

VOLUME 54  
NUMBER 2

*Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.*  
WASHINGTON MARYLAND VIRGINIA

FEBRUARY 2019

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### President's Message

### WHY SKI?

We are at the peak of the ski season.

It is appropriate that I write about skiing.

But, why ski?

The simplest answer is because we want to.<sup>1</sup> We enjoy it. People rarely do that which they do not want to [do].<sup>2</sup>

More detailed reasons for skiing are below. (The author notes, as those who have seen him ski can attest, that he is not actually capable of doing that which he describes below. Like life, ski columns should be illuminated with fiction. They should recognize that life needs *joie de vivre*, which of necessity is sometimes made up.

**GLIDING DOWN MOUNTAINS:** We ski to experience gliding down mountains. We attempt perfect arcs on descending snow-laden slopes; preferably with grace; preferably in perfect control; and preferably in cool, crisp, sunny weather.

Skiing has been analogized to flying, but skiing is neither flying nor sliding. Skiers seek smooth, elegant descents, eliminating the work of walking's unaesthetic friction of shoes against pavement and all else except perfect glides down the snow.

We ski for the sensations of descending mountains along smooth, aesthetic paths. This is why we ski.

*Continued on page 3*

## February Monthly Meeting



Saturday, February 16

2:00 PM

At the home of Janet Marx

8312 Oakford Drive

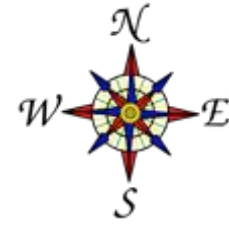
Springfield VA, 22152

<sup>1</sup> I do not know if purists other than I read this column. If they do, they should add the word "ski" after "because we want to" in order to give an object to the preposition "to."

<sup>2</sup> Please see footnote 1.

**Directions**

**February 16th Meeting  
Saturday 2:00 PM  
At the Home of Janet Marx  
8312 Oakford Drive  
Springfield VA, 22152  
jebbmarx@aol.com  
(H)703-451-9158 or (C) 703-314-7361**



**FROM NORTH ON THE BELTWAY:**

Take Exit 54A west onto Braddock Rd. Go to the fifth stop light and angle left onto Burke Lake Rd. Turn left at next stoplight onto Rolling Rd. Go to fourth stoplight and turn left onto Forrester Blvd. (called Hillside on the right side of Rolling). Go two short blocks and turn right onto Oakford Dr. (opposite the school on your left). Go about two blocks, past the Dead End sign to 8312 on your left.

**FROM SHIRLEY HWY AND 95:**

Exit 95 SOUTH at Old Keene Mill Rd (Hwy 644) West. Go to the seventh stoplight and turn right onto Rolling Rd. Go through one light, past McDonalds and turn right onto Roxbury Ave. (opposite the post office). Turn at the second right (road curves around to the left) onto Fenwood Dr. Go one block and dead end into Oakford Dr. Turn right and the house is the fourth on the left # 8312.

**FROM FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKWAY and Braddock Rd east:**

Go to Rolling Road at Kings Park. Turn right. Go to fifth stoplight and turn left onto Forrester Blvd. (called Hillside on the right side of Rolling). Go two short blocks and turn right onto Oakford Dr. (opposite the school on your left). Go about two blocks, past the Dead End sign to 8312 on your left.

**FROM FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKWAY and Old Keene Mill Rd:**

Go to Rolling Rd and turn left. Go through one light, past McDonalds and turn right onto Roxbury Ave. (opposite the post office). Turn at the second right (road curves around to the left) onto Fenwood Dr. Go one block and dead end into Oakford Dr. Turn right and the house is the fourth on the left # 8312.



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Nominating Committee respectfully submits the following candidates for the PVS offices indicated. The PVS Bylaws provide that: “Additional nominations may be made by the signatures of any five active members in good standing and must be presented at a business meeting at least one month prior to the election” – which are scheduled for the April 16 membership meeting.

Tom Tycz	President
Kal Nossuli	Vice-President
Jannes Gibson	EXCOM Member
Janet Marx	EXCOM Member
Mary Rose Valladares	EXCOM Member

Nominating Committee:	
Kerry Hines	Chairman
Marianne Hines	Member
Marianne Sponis	Member
Cara Jablon	Member
Joe Jevcak	Member

*President's Message continued from page 1.*

**THE CHALLENGES OF SKIING:** Many seek more than elegant skiing along a glide path. They ski not only for the sensation of gliding, but also to meet challenges.

Some thirst after steepness, allowing rhythmic flows and accomplishment.

Others seek speed. They want to ski fast, as fast as they can.

Some want moguls. The bumps demand pin-point turns and perfect concentration.

Some skiers go into trees, requiring even more skill and concentration.

Some ski to confront risk.

By pushing the limits of our abilities, skiers challenge themselves.<sup>3</sup> They ski for the utmost in physical and mental challenges.<sup>4</sup>

**SKIING FOR TRANSPORTATION:** A rather old-fashioned reason for skiing is to get where one wants to go. Some ski for transportation. My sage, Kerry Hines, told me that this section should come first among the reasons for skiing, that initially people skied for transportation. For example, he said that once Colorado mail was delivered on cross-country skis.

My family used to live on the top of a country road in Liberty, New York, not too far from the then famous Grossinger's Hotel. Lore has it when people were snowed in, someone would ski down to Grossinger's or into the village of Liberty to get food or whatever.

I remember photographs of my Aunt Shirley on skis. But how could she or anyone else possibly get back up the steep hills, especially carrying food? Maybe, they took backpacks. Maybe they carried sleighs, but if they did, how could they also travel with skis and poles? Maybe, they waited until spring to return home, but this would have created a long wait for those hungry souls who were left behind. My family had a sufficiently poetic version of truth to mirror that of even some presidents so I accept that they skied to get food and necessities.

My family was not alone in skiing to get places. Movies reflected the culture of the day. Many movies show people skiing not for amusement, but to escape perils or to catch others who were ahead. Alfred Hitchcock and James Bond movies are exemplary. In *Sun Valley Serenade*, Sonja Henie and John Payne (or their stand-ins) skied to find each other and love. See December 2017, *President's Message*. Although they do not often ski for transportation, PVS members have been known to use skis to get to slope-side restaurants.

**POSITIVE ADJUNCTS TO SKIING:** By skiing, people can absorb experiences. They can view scenery from high up. White snow on the slopes bounded by snow-laden trees creates striking and at the same time calming sights. The cool, outdoor weather carries well-being.

Country restaurants abide near ski areas. Towns, lodgings, and stores heated with wood-burning stoves often await.

**EXERCISE:** Arguably, heavy work provides productive exercise. Skiing affords exercise without what the Philistines view as useful work.

**PVS MEMBERS:** When skiing, skiers may meet with PVS members. This, certainly, is a primary reason to ski.



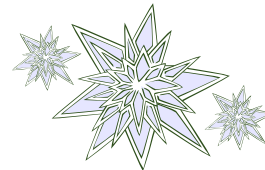
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<sup>3</sup> Vermont ice is a challenge that may be thrust upon skiers, but its mastery also gives satisfaction. Public relations information purveyors notwithstanding, Vermont ice has been known to gravitate to Western and European slopes.

<sup>4</sup> Physical action aids mental capabilities or so I am told.

# *SKI TALK*

## *February 2019*



We just returned from another wonderful Snowmass trip. This year the conditions were close to perfect, although some people complained about too much powder! Skiing in powder has a different feel from freshly groomed trails and requires a slightly different technique. When most of us learned to ski in the dark ages we were told to lean back in powder to get control. While this was correct when using the old straight skis, equipment has changed. Our new shaped, wider skis glide through powder differently.

Here are a few tips for skiing powder:

1. **Keep your feet together** so your skis cut the snow as one. A narrow stance enhances your ability to make the turn.
2. **Use your hands.** Always keep both hands up in front of you when you ski. Make sure you do not drop your inside hand. This will help you balance over the skis.
3. **Do not sit back.** Sitting back will take the weight off your ski tips. It is an extremely inefficient way to ski as it takes a much greater amount of strength and energy.
4. **Keep your weight centered and slightly forward.** You want to have enough pressure on the balls of your feet so you feel the ski flex under your foot.
5. **Use an up and down motion** to make your turns. This does two things: it gives you a feel for the skis under your feet and allows you to experience them through a turn – up to start and steer the feet into the turn, and down to finish it.
6. **Keep your speed consistent** by keeping it the same from one turn to the next.

Another problem when skiing in powder is what to do if you fall and your ski comes off. This happened to one of our members when we were skiing together in about 8 inches of powder in very low visibility. She fell; her ski came off and she could not get it back on. I was several feet down slope and could not help. After seeing her struggle for ten or so minutes I was about to call ski patrol when I saw a ski instructor coming down the hill with his class. I yelled and asked him to help. Apparently snow got caught in her binding and it would not work properly. He took her ski and cleaned the binding by opening it and closing it several times. She could then get her boot into her binding and was able to ski off.

A couple of important issues here: always have a ski partner; be sure to have your phone and the ski patrol number; ask for help from ski instructors or others who may be nearby. Keep in mind that if you fall in powder and have trouble getting your ski back on your binding might be clogged with snow. Open and close it a few times to free the snow.

### **Ski Center LTD, Gaithersburg, Maryland.**

The Ski Shoppe, which was in Reisterstown, MD, and friends of Ski Center in Washington DC merged under new ownership. The staff from The Ski Shoppe have joined some of the staff at Ski Center to create a new ski shop in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Brian Eardley, previously of the Ski Center, is not part of this new venture. He is at Alpine Ski Shop in Fairfax, Virginia.

### **Snowmass 2020: January 25-February 1.**

Save the dates. Kathy and Barry Lake have agreed to lead the Snowmass BRSC trip next year. Watch the TOOT for more details.

The Ski Trip Committee (Kerry Hines, Nancy McKinley, Inga Lesjak and myself) are looking for ski trip proposals for 2020. Since Snowmass will be the end of January, a ski trip at the end of February or early/mid-March would be perfect. Please let me know if you would be willing to lead a trip to your favorite ski area. We will be glad to help with the arrangements.

Rosemary Schwartzbard  
[rosemaryschw@gmail.com](mailto:rosemaryschw@gmail.com)

## PVS LOCAL SKIING for 2019

**John Smith**

For local skiing, we try to get out as often as possible when the skiing is good. We normally ski at Liberty Mountain or Whitetail during the week. The arrangements need to be quite informal because we can't be sure of the conditions until a few days ahead of time. I normally check the latest conditions on Saturday or Sunday to decide which days are suitable, which day people prefer, and where is the best place to go. For those who want to car pool (recommended) we meet each morning in Gaithersburg. The directions and meeting time are posted in each week's announcement. I will coordinate the people who wish to join us. Let me know if you have a preference for what day you would like to go and where you would prefer.

I have an e-mail list of people who are interested in joining us for local skiing. PLEASE email me if you wish to be added to the notification list. Please provide you name, e-mail, and phone number so that you can be notified when the conditions are suitable.

### CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LOCAL SKIING:

Contact John Smith at:

1. Home phone: 301-299-8376
2. Cell phone: 301-461-2143
3. Send an e-mail to: [johnhsmith@juno.com](mailto:johnhsmith@juno.com)





## Ski Trip

### *Return to Steamboat Springs, Colorado, March 9-16, 2019*

We are conducting a Steamboat Springs ski trip that we hope will excite PVS Skiers. PVS frequented Steamboat Springs for many years. We now return. Steamboat Springs has varied terrain for all skiing levels; a large, well-kept mountain; long runs; 18 lifts, 165 trails, 2,965 acres; a historic town; unique restaurants; art, Western stores, antiques, museums; free ski area/town bus service. Included trip highlights are:



- **ROUNDTrip NONSTOP AIR: Dulles to Hayden, March 9, 9:15 am – 11:34 am; Return: Hayden to Dulles, March 16, 1:00 pm –6:31 pm.**
- **AIRPORT TRANSFERS TO GRAND HOTEL.**
- **STEAMBOAT GRAND HOTEL – 7 NIGHTS, 2 PER ROOM – HIGH END HOTEL - POOL, SPA AND SAUNA, FULL SERVICES, STORES AND AMENITIES - WALKING DISTANCE TO GONDOLA, LIFTS AND PLAZA FOOD, DRINK, SHOPS AND ACTIVITIES.**
- **SKI TRANSFERS FROM GRAND TO SKI STORAGE NEAR GONDOLA.**
- **LIFT TICKETS – 5 DAYS.**
- **PRE-TRIP PARTY; WELCOMING PIZZA-TYPE INITIAL GET-TOGETHER; GROUP FAREWELL DINNER; HAPPY HOURS.**
- **ESTIMATED COST - \$2,859 per person. MINIMUM GROUP AIR PARTICIPATION NECESSARY TO GUARANTY PRICING, ADJUSTMENTS IN PRICING POSSIBLE.**
- Trip details and changes in trip coverage and pricing to meet individual needs are available, such as non-participation in air or different lift ticket arrangements and scheduling.

We seek trip cohesion, including coordinated group skiing and activities opportunities, as desired, in what should be a peak ski weather week. Steamboat offers daily no-charge skiing opportunities with volunteer guides, skiing possibilities with Billy the Kid and discounted lessons. It has a renowned children's program for any with younger family members. We shall advise group participants of non-skiing recommendations, including special Steamboat restaurants like Café Diva, Bistro CV, the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Steakhouse (grill your own steaks) and the Laundry. The trip is being actively coordinated by Doug Horstman of Encompasse Tours. **ADDITIONAL MALE PARTICIPANT DESIRABLE TO SHARE HOTEL ROOM.** For details please contact us ([rcjablon@aol.com](mailto:rcjablon@aol.com); [robert.jablon@spiegelmc.com](mailto:robert.jablon@spiegelmc.com)) and see Trip Addendum below.

Bob and Cara



## *Steamboat Springs PVS March 9-16, 2019 SKI TRIP Addendum*

PVS' Steamboat Springs ski trip will be between March 9 – 16, 2019. The trip's timing should allow for both good weather and good skiing conditions. As we state in the Steamboat Springs ski trip flier, with the help of Doug Horstman of Encompasse Tours, trip participants will have lodging in the Steamboat Grand, a superior hotel within walking distance of the ski slopes and plaza; non-stop air fare at a group rate; Hayden airport shuttle service; ski tickets; and, most important, PVS member participation. We shall have discounted lift tickets as part of the group package.

The Grand Hotel has a near monopoly of what it calls "beautifully appointed" hotel rooms proximate to gondola square and the ski lifts. **WE NEED ONE ADDITIONAL MALE PARTICIPANT TO SHARE A ROOM.** For additional participants, we shall make every effort to secure hotel rooms at the group price. Likewise, air travel availability and costs can change for new participants, but we shall attempt to maintain group participation and pricing for all who want to attend. Airport shuttle service to and from the Grand will be provided. We shall make every effort to accommodate new attendees, who are invited and welcome.

The Steamboat Springs ski mountain has interesting, varied, well-serviced terrain in a unique Western town. We are working to achieve a successful trip.

Bob and Cara



THE STEAMBOAT  
GRAND



Past Event - January 20, 2019

**The Fantasticks** at The Little Theatre of Alexandria!



The Little Theatre of Alexandria is just one of many wonderful venues for theater-lovers to get their fill of entertainment in the Washington DC area. Shirley Rettig formed a group of those folks from PVS to see the whimsical little show, **The Fantasticks**, and we all enjoyed the antics of the players on a cold January Sunday afternoon.

The Fantasticks tells the tale of two lovers who are unwittingly drawn together by their respective parents only to find that the reality of day to day life is not like the fairytales they'd thought it would be. Only by experiencing challenges separately out in the world are they able to come back together to realize that love itself is the magic. By being together they can face the world and all its vagaries. And they lived, presumably, happily ever after!

Several of the group enjoyed dinner after the show as well. Many thanks to Shirley for organizing this fun event!

*Submitted by Nancy McKinley*



Past Event

**January 19, 2019 Monthly Meeting  
At the home of John Holt**



berry tort. Also on his table crackers, sausage, veggies,



The threat of rain and sleet did not keep 34 skiers from January's afternoon meeting at John Holt's beautiful home overlooking Pimmit Creek. (The rain definitely came later in the day.) We welcomed guests, Chris and Phil Robinson, and Applicant Members, Kathi Daylor and Joseph Kurlick.

John had been busy in his kitchen making deviled eggs, apple pie, brownies, and a were shrimp, cheese, grapes, pound cake, and



more. Besides choices of wine, several kinds of beer were available.

During the business meeting, President Bob Jablon welcomed everyone, called on Nancy McKinley to tell us about upcoming events, and called on Rosemary Schwartzbard and the ski trip leaders to talk about their trips.



The Snowmass trip just returned and tales were told. John Smith, the club's local skiing guru, reported that the local ski areas are almost totally open and making snow, and his e-mails for proposed ski days will be out soon.

Thanks you, John for hosting a most enjoyable afternoon.

*Submitted by Jan Marx*



## Completed Ski Trip

## *Snowmass 2019 PVS Ski Trip*

On January 9, 2019 most of the 32 avid skiers arrived for this year's Snowmass ski trip. A few arrived earlier to get their ski legs back and help with altitude adjustment. The Snowmass Mountain Chalet hosted a welcome reception on our first night, which helped everyone mix and mingle and talk skiing as our long awaited first day would be upon us the next morning.



Our first day of skiing was glorious—sunshine with great conditions (lots of groomed slopes) and temps in the 30s. What more can you ask for that first day out! A few skiers were successfully trying out new body parts and some were hoping they remembered their techniques from their last ski trip. That evening we enjoyed our PVS wine and cheese party. Kathy and Barry Lake put on a great party, and Kathy filled us in on the details for the remaining days of our trip and answered questions.

Friday was a powder day, and the few possible predicted inches of snow turned out to be about 6-8 at Elk Camp and other areas on the mountain. It was challenging for many of us Easterners, but the powder hounds were on it with pleasure. Six folks opted to go with Jannes Gibson into Aspen, where they got a bus to Basalt for the Winter Celebration and Artist Reception at Tokiat Gallery. Jannes had a connection with the lady who ran the reception whose parents had led dogsled trips up into the mountains and built A-frames to stay in. Jannes's parents were two of those vacationers.



Saturday was a great ski day, with much of the snow being groomed, as Snowmass does so well. Adding to the excitement of the day was our Super Hero Tom Tycz in two different incidents. He and Mary aided in "saving" a young boy, who was taking a ski lesson and had ended up in a tree well with both skis still on as he was trying to catch up with his class. Apparently the ski instructor didn't miss him at the time, but the boy clearly needed the help which the Tyczs' provided--he remained calm and followed directions by taking both skis off whereby Tom was able to pull the boy out. He very politely thanked Mary and he and his two friends got back up on skis again as his instructor came racing up the hill looking for the boy. Earlier that day Tom

helped a small boy who was lost on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of our hotel. He coaxed the little guy into taking his hand as they went up to the lobby level (3<sup>rd</sup> floor) where the desk clerk seemed to know which mother he belonged to and promised to reunite the two.

Rosemary led a group of five of us one morning, and we were just in time for noon groom on Bear Bottom at Elk Camp. When we got there just at noon, there were many skiers lined up to take the corduroy down, but the ski patrol who release the ribbons to allow us to go were nowhere in sight. Rosemary mumbled something like "I hate to break the rules," but five minutes later she led the group under the ribbon and



away we went, top to bottom and half way down Adams Avenue as we were heading back for soup lunch--what a fabulous run!

Some of us went into Aspen for dinner that night. As usual this time of year the city was all lit up with Holiday lights and decorated with snow sculptures for the Winter Celebration. Dining at the French Alpine Bistro, famous for its fondue, or the other "White House," famous for its quick and tasty American cuisine, was a warm delight on a freezing night.



Saturday evening was our pizza party event and, once again, Kathy and Barry, with the assistance of others, did a great job. This was clearly evident by the time it took everyone to quiet down for the announcements of the evening. Several of us decided to play games afterwards in the lobby. This evening of games created quite a boisterous atmosphere. Rules required each person within the group to answer and bet on their answer to win. The person with the closest answer won. The question that caused the boisterous outrage was "what's the average speed of the Australian Dragonfly?" Talk about trivia!

Skiing and the camaraderie enjoyed with our PVS friends are our main reasons for going to Snowmass, but there is so much more to do in both Snowmass and Aspen, only a 25-minute free bus ride away. Thanks to Mary Ellena Ward's research of activities several of us attended the Blue Grass concert at the Aspen Opera House Sunday night. Six expertly skilled musicians, four of who sang with that awesome harmony reserved for Blue Grass, entertained us. There was a Winter Celebration at Base Village with free s'mores, and wonderful live, jazz entertainment at the Limelight Lounge. The hotel sponsored an après ski party on Monday night. Ski lessons, taken by Dorian Janney, Jill Nelson and Sharon Mulholland, refreshed our forgotten techniques and taught us new ones. Rosemary Schwartzbard visited the Skye Gallery in Aspen, where the art objects ranged in price from \$3,000 and up. She fell in love with Saba made of Icelandic sheep fur, wire beads, and boat boxwood. Speaking of shopping, Ben Purcell forgot his new favorite tennis shoes and, lo and behold, he found the exact same ones on an Aspen shopping day at one of the consignment shops for one-third the price and in his size.



Not everyone went to Aspen for just shopping or eating. One small group of energetic skiers decided to test the slopes of Aspen Mountain on Monday. Bruce King coordinated the arrangements, and the group enjoyed skiing on a different set of slopes and basking in the sun on the deck at Janie's.



Our farewell dinner at the Snowmass Club had the ambiance of a PVS gathering in a perfectly sized room for our event. Plenty of wine for the evening along with a three-course dinner was the end to a perfect week. Kathy and Barry were presented with thank you gifts from the attendees, which included a green glass vase with an Aspen Leaf on it

from a local artist.

And, Dick Schwartzbard was surprised to receive that ever illusive, platinum medal on Nastar this year (or at least a copy of one). He was not skiing the day they ran that Nastar race, so Dick Lau did the honors his way.

Although some of us were snowed in at the Aspen airport for our trip home, we made the best of it. My roommate, Dorian, and I ended with a beautiful snowy, shuttle ride to Denver where we spent the night. All in all the Snowmass trip was just plain Awesome. Many of us are ready to sign up for next year with Kathy and Barry.



*Submitted by Sharon Mulholland*



## In Memoriam

PVS is sad to announce that Robert Nelson died on December 15, 2018 while attending a symposium at the University of Helsinki, Finland. Bob Nelson and his wife, Jill Nelson, became PVS members three years ago. PVS membership is a family affair as their daughter, Martha Nelson, and her husband, Aaron Schwartzbard, are also PVS members. Bob's brother-in-law (Jill's brother), Jon Wechsler, is also a PVS member. Bob and Jill have been skiing with the club at Snowmass. They also hosted a monthly meeting on a memorably stormy night in May 2018. The club expresses its sincere condolences to Jill and the rest of the family.

A memorial is planned for late April in conjunction with a symposium at the University of Maryland, where Bob was a professor at the School of Public Policy.

His obituary from *The Washington Post*, January 23, 2019:

Robert Nelson, U-Md. professor and expert on belief systems, dies at 74

By Bart Barnes

Robert H. Nelson, a professor at the University of Maryland and an author who wrote about belief systems and policies often thought to be in conflict, died Dec. 15 at a hotel in Helsinki, where he was attending a conference. He was 74.

The cause was acute appendicitis, said his wife, Jill Nelson.

Dr. Nelson joined the staff at U-Md.'s School of Public Policy in 1993 after 18 years as an Interior Department policy analyst. He trained as an economist but branched into other fields, including climate change and theology.

He wrote about the theological bases of economic theory in a 2001 book, "Economics as Religion," and again in 2010 in "The New Holy Wars: Economic Religion vs. Environmental Religion in Contemporary America," which explored not just the science behind environmentalism but also the moral implications.

"Environmentalists see humans engaged in acts of vast hubris, remaking the future ecosystems of the Earth," he wrote in an essay published in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* in 2010. "By playing 'God' with the Earth, humans seek to become as God themselves. The Bible's book of Deuteronomy reveals dire consequences for those who try to 'play God.' We learn that God will strike down sinners who 'worship other gods,' causing them to suffer 'infections, plague and war. He will blight your crops, covering them with mildew. All these devastations shall pursue you until you perish.'"

"It is no mere coincidence," he continued, "that contemporary environmentalism prophesies virtually the same set of calamities resulting from the warming of the earth — rising seas, famine, drought, pestilence, hurricanes and other natural disasters. Even without realizing it, environmentalism is recasting ancient biblical messages to a new secular vocabulary."

Robert Henry Nelson was born in Brockton, Mass., on Sept. 29, 1944. He graduated in 1966 from Brandeis University and received a doctorate in economics at Princeton University in 1971. He taught at City College of New York before moving to the Washington area in 1975.

His books included "Zoning and Property Rights" (1977) and "God? Very Probably: Five Rational Ways of Thinking About the Question of a God" (2015).

Survivors include his wife of 47 years, Jill Wechsler Nelson of Chevy Chase, Md.; two children, Fred Nelson of Underhill, Vt., and Martha I. Nelson of Washington; and three grandchildren.





## In Memoriam

### In Memoriam: Peggy Burns

Margaret "Peggy" C. Burns died peacefully on Christmas morning at age 97 in her apartment at Greenspring Village in Springfield, VA where she resided for the last nine years. A longtime resident of Lake Barcroft, she was an active volunteer in the Northern Virginia Girl Scout Council in the late 1950s and early 1960s. She was instrumental in buying new parcels of land for the Girl Scouts at Camp Crowell in Oakton, VA and Camp Coles Trip in Stafford, VA and overseeing the build-out of new facilities.

She and her husband Kirk L. Burns were early members of PVS. They both loved skiing and enjoyed hosting events for their many PVS friends at their lakeside home and chalet in Mt. Sutton, Canada.

Peggy was born in Philadelphia, PA to Mary Elizabeth Kennedy and John Connell. She graduated from Hallahan High School in Philadelphia and studied French at the University of Washington in Seattle before moving to France in 1949 where she and Kirk resided for five years before settling in Falls Church, VA.

*Reminiscences by Jan Marx:* Peggy was a wonderful friend, a warm and gracious host, and she had a sense of humor that made time with her great fun. Peggy and Kirk Burns introduced PVS to Mt Sutton during the club's early years. Their ski-out/ski-in chalet had three levels and a group of us (including small children) skied for a week and loved the mountain.

At their Lake Barcroft home, they encouraged members to come for a swim or to ice skate. If you didn't have a swimsuit or ice skates, they had a supply for you to use. Peggy and Kirk promoted dancing at club events and safety on the slopes. Peggy was a great and memorable PVSer.

# Members' Corner

J. David Warthen, Jr.  
[dwarthen409@gmail.com](mailto:dwarthen409@gmail.com)



**TOOT Distribution to 147 Members:**  
pdf: 131; USPS: 2

## Thanks to:

- TOOT Coordinator - E. Thayer
- TOOT Layout Editor – K. Hines
- TOOT USPS – J. Read & L. Triau
- TOOT Electronic - J. D. Warthen Jr

**Roster Changes:** (contact [dwarthen409@gmail.com](mailto:dwarthen409@gmail.com))  
-see the February 1, 2019 Roster

- J. David & Marsha C. Warthen Jr
- 301-755-0956 h (new)
- 3154 Gracefield Road, Apt 409 (new)
- Silver Spring, MD 20904-0808

Bing **Van Nuys** was unable to attend the Snowmass 2019 ski trip, because of an emergency quadruple bypass heart surgery on Christmas Day. Glad to hear that he is doing well and exceeding his cardiologist's expectations. Bing is talking already about skiing in 2020. Our prayers continue to be with him during his recovery.

Sheryl **Ulepik** had a mishap on the Snowmass 2019 trip, but coped well with crutches and threw them away occasionally. In true optimistic fashion, she also coped with the Denver Airport on the way home – what a trooper!



**I'm Fine, Thank You**

There is nothing the matter with me,  
I'm as healthy as one can be.  
I have arthritis in both my knees  
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.  
My pulse is weak and my blood is thin  
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Arch supports I have for my feet  
I wouldn't be able to be on the street  
Sleep is denied me night after night  
But every morning I find I'm all right  
My memory is failing, my head in a spin  
But I'm awfully well for the shape I am in.

The moral of this as my tale I unfold—  
That for you and me who are growing old.  
It is better to say "I'm fine" with a grin  
Than to let folks know the shape we are in.

How do I know that my youth is all spent?  
Well, my "get up and go" has got up and went  
But I really don't mind when I think with a grin  
Of all the grand places my "get up" has been.

Old age is golden, I have heard it said  
But sometimes I wonder as I get into bed  
With my ears in the drawer, my teeth in a cup.  
My eyes on the table until I wake up...  
Ere sleep overtakes me, I say to myself,  
"Is there anything else I could lay on the shelf?"

When I was young, my slippers were red  
I could kick my heels over my head  
When I was older, my slippers were blue  
But I could still dance the whole night through  
Now I am old. My slippers are black  
I walk to the store and puff my way back.  
I get up each morning and dust off my wits  
And pick up the paper and read the "Obits".  
If my name is missing, I know I'm not dead  
So I have a good breakfast and go back to bed.

Author Unknown

**PVS Calendar 2018**

Feb 16 Sat Monthly Meeting, Jan Marx, Springfield, VA, 2:00 PM  
 Mar Monthly Meeting, TBD  
 Apr 13 Sun Friends of Blob's Park Dance, Holt, College Park, MD, 7:30-11:00 PM  
 Apr 16 Tues Annual Meeting, Heitchue/Sinclair, Reston, VA, 7:30 PM

**PVS Ski Trips 2019:**



February 2-9, 2019  
**Sun Valley, ID** (Inge Lesjak)

March 9-16, 2019  
**Steamboat Springs, CO** (Cara & Bob Jablon)

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

**ExCom**

<p><b><u>Officers:</u></b>                  President – <i>Bob Jablon</i>                  V. President – <i>Janet Marx</i>                  Secretary – <i>Ellie Thayer</i>                  Treasurer – <i>Dick Schwartzbard</i>                  Ex Officio -  <b><u>Board Members:</u></b>  <u>First Term:</u>  <i>Melissa FitzGerald</i>  <i>John Holt</i>  <i>Barry Lake</i>  <u>Second Term:</u>  <i>Inge Lesjak</i>  <i>Nancy McKinley</i>  <i>Tom Tycz</i></p>	<p><b><u>Chairpersons:</u></b>                  Ski Trip Committee – <i>Rosemary Schwartzbard</i>                  Events – <i>Ray and Nancy McKinley</i>                  Membership Records – <i>Dave Warthen</i>                  Membership PR Reps – <i>Inge Lesjak &amp; Marianne Sophonis</i>                  TOOT Coordinator – <i>Ellie Thayer</i>                  TOOT Layout Editors – <i>Jan Marx, Kerry Hines &amp; Dave Warthen</i>                  TOOT (E-Distribution) – <i>Dave Warthen</i>                  TOOT (USPS Distribution) – <i>June Read &amp; Liz Triau</i>                  Webmaster – <i>Mary Ellena Ward</i>                  Meeting Records – <i>Sue Lyon</i>                  Historian – <i>Jan Marx</i></p>
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**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