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2018-3 – January 12, 2018 for March 7, 2018

Former NJ Governor, The Hon. Brendan T. Byrne '49 (deceased), wanted to be remembered for saving New Jersey's "Pine Barrens", and he credited **John McPhee** for creating his passion for the area based on one of John's early books – "*The Pine Barrens*". John was among the candidates to be considered as the 25 "*Most Influential Alumni*" (PAW January 10, 2018).

Glider pilot medalist **Matt Herron** wrote: "I went back to downhill skiing this year, but since my aging lungs no longer support heavy activities at altitude I purchased a glider O2 bottle, stuck it in a back pack and with a 'cannula' in my nose, hit the slopes. Result: I could ski as well as before.

Your secretary is grateful for frequent correspondents like Class Poet and former Smithsonian board member **Paul Hertelendy**. "I rented a bike on a Parisian sidewalk and snaked through traffic to the spacious (wooded) Bois de Boulogne, there to loop around the bucolic lakes and spend a couple of hours trying in vain to emulate the Tour de France, returning on last legs but refreshed, and only moderately wobblier than on my 8th-birthday first bike."

If you're a keen fly fisherman like me, you'd appreciate how much **Ned Jannotta** and **Jim** and Diane **Otis** enjoyed their visit to Don Rumsfeld '54's ranch in southwest Montana late last summer. Jim writes: "Great fun and saw many wild game including Antelope, moose, deer plus very good fishing on the Big Hole running through the ranch". (I'll try to catch up! My next two PAW columns will be submitted from streamside in New Zealand – our 17th excursion there.)

Daniel S. Blalock, Jr. died in Gainesville on December 9 and **Herschel Randolph Phelps, Jr.** died in Greeley, Colorado on Dec 12. I failed to note in an earlier PAW column that **Frederick J. Tritschler** died in Dallas this past September 3rd. A memorial by **Chris Webber** appeared in the December 6 PAW.