

FIFTY – ONE FABLES

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Winnetka, IL
June 14, 2010

Greetings to all Classmates!

Good news from **Dave Batchelder**! He reports that he is feeling stronger every day and is champing at the bit to resume his editorship of *Fables*. You will instantly recognize his marvelous touch, starting with the issue after this one. Welcome back, Batch - we've missed you!

News From Hanover:

My last trip to Hanover was for our 55th reunion (Jean and I have the 60th inked into our calendars - it is June 13-15, 2011) so I'm badly out of touch with life there. I asked **Henry Nachman** if he would provide an update for us. Here's his report:

“As most of you know, Dartmouth inaugurated a new President last July - Jim Yong Kim. President Kim is a physician and an anthropologist with a worldwide reputation. He is committed to Dartmouth maintaining its dominant position as the leader in undergraduate education. He has quickly involved himself in every area of the College, from athletics to the performing arts to the classroom. And recently he has reorganized the top administration of the College. The various executives who report directly to the President have been reduced and the lines of communication streamlined. A recent development is the appointment of Carol Folt, Dean of the Faculty and professor of biological sciences, to the office of Provost.

“Dartmouth has recently completed admitting the Class of 2014. It is an amazing group! The College received over 19,000 applications and accepted 11% of these. The credentials of those admitted are absolutely mind-boggling. Their in-class and out-of-class accomplishments are remarkable. Dartmouth continues to attract the cream of the crop.

“On the athletic front there have been many upgrades and improvements to facilities and this should greatly help in recruitment. New soccer and lacrosse fields as well as total rebuilding of the baseball field have all been accomplished. The gym has gotten a facelift and a 14,000 square foot fitness center installed. Spring teams have been quite successful - the baseball team won the Ivy League for the second year in a row and qualified for the national college play-offs. The basketball program, which has been a disaster these past years, is looking up. Paul Cormier has been hired as coach. He was here in the 80’s and was our last successful basketball coach. Since leaving Dartmouth he has coached at other schools and the pro’s.

“As part of the recently-completed capital campaign many building projects were undertaken. Among them were two dormitory clusters housing 500 students, classroom facilities for the math, history and psych departments, Thayer School additions and instructional and living spaces at Tuck. Presently under construction is a new Life Sciences facility as well as a Visual Arts Center.

“The College has just completed an election to fill two Trustee positions as well as the board of the Association of Alumni. The slate proposed by the Alumni Council won in a landslide and, hopefully, we can now put aside the divisiveness that does inestimable damage to the College.

“This capsule view of what is going on is meant to whet your appetite. Come and pay us a visit. You will be very pleased with the Dartmouth of today!”

Henry

Jean and I were part of a record crowd of Chicago-area alums that welcomed President Kim to town this spring (**Reed Badgley** was also on hand). We were wowed by his clear grasp of the Dartmouth tradition and his enthusiastic embrace of it. He has a rare gift for connecting one-on-one and is a marvelous ambassador for the College. Our summary impression: Dartmouth has chosen an extraordinary leader!

NEWS FROM CLASSMATES:

Mark Helfer checked in from his delightful old (15th century!) farmhouse in Dorset, England. Mark knew he had found “home” when he first spotted Knitson Old Farmhouse more than fifty years ago. “I identified the Girl as well as the Place. When I first set eyes on Rachel she was 22 and boarding a friend’s pony and teaching kids to ride. The place is the same but she is now 76 and teaching great-grandchildren to ride! I am hugely enjoying re-reading my biggish library and enjoying the exciting lives of my grandkids. **Dave Batchelder** dropped in here a couple of years ago and left us with a jug of marvelous maple syrup which we used very sparingly and hid from our very fine offspring.”



Rachel Helfer riding with great-grandson Bradley



Mark Helfer's 15th century farmhouse

Mark's story piqued my curiosity as to where our classmates live. I was surprised to discover that only seven 51's have settled (and still live) outside of North America. In addition to the Helpers, they are **Hugh MacBrien** (Spain), **Bob McCabe** (France), and **Dave McDonough** (Italy). Marta Phillips, widow of Dave, lives in Peru. **Franz Pick** (Germany), **Lucky Quesada** (Peru) and **Wusan Lin** (China) returned to their home countries soon after graduating from Dartmouth. A far cry from the much more globalized, multi-cultural generations behind us!

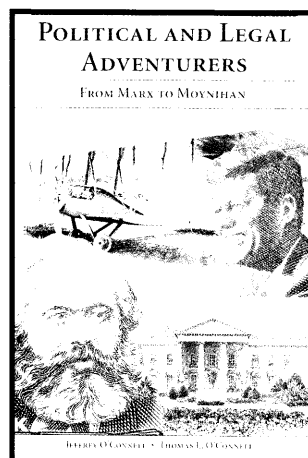
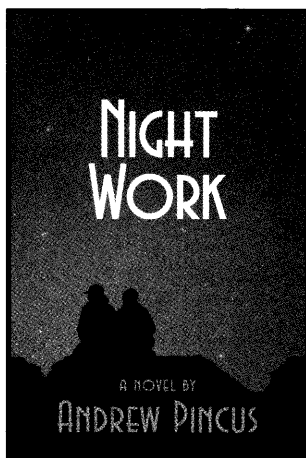
Where do we live in the U.S? Sixty-four 51's are in California, 63 in Florida (not counting part-time snowbirds), 14 in Arizona. That adds up to more than one-third of our 378 living classmates soaking up sun year-'round.

Dud Page is another member of our class who knew where he would spend the rest of his life the instant he saw it. Dud first visited Montana in 1950 and returned there immediately following completion of medical school. He practiced (anesthesiology) in Great Falls for 35 years, then moved to an idyllic 40-acre plot on Flathead Lake on the western (less windy) side of the Divide near Polson, MT. He and Ann Marie run a small tree farm and grow grapes (pinot noir) - "both call for long-range thinking." They also enjoy hiking and fishing right at their back door. Thinking about retiring? ("Nope!"). Slowing down? ("Yep!").

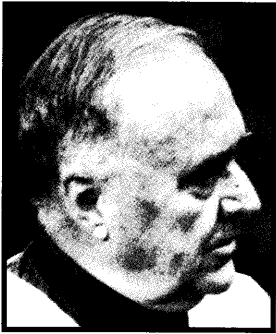
Charlie Hood is still a died-in-the-wool Massachusetts resident but he and Judy have recently moved from the long-time Hood family home in Brookline to a smaller, mostly one-story home overlooking the ocean in Manchester-by-the-Sea. There is a wonderful lilt to Charlie's voice as he speaks of the pride and excitement that he feels for the Hood Museum in Hanover. Charlie has retired from the Museum board but is still very involved in helping to chart an even more important future for this marvelous addition to the Dartmouth campus.

Among our classmates are several still-active authors. **Andy Pincus** will have a new novel (his second novel and fifth book) out next month. This one is titled "Night Work." Says Andy, "The theme is what all of us are here on earth for and what we can contribute. Dartmouth figures briefly in the new novel, which is partly autobiographical. The music of great composers is woven throughout the narrative." Andy is still active as a journalist specializing in classical music and continues to cover Tanglewood.

Jeff O'Connell and I shared a long, delightful catch-up lunch in Chicago last month and he left me with a copy of his fascinating new book, "Political and Legal Adventurers - From Marx to Moynihan" (written with his brother Tom, class of '50). This is a book of biographical essays on lawyers and others intertwined with law, public policy and politics. Among those covered: Felix Frankfurter, Dwight Eisenhower, Averell Harriman, Pat Moynihan, Bayard Rustin and Adlai Stevenson. I highly recommend it!



Recent books by '51 authors



Jeff Hart, one of a group of prolific '51 authors

Jeff Hart has written “about 10 books” and has two books being considered by publishers. His favorite so far? (Andy Pincus says that’s like choosing among one’s children). “Smiling Through the Cultural Catastrophe: Toward the Renewal of Higher Education” (Yale University Press). Jeff adds: “My tennis racquet stays in the closet. I was just 80. So what? Jacques Barzun, 102, lives in San Antonio. Madame Chiang Kai Shek lived to 105 and died in her Manhattan apartment.”

A welcome note from **Jerry Staton** describes a big surprise 80th birthday “do” arranged by his kids. “Theme of the party was our Minnesota cabin outhouse, with a life-sized duplicate, 3 holes and all, down which the 91 guests could drop contributions to my favorite charities, one of which was the ALS Association. I lost Shirley to that dreaded disease 9 years ago and have been alone since, visiting my 3 children and 5 grandkids, and spending summers on the lake, often with company but frequently solo in my island hermitage. The family cabin, now home for our 49th summer, is my favorite hobby, interest, and absorber of wealth! Counting 14 church youth canoe trips in the Boundary Waters, we must have had over 350 visitors over the years.

“Otherwise, I stay busy in the church as a volunteer care minister, serving on the green team, occasionally teaching, and writing lots of supportive letters. I enjoy gardening at home, fix-it projects, walking every day without fail, neighbors, an 8-guy lunch group, and keeping in touch with **Sam and Lucy Chu**, **Mark Helfer** a bit, and Dartmouth news.



George and Jean Biggs, Karen, and Janet in the Piazza del Duomo, Milan.

When I reached **George Biggs** in Georgetown, TX he was still on a high following an 80th birthday in Venice arranged by his two daughters for “Mom and Dad” and the two of them. “It was a euphoric experience! Venice is a place where I’ve always wanted to go.”

George has done a remarkable job of combining two life-long passions: music (he received a masters degree from Eastman and a doctorate from Indiana University) and theology. Those pursuits have included teaching, composing, conducting, singing, Bible study in Japan, and mission trips to the Yucatan where he worked with youthful piano students. I heard nothing to suggest that he slowing down - current activities include putting poetry to music (“Watching for God at Dawn”), singing in several choruses (he is taking voice lessons to preserve his upper range) and savoring live Metropolitan Opera broadcasts.

George and Jean are in close touch with **Duncan Booth** and his wife Mille in Canton, NH. They plan a foursome reunion in July.

There's another recurring theme: music! Last month we heard of **Reed Badgley's** continuing love of jazz. (Did I mention that the first piece of furniture he moved into his retirement quarters was his piano?). Now **Bob Langworthy** writes to describe "What I do in Manhattan:"

"Big Band - I play keys once a week in a 17-piece group (5 sax, 4 tpts, 4 'bones, 4 rhythm) and have for 15-20 years. The guys (and sometimes girls) are all music pro's - among them they played with Maynard Ferguson, Duke Ellington and Tito Puente.

"Singing groups - I sing in two different male-female groups. We read four to eight-part charts of Great American Songbook-type tunes.

"Life is a ball, even with a hip (not so hep) replacement in January. All fine now but, sadly, no more squash."

Don't these guys ever slow down? Not **Al Moses** who sent this fascinating update:

"Foolishly, or otherwise, I still work half a day: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The 7 a.m. arrival is to make sure no one is sitting at my desk. I joined my law firm, Covington & Burling, when I got out of the Navy in 1956 and have remained since, with detours to the White House in 1980 as President Carter's counsel, to Romania in 1994 as U.S. Ambassador, and later to serve as President Clinton's Special Envoy for the Cyprus Conflict in 1999-2001.



Ambassador Al Moses

"In 2001 I joined my former law partner, Gene Ludwig, as co-founder and COO of Promontory Financial Group. Gene had been U.S. Comptroller of the Currency and later vice chairman of Bankers Trust in New York. We advise banks and other financial institutions, primarily on regulatory matters. Promontory has grown and now spans the globe with offices in eleven cities across Europe, Asia and the Americas. This month Dubai will be no. 12. Two affiliated businesses, Promontory Interfinancial Network, an electronic network providing financial services for its 3,000 member banks, and CapGen, a private equity firm investing in banks, round out the business.

"At the same time I have managed to continue my affiliation with Covington & Burling, serving as Senior Council advising mainly clients close to my age who are too old to look for an older and better lawyer.

“As for involvement elsewhere, for the past ten years I have chaired UN Watch in Geneva that persistently and unsuccessfully struggles with the UN Human Rights Council as it goes about routinely condemning Israel for everything imaginable or unimaginable. Oh yes, in March the Human Rights Council also condemned the earthquake in Haiti.

“I also chaired the Centennial celebration of the American Jewish Committee (I am a former president). I am convinced I was elected because I was closest in age to the celebratory event. Up until last year I also served as chair of the National Board of Hebrew College in Newton, MA, and am still chairing the Project on Ethnic Relations in Princeton, NJ that focuses on ethnic conflicts in the former Yugoslavia and environs. In a decision that speaks more of hope than reality, I was recently chosen to chair the International Council of Beit Hatfutsot (Museum of Jewish History) in Tel Aviv. And later this month I will be in Madison Square Garden to receive an honorary degree from Yeshiva University, in what is certain to be my last appearance in “The Garden.”

“Health and family (much younger wife, four married children and eleven grandchildren) are good!”

Bill Beasley one-upped a story in last month’s Fables with this report from his home in Hanover:

“Although I have no children or grandchildren who attended Dartmouth, I think I can claim one distinction not shared by any other 51’s. My daughter Faith is a full professor at Dartmouth, teaching French. She attended Mount Holyoke and Princeton before coming to Dartmouth.”

Herb Knight alerted me to **Dick McFarland’s** interesting and wonderfully-contributive role at the McKnight Foundation. Here’s an update from Dick:

“I joined the board of the McKnight Foundation in 2005 and have found it to be a marvelous volunteer experience that I really enjoy. Joyce tells me I have been taken “hostage” by the foundation and that is probably true. A brief background would be as follows: William McKnight was one of the original incorporators of Minnesota Mining. It is a Minnesota-based family foundation and has assets of approximately \$1.8 billion and granted about \$98 million in 2009. Under Mr. McKnight’s direction, the foundation makes approximately 60% of its grants in Minnesota and the rest around the world.

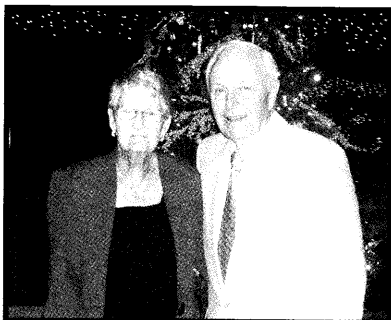
“Focuses of the foundation include environment, education and learning, arts, international concerns and neuroscience research.

“The governance is somewhat unusual, having eight family descendants of Mr. McKnight and four of us who are non-family. We recently made a decision to refocus the education and learning piece of our outreach. We determined that third grade literacy is a key predictor for later success. The academic success of a student (as defined by high school graduation) can be predicted with reasonable accuracy by knowing a student’s reading skill at the end of third grade. At the present time 41% of Twin Cities third graders are reading below grade level. We hope to serve as a catalyst for support to children from ages 0 to 8. We will focus our grant-making on the pre-K through third grade levels.

“In the Environment area, our focus is on climate change and cleaning up the Mississippi River. On the international front, I recently returned from a trip with other board members to Tanzania, where our emphasis is on economic development for women.

“The McKnight Foundation has been a great learning experience for me and I am hopeful to finish out my tour of duty which will end in 2014.”

Merle Thorpe divides the year between New Hampshire and Florida (“although Inge has been making noises about staying put in one place”). Says Merle:



Merle and Inge Thorpe

“I am still on a couple of boards, which I find challenging, time-consuming and invigorating. I’ve been on our condo board at the Seasons in New London, NH for more than 10 years and president for the last two. We have 5 members and 5 outsiders (all successful business people). It has been a real challenge keeping them all contributive and motivated.

“I still do a lot of writing (dictate to computer), working with spread sheets, etc. - all, proudly, totally paperless.

“I play golf 2-3 times a week but the past few months I’ve been distracted and my handicap has risen about 5 strokes to 20. I have vowed to buckle down this summer and bring it down to a respectable number. A related passion for 25 years is a national golf club (The 200 Club) where I am a director, former Captain and newsletter editor. I wrote a 50-year history in 2007.

“It is hard to imagine the changes in Hanover since we left. Two that stand out for me are Thayer School (I don’t recognize many of the courses! Lots of emphasis on statistics and medicine), and the Dartmouth Hitchcock medical complex (2,400+ doctors, enormous facilities, and great specialists who are instantly responsive to our needs.”

Will Wolfe and Joan moved in retirement 15 years ago to their long-time favorite vacation spot in Frankfort, MI. That followed a 30-year dental practice in Grand Rapids. And that followed stints driving a horse-drawn milk delivery truck (!) and serving in various personnel roles at Ford.

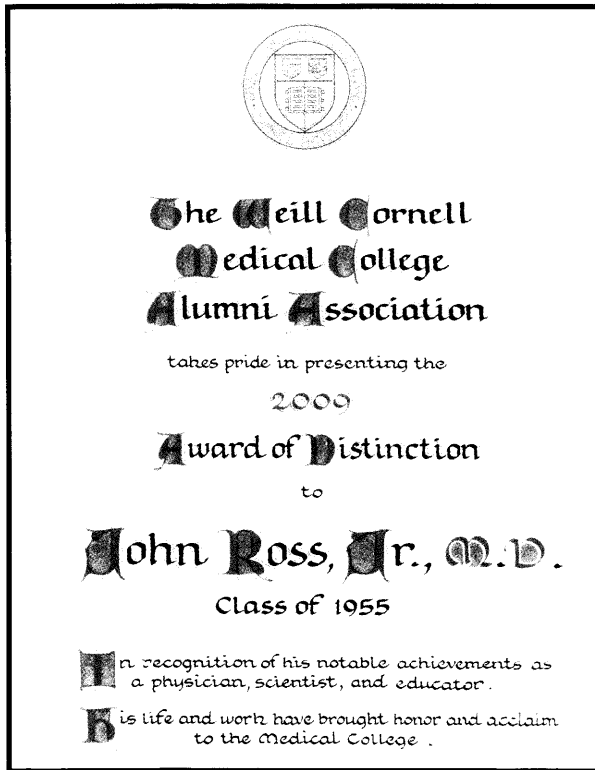
The joys of retirement for Will and Joan include fishing (“this is trout fishing month!”), birding and active involvement in a number of environmental preservation organizations. Will was especially pleased by Dartmouth’s leadership role in trail-blazing inter-disciplinary research related to improved health care delivery systems. This initiative received a major boost earlier this year as the result of a \$38 million anonymous gift to the College.

Will enjoys regular contact with Earl Brabb and Len Smith, both living in California.

Says Pete Bogardus: “Peirce McKee and I had lunch to discuss Dartmouth football. We’re hoping this will be a good year but lamenting that there is no John Clayton or Ted Eberle on the scene. Peirce still swims compete-tively - and wins! He’s in good shape with an excellent attitude.”

Who needs Facebook? Fables does the job! Joe Caldwell lived within 200 yards of Ben Sykes without knowing it but they reconnected as the result of a blurb in our class newsletter. They are now enjoying many good times in Riviera Beach, FL.

I phoned **John Ross** to learn more about his Alumni Award from Cornell, reported in last month's Fables. He sent me a copy of this beautiful scroll.



The accompanying citation makes clear John's extraordinary contributions as a medical educator, researcher and physician. He is Distinguished Professor of Medicine Emeritus at University of California, San Diego, serving there for more than 40 years, for 23 of which he was head of the Division of Cardiology. Of the more than 60 post-doctoral trainees in his experimental laboratory, 20 have become chairs of medical departments or divisions in the U.S., Europe, Israel and Japan.

John's professional honors include the James B Herrick Award of the American Heart Association, the Distinguished Scientist Award of the American College of Cardiology, the Ferrari Prize, a Grande Ufficiale Order of Merit from the President of Italy, and the American Heart Association's Eugene Braunwald Academic Mentorship Award. He has served as president of the American College of Cardiology and editor-in-chief of *Circulation*, the leading scientific Journal of the American Heart Association.

John Ross' Alumni Award of Distinction from Cornell

We join Cornell in saluting John for a life well led!

We report the recent deaths of two classmates:

- **Don Eddy** died November 30, 2009. Don served for 35 years as a Professor of English at Cornell University.
- **Vladimir Shishkoff** died September 2, 20⁰⁹. Reverend Shishkoff lived in Elmwood Park, NJ.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my two-issue fill-in assignment, reconnecting with old and new '51 friends. I come away from the experience with great admiration for the good taste shown by Dartmouth's admissions office in 1947! Thanks to all for responding so generously to my appeal for news.

We all look forward eagerly to welcoming Batch back to the *Fables* editor's chair with the next issue. Here's to 30 more years, Dave, of your role as our class communicator and connector!

Bliss



"I'm 92 years old, Larry ... why in the heck would I plant perennials?"

Best from,
Bliss

1951
FALL MINI-REUNION
HANOVER, OCTOBER 8-10, 2010

FRIDAY EVENING

Cocktails (open bar) and dinner at Rockefeller Center (North Main Street across from Baker). Cocktails at 6:30 PM will be followed by buffet dinner.

SATURDAY

Tailgate Party at the DOC House beginning at 10:30am. Bring your own sandwiches, picnic, beverages, etc. Parking is available.

Dartmouth vs Yale-- Football game, starting time 12:30pm (purchase your own tickets)

EVENING BANQUET - Catered by the Hanover Inn. Cocktails and 4-course sit-down dinner. Cocktail hour (open bar) starts at 6:30pm. Location will be the DOC House

LODGING

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Baymont Inn in West Lebanon (on the airport road). Rooms are \$99.99 plus tax. For reservations call 800-433-3466. State that you want one of the rooms reserved under Dartmouth College Class of 1951 reserved by Henry Nachman

-----Cut off and return as soon as possible-----

TO Henry Nachman, Jr
14 Dunster Drive
Hanover, NH 03755

Phone: 603-643-2143
E-mail: henry.nachman.jr@dartmouth.edu

FROM: _____

I/we will be attending the following events:

Friday Cocktails/ Dinner	# <u>✓</u> @ \$40. /person	<u>80</u>
Saturday Cocktails/ Dinner	# <u>✓</u> @ \$50. /person	<u>180</u>

MAKE CHECK TO "1951 MINI REUNION"

TOTAL \$ 180⁰⁰