



# Philadelphia Ski Club **TRACK**



Philadelphia Ski Club Founded 1936 | [www.philadelphiaskiclub.org](http://www.philadelphiaskiclub.org) | [philaskiclub@gmail.com](mailto:philaskiclub@gmail.com)

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## President's Message

*Mike Mazza*

Hi to All: The 2018/2019 ski season was a great one, we had three fantastic trips to Elk Mountain. In the driver's seat we had **Dave** and **Marion Brown** for those. Back by popular demand, our trip to Okemo Mountain was ski in - ski out at Jackson Gore, which was put together by **Tom Welsh** with some background help from **Dann Clapp**. The big trip to Mount Bachelor in Oregon was led by a husband and wife team, **Steve** and **Karen DiMeglio**. They went out of their way to make the trip a great one. We had one accident on the mountain and **Karen** helped behind the scenes to put together a safe return for the injured one. You'll read more about it in the Track articles to follow.

We had a nice bowling party, orchestrated by **Kat Blinebury**, who also put together some awesome dinner parties this season. We brought back golfing this year with **Mike Nelson** leading that charge. We had a great fall walk through Wissahickon Valley Park that was narrated by **Diane Garvey** and a fellow park volunteer. **Diane** hosted another walk through the Wissahickon in May that highlighted the horses and history in the park.

To all the board members, I would like to thank you for all your hard work to make the club what it is today. We have a new treasurer, **Greg Blizard**, who is in training with **John Flanagan**. The board is already working on selecting our trips and events for next season. We plan to have ski trip flyers and the 2019/2020 calendar out to you in early August. Have a great summer and we'll see you at the September picnic.



*The ski club tribe had it's usual vibe this season. Good times on the hill and afterward as well.*

*Thanks Kat!*



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## Tracking the Ski Trips of 2019



### Okemo, Vermont Trip

*Tom Welsh*



On Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, in nice weather our PSC group traveled to Okemo, Vermont. We did not see any snow on the ground until a few miles inside of Vermont (a good sight to see for skiers).

After we were checked into the hotel and our cars were parked in the underground “heated garage”, the staff supplied us with cocktails and wonderful hors d’oeuvres next to a cozy fire in the fireplace lounge. Shortly thereafter, we reconvened for a wonderful dinner at the Coleman Brooke Tavern. We were only missing one member, **Eric Frieze**, who could not join us until Monday evening. We had a total of 36 people for this trip. During this included and delicious sitdown dinner, I was informed that one of our tables took advantage of the 40% off wine sale not realizing that the wine was over \$200 a bottle. But our new members and wine connoisseurs: **Turner, Joshua, Chester** and **Christian** informed me the wine was worth it!

Each day started with breakfast at the Roundhouse Café and then on to wonderful skiing and good conditions. We did have fresh snow throughout the week. On Monday evening we had dinner on our own. I know a bunch of us went to Sam’s steakhouse where some of us had wonderfully aged steaks and we also celebrated **Dann Clapp’s** birthday.

On Tuesday evening, we gathered in the hotel lobby where we were then shuttled to Killarney’s, an Irish pub in the Town of Ludlow. There we had some comfort food in our own dining area. A few stayed for more Irish beers and spirits afterwards.

On Wednesday evening, at the Okemo Taphouse, also included with our package, we were able to enjoy a plentiful buffet dinner with some nice sweets for dessert.

On Thursday some of our members, **Oleg, Bob, John & Tom** headed to Killington for a day of skiing on different terrain. I believe **Dave** and **Marion Brown** also spent a day at Killington.

On Thursday evening, our last night, we congregated in the “Owners Library” and the Philadelphia Ski Club provided us with a wonderful pizza dinner. We also enjoyed a hotel arranged presentation by the Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences where we viewed and learned about certain snakes and turtles! Everyone



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contributed with their leftover foods and spirits and we had an ongoing party. The big hit was **Roe Crowley's** shotski and the dice game where **Kat, Wendy and Diane** went home with big bucks.

We had only one minor injury and after laying down her skis for the week, **Sue Byer** just stayed present to make sure everyone else was having a great time.

On a side note during the trip one of our former ski club members, **Denise Fedele**, came for a visit. It was great for those that used to ski with her to reconnect and spend some time with her. Also, **Bob Huntkowski's** girlfriend came down from northern Vermont, where she had been on business. She came down to join in the camaraderie and festivities of the PSC.

## Photos from Okemo 2019





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## More Photos from Okemo 2019





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## Snowshoe Adventures Okemo, Vermont *Janice Bartel*



Our 2019 Okemo snowshoe adventure this year started at Okemo State Forest at the Lowell Lake State Park. Wendy and I were joined this year by two new snowshoers - **Karen Dash** and **Lauren O'Neil McClure**. **Karen** is also a new ski club member. The trail we used around the lake is a picturesque easy trail that we chose to do on our first day, since we didn't want to scare the newbies on their first adventure. They did great, and we accomplished 4.5 miles, 10,251 steps and 7 floors. Great job to our new snowshoers!

The next day we headed to the Healdville Trail. This was the trail **Wendy Bartel, Karen and Steve DiMeglio** and I missed last year and ended up getting stuck on the snowmobile trail. Well, this year we found it and headed up the trail and found lots of tubes running from tree to tree extracting maple syrup. This was interesting, but we got tired of ducking under the tubes, so we backtracked and found another trail. That trail was an uphill climb with icy and rocky parts that were difficult at times. That day we accomplished 5 miles, 11,455 steps and 73 floors. We were definitely pooped after that and some of us ended up in the hot tub to recoup.

On Wednesday, since the roads were snow covered, we took the shuttle over to the Okemo Valley Nordic Center where we expanded our snowshoeing group. That day our group consisted of me, **Roe and Bruce Crowley** (their first snowshoeing adventure), **Kat Blinebury, Lauren O'Neil McClure, Karen Dash, and Wendy**. The Nordic





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Center is a golf course converted into a nordic center during the winter months for cross country skiing and snowshoeing. I love that our group is expanding.

Thursday, our last snowshoe day was Valentine's Day and we drove to Coolidge State Park and went snowshoeing on the Slack Hill Trail. There is no clear path to the trailhead, so you have to park on the road and snowshoe up the access road before you even get to the trailhead. It's an uphill switchback road, but once you get to the trailhead it's a pretty trail with lots of trees and peace and quiet. We tried to do this trail last year but ran into some paw prints and didn't want to take the risk of running into a wild animal, so we turned around and went to Okemo Mt. So glad we got to snowshoe it this year. While this was a beautiful trail, it was difficult because no one had been on the trail before us and we had to "break trail" in deep snow. We did 5.1 miles, 11,837 steps and 14 floors that day. It was a good ending to a great week at Jackson Gore.



**Mt. Bachelor, Oregon**

*Steve DiMeglio*



**An Eventful Trip**

We all gathered dark and early at 3am in terminal B of Philadelphia International Airport before the check-in kiosks and desks were open. We checked in, checked our luggage and headed to TSA for the usual hassle, and proceeded to board the plane to our layover at DFW in Dallas. It was a very turbulent flight as we flew through stormfronts on they out west. As luck would have it, they had closed DFW and we had to circle over Oklahoma for 40 minutes in the hope that it would reopen before our flight would be forced to land there instead. Of course, this meant that we would miss our connecting flight to Portland. Luckily DFW reopened and we were the first flight cleared for landing. But making our connection was still in jeopardy.

**Roe** and **Bruce Crowley** had upgraded their seats to first class for the trip which turned out to be extremely fortunate. They quickly deplaned and hustled over to the next gate where our connecting flight was. The gate attendant told **Roe** they were closing the door in 3 minutes! The rest of us were still stacked up in the rear of the first plane trying to follow them. Roe convinced the attendant that it would be extremely difficult to reschedule 28 people and he contacted the tower to gain extra time. We and our luggage all made it successfully onto our connecting flight to Portland.



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This leg of the journey was much better, and we arrived in Portland and met up with our bus driver, **James**, of Northwest Navigator. We stopped at the supermarket and the liquor store to stock up for the week and headed toward Bend. The trip took about 3 hours and we arrived at the Double Tree in Bend a bit earlier than expected at 4:30pm. Parking the bus was a challenge as snow and ice covered the entrance to the parking lot. Luckily **James** was able to maneuver the large bus to the back entrance and ease the bus into position to be unloaded.

We were greeted by our wonderful host for the week, **Jacob Myers**, the Group Sales Manager, for the hotel. His dedication to the success and our enjoyment on this trip was on a level that is beyond parallel. He had his crew unload the bus and deliver luggage and equipment to our rooms. He handed **Karen** and I a box of room keys and warm cookies to hand out as our fellow travelers came in the lobby so there was no need to go through any sort of check-in process at the desk. This was awesome after such a long trip. The hotel also provided twice daily luxury bus shuttle service to and from the mountain and picked up the tab for nightly storage of our skis/boards at the mountain.

**Jacob** then hosted and emceed our wine and cheese party. Never have we had a welcoming presentation like this. **Courtney** from Wanderlust Tours was there to inform us on the events we would be doing with them later in the week, a brew pub tour and a snowshoe/bonfire night. **Geoff** from Mt. Bachelor was there with our lift tickets, trail maps, emergency whistles and nylon bags. He then provided all of the information on the mountain, rentals and storage. **Rebecca**, the leader of the Mountain Ambassadors, was on hand to welcome us and let us know about our mountain tour with them the next morning. Questions were asked and answered. We all received special green bandanas to wear so the mountain employees and ambassadors would know who we are and take special care of us.

Our daily bus driver on the NW Navigator back and forth to the mountain was the wonderful **Rene**. She went above and beyond the call of duty every day for us. She safely got us to the mountain on snowy roads Sunday morning and we were greeted by the green-coated Mountain Ambassadors on the bus, warned of the danger of tree wells, and led into the building to prepare for the day on the runs.

We were divided into two groups with two ambassadors per group. Our Ambassadors, **Don** and **David**, were helpful and informative. They would bookend with one in the lead and one in the very back of the group to make sure that no one would get lost, left behind or left without a buddy. (We could learn a lot from this approach by the way. More on that later). The summit was closed this day due to visibility issues. There were areas that were challenging as a result, but it did seem to clear up as the day went on.



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Monday was a perfect, blue bird day, on the mountain. Clear skies, open lift to the summit and just a beautiful day on the runs. Monday night we had our optional Brew Pub Tour with **Courtney** and **Jason** of Wanderlust Tours. There were approximately 14 of us and we went to Worthy Brewery for a tour, tasting and dinner.

**Courtney** is extremely knowledgeable about beers and the brewing process. She gave us a behind the scenes tour of the facility and answered all our questions. There is a telescope in the tower that was focused on the moon and we all got an incredible view before dinner. When we got back to the table, dinner was served. The food and beer were very good. We then proceeded to Monkless to taste a flight of 6 Belgian brews. They stayed open late just for us and we were greeted and hosted by the owner, **Robin**, whose husband is the master brewer. She gave us a primer on Belgian beers and brewing and we enjoyed our tasting. We then headed back to the hotel to rest up for our day on the mountain Tuesday.

Now Tuesday was a truly challenging day on the mountain. It was a whiteout blizzard of a day with deep powder and almost zero visibility. While the powder was a magic carpet you could not see where the run was and where the trees began. Keeping the person in front of you in view was very difficult regardless of how close you were. Our large group fractured and some of us were left alone to find our way back to the lodge safely. Not easy given the depth of the snow, the extreme emptiness of the mountain in terms of other skiers/riders and the inability to see the tree wells. Some of the group had gone to the Cloudchaser lift area to get better visibility. Unfortunately, **Marion Brown** had a fall and suffered a serious to fracture to both her left arm and left leg. She was taken off the mountain and taken to the hospital where her husband **Dave** met them. She underwent a double surgery on Wednesday and was in the hospital until Friday afternoon. Some of us spent the day at the bar and looked out the windows to see nothing but white as the snow blustered across the mountain.

Wednesday, we split up. About half skied that day and the other half spent the morning on a two-hour long snowmobile tour around and about Mt. Bachelor. It was the first time for some of us and **Adam**, our guide, gave us a quick tutorial on the operation of the machine. The scenery was beautiful, and we reached speeds north of 40 mph on the tree-lined trails. Blasting through the powder on the wider sections was so much fun. We spent the evening at the Astro Lounge, a local bar that hosted a trivia contest. Team PhillySki came in second but we did win a free round of Green Tea Shots for winning one of the rounds. Fun time had by all.

Thursday everyone was back on the runs of Mt. Bachelor. Later we went on our Snowshoe/Bonfire Nature Tour with **Jason** from Wanderlust Tours. This was a great experience. Our party of a dozen or so were picked up at our hotel by our host and guide Jason and he was informative, fun and entertaining. He is extremely well versed in the outdoor life, from mountain climbing to hiking to astronomy and natural sciences. The first part of the tour was in fairly deep snow and partly uphill, but the snowshoes made for an easy stroll as Jason broke the trail ahead of us. He pointed out the various animal tracks and answered all our questions about the pine martin, how



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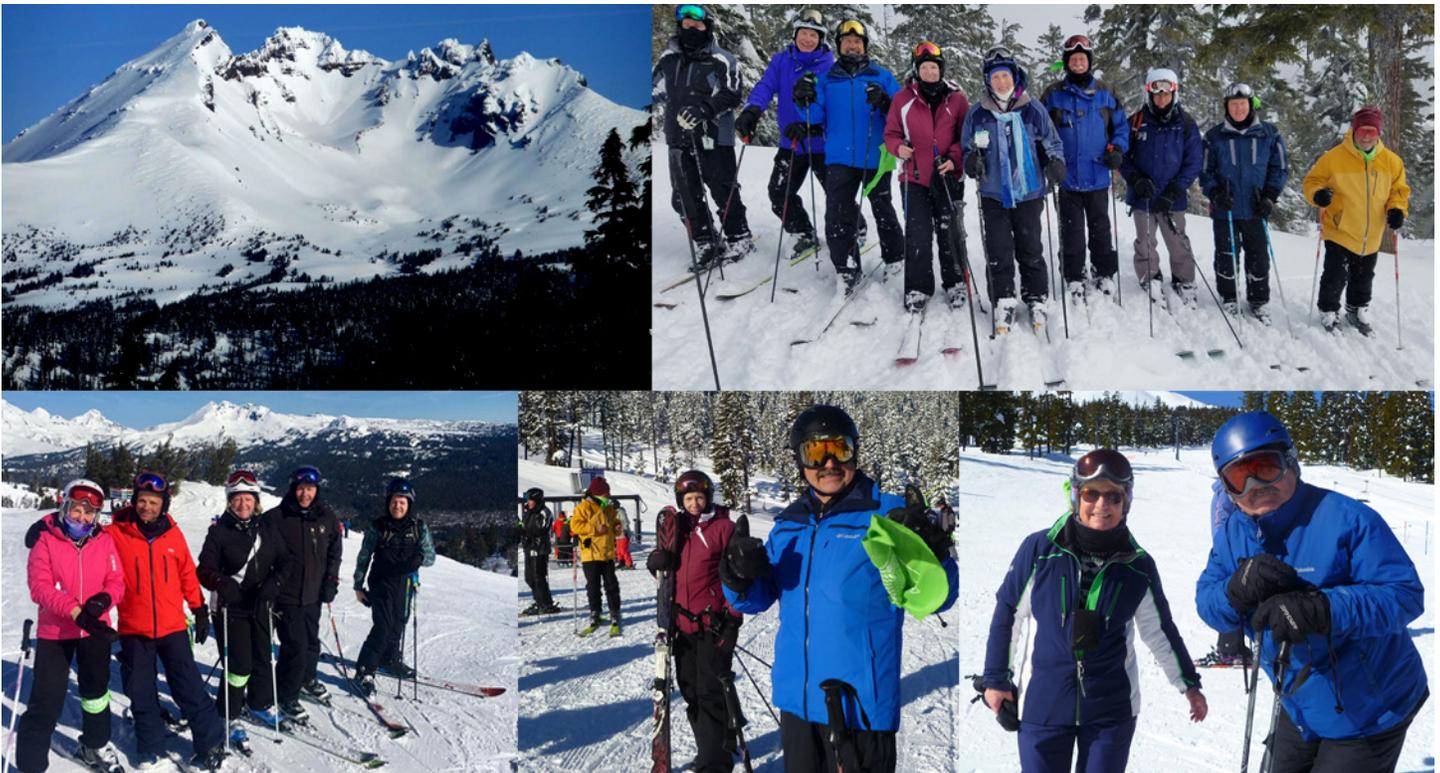


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they live and compete for territory. We learned about the constellations and the lore of Greek mythology. We also tasted the moss of the bear fur that grew on the pines and learned which mosses were poisonous. We made our way to a snow amphitheater that his partner Jared had prepared for us with lighting, seats, a roaring bonfire and some tasty flavored vodkas that you could drink straight or in some hot chocolate. Also had some tasty baked goods for us. We then made our way back to the van along a flat, wide trail to return to the hotel. The entire evening took about 3.5-4 hours and it was a wonderful way to spend a clear night at the base of the mountain.

Our last day, Friday, was another beautiful bluebird day on the mountain. A great time had by all. We concluded our evenings at the hotel with a great Pizza Party with pizzas by Pizza Mondo in Bend. Everyone brought their remaining food and libations and we had a great celebration again hosted by **Jacob. Dann Clapp** presented the awards speech and another rousing game of Left Right Center broke out in the back of the room. The party broke up earlier than usual since we had an early wakeup call to leave for the airport via the bus.

Come early Saturday morning we put out our bags at 4am for pickup and the staff loaded everything on to the bus for us. We met at 5am in the lobby for the 3-hour ride to the airport on the bus. Once the driver figured out how to work the lift to get **Marion** on the bus we were on our way and we got to Philadelphia Airport at around 11:00pm that night. It was a long travel day but we were all happy to have arrived home safely. Thank you to all of those who joined us and made this a thoroughly memorable trip!





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Mt. Bachelor, March 2019





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## More Photos from the Mt. Bachelor 2019





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**Snowshoe Adventures**  
**Mt. Bachelor**  
*Janice Bartel*



Our snowshoe adventure in Bend, Oregon began on Sunday with first picking up our rental car and then driving to Powder House to rent our snowshoes and poles. Let the snowshoeing begin! Just like in Vermont, we had another new ski club member joining us to snowshoe. Welcome **Elaine Egan!** Our first stop was Wanoga Sno-Park. Most of the sno-parks were located on Cascade Highway, the same road the skiers took to Mt. Bachelor. As we arrived at the Wanoga Sno-Park, we saw that we had plenty of company, since there was a snowmobile race that day. I'm not sure how many miles we did snowshoeing that day, but my phone tracked 5.3 miles and 12,063 steps. Some of that included picking up the car and snowshoes. The trail was nice and the sky was very blue that day. Unfortunately, **Elaine** had to carry her snowshoes most of the way since they were way too big for her. This park was definitely dog friendly, so Wendy was delighted.

The next day, **Wendy** and I ventured to another sno park called Swampy Lake, which is part of the Deschutes National Forest. We took the snowshoe long loop which ended up at Noreen's Shelter. The shelter was built in 2007 and is maintained by the Central Oregon Nordic Club. We walked in and noticed there were signs to be aware of rats, so we decided to eat our lunch outside in the fresh air. The view from the shelter was absolutely beautiful with the mountains in the background. After lunch we followed the trail back to the car to arrive back early to the hotel to get ready for our Brewery tours that night. That day we walked 7.8 miles, 17,703 steps and climbed 12 floors.

On Tuesday, the weather was snowy, so **Wendy, Elaine** (with smaller snowshoes) and I decided to take the 10 o'clock bus up from the Doubletree to Mt. Bachelor to snowshoe at the Nordic Center. We followed the yellow trail around the course and found ourselves back at the center. We took a little break and then headed out for the orange trail. While we were out the snow proceeded to get heavier and heavier, so we decided to turn around. All the tracks that we made on our way out were now covered over and it was hard to see. That day we accomplished 4.3 miles, 9,845 steps and 12 floors. We met up with the skiers in the lodge and jumped on the 2 o'clock bus back to the hotel.

Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, our group consisted of me, **Wendy, Jackie Pine, Kat,** and **Elaine,** and we headed to Tumalo Falls. This is an 89-foot waterfall on Tumalo Creek about 20 miles outside of Bend. The road to the base of the falls is closed in the winter so we had to snowshoe up the road, adding a couple miles each way to our snowshoe adventure. We passed several other groups coming and going to the falls. Once we reached the falls, we had to ascend a steep switchback trail to get to the top of the falls. We were there so we had to do it. When we reached the top of the falls it was a great photo opportunity, but a little scary since the lookout point deck was



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nearly filled with snow to the top of the handrail. The group decided to take another route back to the car. That path was narrow but ran along the creek and we were surrounded by trees, which gave us a more picturesque view. At the end of the day we had walked 8.1 miles, 18,230 steps and climbed 10 floors. It definitely was a hot tub day for some of us.

Thursday's adventure was just me and **Wendy** and we went to Meissner Sno-Park. When we arrived at the park there was a bus load of young children getting ready to cross country ski for the day. They were all so full of energy. We followed the snowshoe trail until it ended at a cabin. While up at the cabin, we met a young couple from Alaska with their toddler. The view from the top was full of snow-covered mountain peaks. Beautiful! This was a short day for us since we were doing the snowshoe trip with Wanderlust that night. The totals today, including the night snowshoe trip, were 7 miles, 15,770 steps and 8 floors.

On our last snowshoe day in Bend, we decided to go back to the Nordic Center at Mt. Bachelor and do the orange trail, since we couldn't find it on Tuesday when it was very snowy. The sky was very blue and the temperature was very pleasant on our last day. After we finished that day, we had walked 4.8 miles and 11,129 steps and 9 floors. Well, we ended up snowshoeing every day and I can tell you that I needed a rest.

As far as snowshoeing, I would say that Oregon had lots to offer.

## Snowshoe Photos from Mt. Bachelor 2019





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**Oops!**  
**Big Oops!**  
**Very Big Bad Oops!**  
*Marion Brown*



Yes, I had a pretty serious fall on the Wanoga intermediate trail at Mt. Bachelor. I broke my left humerus and fractured my left tibia plateau. Ski patrol, toboggan off the mountain, ambulance to the ER in Bend. Ouch! Following a double surgery the following morning and release from the hospital a couple days later, we flew home on the scheduled PSC return trip at the end of the week with me in a wheelchair and appreciating tons of support from PSC friends.

What happened? Here is the story:

We flew out on Saturday, about 30 of us. We skied Sunday and Monday. On Tuesday, **Dave** decided to take the day off and go to the museum. I was skiing with a group of nine PSC friends: intermediate trails with about six inches of new powder on top of the groomed base. It was challenging skiing and I was loving it. We stopped part way down the trail for a group photo. Starting up again, I was zig-zagging my way slowly forward, left to right and doing fine. But somehow, I zigged to the left and then did not quite manage the zag to the right! I did not hit anything and no one else was involved. **Kat** saw it happen and immediately fell too, a little up from me. She got up though as we all do in “most” instances. **John** stopped to see if I needed help and I said I did.

I landed on the right side of the trail, looking up at a beautiful blue sky, and blanketed in several inches of snow. I knew two things instantly: (1) I was in trouble and would be heading to the emergency room, and (2) the one thing I could control was my attitude.

**John** skied on down and called for the ski patrol. **Kat** called **Dave** to meet me at the emergency room. **Bob** and **Tony** et al, got my skies off and collected my poles. I breathed deeply and appreciated, so very much appreciated, that our PSC friends were there and taking care of everything! How wonderful!

**Randy**, the ski patrol person was terrific. He did a thorough assessment to be sure I did not have internal injuries (I did not) and that my spine was ok (my spine was fine), etc. The big concern was my left arm that was apparently wedged behind my back. However, I did not know this! I thought my left arm was resting at my left side. When **Randy** checked my reflexes on my left and right hands, he did both on the right side of my body. I could readily squeeze his hand with both my left and right hands, but I told him he was doing it wrong because my left hand was on my left side, so why was he checking my reflexes in my left hand on the right side of my body? I imagine everyone was rolling their eyes at this point!

Back home in Philadelphia, I am doing well. **Dave** is the hero in all of this as he continues to handle all of our daily living tasks plus assisting me as needed. I am TEMPORARILY in a wheelchair – non weight bearing (NWB) on both my left arm and left leg for ten to twelve weeks. Physical therapy is a huge help. Our son, **Andy Brown**, who is an EMT, quickly taught us how to get safely in and out of the house and the car and accompanied us to our initial doctor appointments. When the nurse removed the staples from my arm and my leg, **Dave** held my hand and **Andy** counted: 66 staples in my arm and 35 in my leg. Wow! Glad those are out of there!

I am looking forward to being on my feet again in a few weeks and will enjoy seeing everyone on our Elk trips in 2020.



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There are several big take-away's from this experience:

1. Ski with friends!
2. Put the ski patrol phone number into your phone.
3. PSC friends are the best!
4. Notice and KNOW the name of the trail you are skiing so that if you have to call the ski patrol, you can tell them where you are!
5. Label your gear to make it easier for your friends to collect!
6. THINK POSITIVE! It really does make a difference!

### The Big Oops, Part II

Philadelphia Ski Club friends – you are the best! Wow!

The Oops article was getting too long. I really also wanted to say:

THANKS to **Karen** and **Steve** and **Roe** for negotiating on my behalf with the bus company and the airlines.

THANKS to **Greg** and **Tony** and **Bob** and **Kat** and **John** and all who took my skies off me on the mountain and took my boots and helmet off me back in the ski patrol health center and then managed to find my boot bag and bring everything safely back to the hotel! Wow!

THANKS to **Kat**, riding in the ambulance with me to the emergency room: I told her it was not necessary, but she insisted, and, you know, that did feel so very good to me! Just knowing you were there, **Kat**!

**Renee**, our Navigator bus driver come to visit us in the hospital! What a surprise that was! We laughed and laughed together! Surely **Renee** was very good medicine for us that day! Thanks also to **Sue** for visiting me at the hospital and for helping in whatever way she could.

Thank you, **John** and **Charlie**, working with our bus driver at five o'clock on Saturday morning to figure how to work the lift. I was pretty nervous getting wheeled onto that lift, knowing that the driver really did not know how to operate it! John, your reassurance was so important!

Big, big thanks to **Diane Garvey** and **Dann Clapp** who knocked on our door around 4:45AM on the day of our departure ... with an empty luggage cart and their offer, which we very much needed, to take our remaining luggage items to the lobby and the bus. That still stands out in my mind as one of the most lovely and helpful surprises of this whole experience! Friends!

THANKS to **Marilyn** and **Kat** assisting me in the airport, which I really needed!

And to people who have sent cards and emails and calls cheering me on my recovery ... THANK YOU ALL!

THANKS, Philadelphia Ski Club Friends! You are the greatest!



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**Elk Mountain Trips**

*Marion Brown*



2019 was another great year for our Elk Mountain day trips. Mostly full buses with good friends plus several new people joining us on each trip ... they want in on the good times!

**Highlights:**

- **Riley** skied her first black diamond!
- **Denise Davis** enjoyed an excellent Elk lesson and got back into skiing after several years off.
- **Mike Nelson** continues to treat various grandchildren to the exhilaration of a ski day on the mountains!
- Our trips continue to include several multigenerational families - fun!
- February hoagie lunch treat – thanks to **Roe and Bruce Crowley** and **Steve and Karen DiMeglio**
- Great tacos for our après ski to round out our season on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Lows:**

- Bus troubles with an alternate bus company on our February trip caused delays and no heat! Br-r-r!

Moving forward, we have already reserved with our favorite and most reliable Hagey bus company for our 2020 Elk trips. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us on first Fridays:

- **January 3, 2020**
- **February 7, 2020**
- **March 6, 2020**

We really enjoy running the Elk trips!  
See you on the bus!

**7 Year Old Riley Skied Black Diamond at Elk**

*Rosemary Crowley, the proud grandmother!*

**Riley James Klink** recently had her 7<sup>th</sup> birthday and is in first grade at St. Katherine of Siena elementary school in Torresdale. The 2019 ski season was Riley's fifth winter on skis and provided a major accomplishment for all skiers – her first Black Diamond ski run. She was so excited to have skied her first black diamond run with her Mom, **Kaitlin Crowley!** And we are all so proud of her.

The Monday following the February Elk trip, **Riley** proudly shared her Elk Black Diamond pin and 'black diamond ski story' with her teacher (**Mrs. Nicholl**) and classmates. When **Kait** picked her up after school, **Mrs. Nicholl** asked what a black diamond was; she figured it was good based on **Riley's** excitement, but she and the kids were



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a bit puzzled. Just another reason why **Ri** loves her Philadelphia Ski Club friends – they share her goals and understand her lingo. Congratulations, **Riley!**

**Much appreciation to Miriam McCauley who prepares the trivia quizzes for each of our Elk bus trips!  
Miriam has been doing this for us for many years!  
Much thanks!**

What ski area in Pennsylvania’s Endless Mountains features 180 skiable acres with 27 trails for skiers and snowboarders of all skill levels?

- A. Montage
- B. Elk
- C. Jack Frost
- D. Shawnee

The answer is **B**. PSC’s favorite mountain, Elk!

Salute to 2019 trivia winners:

- Seth Weiss
- Barry Sussman
- Steve DiMeglio
- Jean Gucciardi
- Cynthia Solis
- Veronica Montefusco
- Leila Rosen
- Mike Mazza

You done real good!

With apologies to more winners whose names we did not get!

## 2019 Elk Mountain Photos



*Riley, Kait, and Brayden*



*Miriam McCauley*



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## Social Events Wrap-Up

*Kat Blinebury*



We wrapped up the 2018-2019 season with a Spring Fling Walk at Wissahickon Park on May 18th. **Diane Garvey** gave us a very informative “Horses and History” themed tour. We started at the Monastery Stables & Mansion off Kitchens Lane and took a few minutes to learn about the Monastery and to meet some of the stable residents.

There was a donkey, a miniature horse, a pony, mares, and geldings (no stallions allowed). They all had names that I don't remember now. We also watched a rider take a horse through some trotting, walking and jumping exercises for us. Then, we took off for about a two hour hike up and down some trails in the park. Did you know that there is a statue of **William Penn** in the park? The statue is called Toleration and commemorates his extraordinary policies of toleration. We had lunch back at the stable area and then some of us stayed on for a tour of the stables. Many thanks to Diane for arranging the parking and stable tour for us and for sharing all of her knowledge of the park, creek and horses. It was a wonderful day to be outside and this was a great way to enjoy it.

Our other social events this year included the always fun first meeting of the season, which is the picnic at Burholme Park. Thanks to **Dot James, Dann Clapp** and **Jim McCauley** for making that happen. We had two other more formal dinner meetings. The first was the holiday dinner at Gallo's in December. Gallo's has consistently been a great venue for us, with delicious food, especially the crab cakes and great service. Our second dinner meeting was in May at Randi's. We had an abundant buffet of really good food, unlimited wine and beer and just a great time. Many people went home quite happy with their prizes and some with plenty of leftovers.

We had a bowling party in April at Thunderbird Lanes. It was a smaller group this time, but I think it was just bad timing for many. It was still a lot of fun. Congratulations to the winners for top scores: **Tom Moravec, Kaitlin Crowley** and **Bruce Crowley**. I have to mention too that **Jackie Sloan** was only two points out of 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

We also brought back golf this season, which we did in October at the Northampton Valley Country Club. Thanks to **Mike Nelson** for putting together that successful outing. We had a fall foliage walk at Wissahickon Park with lunch at the Valley Green Inn in October. Another great hike organized by **Diane Garvey**.

We'll probably bring back some of the things we've done before to our calendar for next season, but the board is always interested in hearing from you on what we should plan. I've heard suggestions for a Phillies game, ax throwing, historical tours, and a distillery tour, which we'll look into.

Final thanks to everyone that participated in these events. It's always a pleasure to be with all of you.





# Philadelphia Ski Club **TRACK**



June 2019

## Photos from the Social Events of the Season





Philadelphia Ski Club  
**TRACK**



June 2019

And More Photos from the Social Events of the Season





# Philadelphia Ski Club **TRACK**



June 2019

## Side Tracks

The season was a great one and conditions for all of our trips were generally very good to excellent.

Well, as you probably noticed, I launched a redesign of the annual **TRACK** last year. The new format is in color. The version sent US mail will still be grayscale to keep printing costs down but you can view the Track in living color on the web site @[www.philadelphiaskiclub.org](http://www.philadelphiaskiclub.org) by clicking on the banner on the homepage. You can then print it out on your home printer. Thank you to **Tom Welsh** who utilized his professional photography talents to provide us with great shots from the Okemo Trip and some of the social events. Also a big thanks to **Charlie Haffey** for his great photos from the trips and events.



**Karen** and I were rookies charged with running the trip to Mt. Bachelor this year. We had quite a few challenges along the way but we did our best and we thank everyone for bearing with us and for their help and support. **Jacob Meyers** at the Doubletree and the entire crews at Mt. Bachelor and Wanderlust Tours made it both memorable and successful. I want to especially thank **Roe** for her assistance in making the show a success. I also reprised my role as the lost sheep on Tuesday during the snowstorm on the mountain. And we found the local speakeasy, aka, The Broom Closet which was across the street from the hotel. It was one of three hidden rooms in a hotel that was once a Catholic school. Thank you **Jacob** for buying our round!

**Roe** and I are also working on a fun, new t-shirt design for the club so members can purchase those for next season.

See you on the slopes next year. Until then, **Karen** and I wish you all a happy and healthy summer and fall. Be well. ~*Steve DiMeglio*



**Philadelphia Ski Club: Your Place for Winter Sports and Social Festivities all Year Long!**