason, you will need to sign up for insurance within a week or so of putting a deposit on the trip. In this era of Covid, here is some information from the AIG/Travel Guard website, which is the company our vendor uses.

Am I covered, if I contract COVID-19?

If you contract COVID-19 prior to your departure, you may be covered for Trip Cancellation if there is a confirmed diagnosis, including proof of illness from your doctor that states you are medically unable to travel at the time of departure.

If you become ill with COVID-19 while on a covered trip, you could be covered for Medical Expense, Trip Interruption, Trip Delay, and Emergency Medical Evacuation benefits if there is a confirmed diagnosis, including proof of illness from a doctor.

- Trip Interruption can provide coverage for the unused portion of your prepaid and non-refundable expenses, as well as additional transportation expenses incurred to return home or rejoin your trip.
- Trip Delay can provide coverage for additional expenses you may incur for hotel, meals and certain transportation costs incurred if you are required by a physician to quarantine.
- Medical Expense and Emergency Medical Evacuation can provide coverage for medical expenses incurred while being treated for COVID-19.

These coverages are subject to the terms and conditions of your insurance policy.

What happens if I am traveling to a country that requires a COVID-19 test when I arrive, and I test positive?

AIG/Travel Guard is treating COVID-19 like any other unexpected illness. When you arrive, if you test positive for the virus, you could be eligible for coverage. If a doctor requires you to be hospitalized or quarantined, you could be eligible for Trip Interruption, Trip Delay, Medical Expense and Emergency Medical Evacuation coverage. A confirmed diagnosis and proof of illness from a physician is required. Coverage is subject to the terms and conditions of your insurance policy

I want to cancel my travel plans because I'm afraid to travel due to the COVID-19. Am I covered?

Trip cancellation that is due solely to concern or fear of travel related to an epidemic or pandemic, including COVID-19, is not covered.

Purchasing travel insurance is super easy. If you are going on the Snowmass trip, each participant can obtain and pay for coverage by going to the website of our vendor, www.encompasse.com, clicking the "TRAVEL INSURANCE" link on the grey bar at the top of the page, and registering online with AIG/Travel Guard. Be sure to identify Encompasse as the booking agency at the appropriate spot on the registration form so that AIG/Travel Guard can certify the policy and interact with our vendor in the event of a claim. Please read your policy for details of coverage. If you have questions pertaining to your policy contact AIG/Travel Guard at 1.877.249.5376 (U.S. Toll Free).

BRSC 2022 Ski Trips:

- **2022 Western Carnival Jackson Hole** – January 29-February 5, 2022. While PVS is not going as a club, our members can sign up for the trip with another club.
- **2022 Eurofest Sölden, Austria** - February 18-26, 2022. Only two clubs have signed up for this trip (SCWDC and Fredericksburg). So while PVS is not participating in this trip, our members can book directly with Winter Ski and Sport. See flier on our website and below.
- **2022 Winterfest Jay Peak** - The 2022 trip will take place March 6-11, a Sunday through Friday trip with a 4-day lift pass included. See flier in this TOOT.

PVS 2022 trip to Snowmass.

As stated above, PVS is going to Snowmass next January, but will not have the final details for a few more weeks. More information to come. If you have not done so already, please let Kathy Lake know that you would like to be included in the trip:

kathylakehomes@yahoo.com

We will let you know as soon as reservations have been worked out.

If you have not done so, please get vaccinated so we can all be safe.

Rosemary Schwartzbard

rosemaryschw@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE

**SNOWMASS
JANUARY 12-19, 2022
LED BY KATHY AND BARRY LAKE**

**We are working with the new owners of the Mountain Chalet to secure rooms for our group. Please email Kathy Lake to let her know you are interested. We will let you know as soon as the contract is signed.
kathylakehomes@yahoo.com**



2022 Eurofest Sölden, Austria - Only two clubs (SCWDC and Fredericksburg) have signed up for this trip. BRSC is concerned over the lack of club participation. Unless there is more interest, the trip may have to be cancelled. Understanding that some clubs were hesitant to book Europe, BRSC developed the idea of the BRSC Club Mix as a way to stimulate participant interest. So, while PVS is not participating in this trip, our members can book directly with Winter Ski and Sport.



BRSC CLUB MIX
February 18-26, 2022
Open to BRSC Members!

Get Your "Bond" On & Ski Sölden!



Choose your trip package option with our online registration:

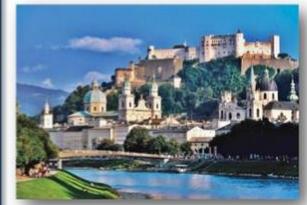
www.winterskiandsport.com/brsc-solden-club-mix-trip

Call Sheri @ 630-969-5739 for more info!

- 7 Nights in Sölden & Includes:**
- Hotel Tyrolerhof (4Star) \$2,981.00
 - Or Hotel Riders In (3Star) \$2,735.00
 - R/T Air from IAD to MUC
 - Transfers from MUC to Sölden
 - Located in the Center of Sölden
 - Breakfast & Dinner Daily
 - Wellness Center
 - Welcome Reception
 - Apres Ski
 - Farwell Dinner
 - Short walks to Lifts & Gondolas
- Runs: Beginner 36%; Intermediate 44%;
 Advanced 20% / Lifts Separate
- Glacier Skiing
 Additional:
- Site Tours to Innsbruck, 007 Element
 Museum & The Aqua Dome Spa
 Great Night Life!
- Walking Trails & plenty of Non Ski Activities!
- <https://www.tyrolerhof-soelden.com/en.html>
<https://www.ridersin-soelden.at/en/>
<https://www.soelden.com/winter/ski-area.html>



Pre or Post
Extension Options:
Amsterdam
Salzburg



2022 Winterfest Jay Peak - The 2022 trip will take place March 6-11, a Sunday through Friday trip with a 4-day lift pass included. The trip includes 5 nights lodging at the Stateside Lodge and, if needed, there are also 2-bedroom cottages available. The venue is ski in/ski out with a Monday night Welcome Party, a Wednesday Après Ski Party and a Thursday Farewell Party. There will be 2 buses, a northern bus and a southern bus. Presently, pick-up locations are the Columbia Fire House, The Baltimore White Marsh Mall and the Ashland area. The Tysons area is another possibility. The 56 Passenger bus will be limited to 40 people. There is also a U-drive option. Baltimore, Peninsula, and Columbia are signed up.

Members' Corner

By J. David Warthen, Jr.
dwarthen409@gmail.com



Happy Fourth of July!



For 245 years, the United States of America has been celebrating our Declaration of Independence from the monarch of Britain. John Adams had written to his wife Abigail: *“The second day of July 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more.”* We celebrate on the 4th since the Declaration was actually signed on 2 days later.

TOOT Distribution to 118 Members: - pdf: 108

Thanks to:

- TOOT Coordinator - E Thayer
- TOOT Layout Editors: J Marx, K Hines, & D Warthen
- July TOOT – K Hines
- TOOT Electronic Distribution – D Warthen

Roster Changes: <dwarthen409@gmail.com>



Membership Dues:

June 30, 2021 was the end of the biennial dues cycle. The new 2021-2023 PVS biennial dues cycle begins July 1, 2021 and ends on June 30, 2023. **You will be receiving a personal e-mail concerning your dues this month.** It would be appreciated if you could respond ASAP with payment. Below is a listing of the different classes of membership:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Active Individual Membership | \$40 |
| Active Couple Membership | \$70 |
| Associate Individual Membership | \$25 |
| Associate Couple Membership | \$40 |
| Absentee Individual Membership | \$25 |
| Absentee Couple Membership | \$40 |
| Junior (<18) | \$20 |
| Applicant Individual | \$50 |
| Applicant Couple | \$90 |
| Honorary Individual | N/A |
| Honorary Couple | N/A |

*FYI

Absentee Member must be a former Active Member, must have their primary residence greater than 75 miles from Washington, DC, and may not vote nor hold elective office. Those members qualifying for Absentee Member status may change their membership category at any time. Also, they may continue in or change to Active Member status. **Associate Member** must have a primary residence greater than 75 miles from Washington, DC. Similar to an Active Member, he/she must be sponsored by an Active or Absentee Member, attend at least one PVS event, and be approved by members at the annual meeting. Also, an Associate Member may not vote nor hold elective office. Associate Members do not count toward our 200-membership limit. Unlike an Absentee Member, an Associate Member never has been an Active Member and, therefore, cannot change back to Active Member status.





PVS - BYOB (Bring Your Own Book) group

Below are the books discussed in PVS' BYOB meeting in June. **See the info at the bottom for how to join us on July 8th at 4 pm!**

Here are the books we shared in June:

- Ellie Thayer has been reading "The New Ireland: How Europe's Most Conservative Country Became Its Most Liberal Country." Author Niall O'Dowd notes how abuses of the Catholic Church in Ireland led to an upheaval in social thought in the country.
- Mary Ellena Ward brought us the charming "The Complete Wizard of Oz Collection" that presents the 15 children's books about the mythical land of Oz, written by L. Frank Baum.
- Marianne Soponis has extended her reading of Anthony Horowitz by enjoying "Moriarty" which imagines a time when Sherlock Holmes meets his nemesis at Reichenbach Falls in Switzerland and tragedy ensues.
- Bonnie Sweeney, in her "regular" book club, has been reading "This is How It Always Is" by Laurie Frankel, a fictional account of how a family dealt with a child's transgender status.
- Jan Marx has begun "Apeirogon" by Colum McCann, about a Palestinian and an Israeli who become friends. She is concurrently reading "Surfacing," a novel by Margaret Atwood about discovering oneself through a journey through the protagonist's past in Quebec.
- Karen Zill found "There There" by Tommy Orange illuminating. Orange is an urban Native American and he weaves together the stories of the lives of 12 seemingly disparate characters as they make their way to the Big Oakland Powwow in Oakland, California.
- Nancy McKinley discussed the value of historical fiction, having read "Wolf Hall" by Hilary Mantel. Mantel's meticulous research made for a fascinating picture of the early 1500s in England, the role of Thomas Cromwell, and the rise of Anne Boleyn.

The next BYOB Zoom call will be held on Thursday, July 8 from 4 to 5 pm. Let Marianne Soponis know at marianne.soponis@gmail.com if you're interested in joining us and she'll put you on the list to get the link to the Zoom call. Questions or comments? Get in touch with Nancy McKinley at nancymckin@gmail.com or 703 595 8375.

SUMMERFEST 2021 AT WINDRIDGE VINEYARDS



On June 23, a beautiful day granted by the weather gods, 22 PVSers gathered for their first in-person social get together since the early months of 2020. Gentle breezes and moderate temps prevailed for the entire afternoon lunch event. Three picnic tables with umbrellas were reserved for us on a grassy area with scenic views overlooking parklands and Sugarloaf Mountain. The casual, social ambiance provided an atmosphere we all enjoyed while catching up with friends and meeting newer club members.

Many brought a picnic lunch; others took advantage of the tasty appetizer/snacks available from the vineyard. Four bottles of a variety of wines were quite delicious and available for attendees to savor—several members took wine home for personal use. (Personally, I found the wines to be much better than those of typical local wineries or vineyards.)



Eventually Barry Lake conducted a short business meeting, followed by Marianne Sponis discussing future activities, some of which are still going on virtually. Kathy Lake then followed up with more good news about our Snowmass ski trip. Although not guaranteed, it looks like we will be going back to Snowmass Mountain Chalet in 2022.

Lastly, it was my pleasure to arrange our SummerFest at this lovely venue. I received a number of compliments from attendees indicating that our group thoroughly enjoyed the event.

Submitted by Sharon Mulholland



Calendar

Thu Jul 08 BYOB (Bring Your Own Book) Zoom at 4:00-5:00 PM, N. McKinley
Sat Aug 07 Steak & Swim, 3:00 pm at the home of K. & M. Hines, Delaplane, VA
Wed Sep 29 PVS Anniversary Luncheon , 12:00-3:00. L'Auberge Chez Francois,
Great Falls, VA

Ski Trips:

Jan 12-19 - 2022, Save the date.

Snowmass, Colorado. Led by Kathy & Barry Lake

ExCom Officers, Board
Members, and Chairpersons

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

Useful Ski “Links”

[Potomac Valley Skiers](#)
[BRSC Sanctioned Trips](#)
[DC Ski Online News](#)

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.