

# Snow Falls In Virginia



## Music Inside

Today I'm watching the first snowfall of this season, and coincidentally the first snow of 2017. At least here in Northern Virginia. As luck would have it, today is a Saturday, so I've avoided the Mad Max-like horrors of traveling out on our snowy highways. On the flip side, I'm stuck in the house all day and cabin fever strikes quickly.

We're presently up to about one-half inch, and with any luck, we'll have Washington, D.C. shut down for a week.

On this cold, snowy day, we need a little something to warm the place up. Something like, [Vanessa Mae](#) playing something really hot. With ice. Okay, just about everything Vanessa Mae does is pretty hot, but some things are hotter than others. So, how about a music video clip of Vanessa Mae in "The Devil's Trill."

On a snow-related question; Every time we get a snow storm everyone runs out and buys up melting salt and snow shovels. Now, I get the melting salt, but, snow shovels? What the hell did everyone do with the shovels from the last year?

A question to ponder...

---

# The Presidents Song



## President's Day

Today is a federal holiday celebrating Presidents Day. Here in Washington we're celebrating with another snow shower, which seems to be such a waste of a day off, given that even the hint of snow is enough to shut down the entire Washington metropolitan region. All this following Valentine's Day, so at least we should still be on good terms with our significant other.

For today's special holiday I thought to share a small American history lesson with my many readers. The last time I had any reason to read up on American history was helping Winnie study for her citizenship interview several years back. So, through the ever-wonderful YouTube I present a video clip of "The President's Song," singing all our president's names up to the current occupant of the White House President Barack Obama. I even like the music.

This does make me wonder how the song's authors will add in our next president, whomever that might be...

So happy President's day everyone! Hoping you'all had a nice Valentine's celebration yesterday, and a good day today.

---

# This and That, Deep Freeze Edition



## This And That

So it's been a cold and snowy week here in Northern Virginia. The daily temperatures have not gone over 35 degrees F all week, and some mornings we've been greeted with commuting temperatures in the single-digits. We had (depending upon the exact area) six to eleven inches of snow on Tuesday which pretty much shut down the entire region for Tuesday and Wednesday. Yes, it's been a true winter wonderland here in our nation's capitol and I think I can speak for most people in wishing for Spring weather.

The week started out with Martin Luther King Jr Day as a Federal holiday. Our government clients were off and us lowly contractors had to work, but we had the option to telecommute. Any work day that I don't need to slug into the office is a good day. Tuesday, there was a 100 percent chance of snow starting late morning, and with temps down on the high 20's the weather guesser's predictions were up to eleven inches accumulation. This weather is reportedly caused by a Polar Vortex, a weather phenomenon first identified in the early 1920's and seemingly not a big deal until now. Leave it to meteorologists to discover something 90 years early.

I woke up Tuesday morning and discovered that all Federal government offices were closed, along with most schools in northern Virginia. This meant another day of telecommuting for me and another good day at work. It did snow Tuesday as predicted, but we ended up only getting about 6 inches in this area. It was enough snow that Wednesday government offices were still essentially shut down and telecommuting encouraged. I decided to go in and ended up being one of three people in my office with my boss one of the other two. I'm hoping I might have earned some brownie points.

Thursday and Friday were full work days and busy days since we were essentially doing five day's work in two days.

Meanwhile, temperatures were down in the single digits and teens all week. We haven't seen this long a spell of cold for three years now and people really aren't used to it. In truth, the last two winters were exceptionally mild for this region and this is more of the traditional norm. It doesn't matter though, I'm a warm-weather person and I am really looking forward to Spring and getting my boats back out on the water!

The week ended with me getting mildly rear-ended driving home in my Rodeo Friday evening. It wasn't serious as these things go, more of an irritant, but I'm going to need a new rear bumper and class III trailer hitch assembly which means dealing with insurance companies and body shops.

In our evenings, Winnie and I have been really enjoying our new toy, a 50" Smart TV we treated ourselves to for Christmas. We both enjoy watching movies and a big screen like this is quite enjoyable. Given that it's too cold for us to be spending much time outside, having a chance to enjoy movies at home is very nice.

So that's the wrap-up for another week of life in the Charest household, Virginia edition. If you're living in an area of the country affected by the Polar Vortex, please keep warm.