



The Great Class of 1953---A Band of Brothers and Their Ladies

From our Esteemed Secretary and Keeper of the Class Notes --- Mark Smoller

As I write this, the snow is falling heavily and unbelievably the temperature is supposed to go up to fifty degrees today.

Once again, our honored and esteemed classmate, Peter Bridges wiled away his time during a similar snow event in Virginia by writing a brief memoir of his first two years in the U.S. Foreign Service, which were spent on the old Soviet desk in the State Department. It is a fascinating article in which he recounts some of the inner workings and machinations of our Department of State. I would heartily recommend it to you. You can find it in the new issue of the journal American Diplomacy.

Harlan Fair writes "I spent two weeks in Cuba with my companion, officially to visit my grandson Jimmy Fair who was studying under a Dartmouth program with the University of Havana. We traveled from Canada as individuals. There are almost no Americans traveling outside of tourist groups. This gave us complete flexibility. We stayed in Casa Particulares, a type of B&B for \$30 a day. The Cubans are friendly, happy and industrious. We spent a lot of time in Old Havana and learned as much as possible about the culture. The country is quite safe to walk around as compared to many of our cities, due to no guns and harsh penalties for violations. There are no motorized boats in Havana: Cuban nationals are not permitted to board motorized boats. We went on a field trip with Jimmy's class and the two Cuban professors had to receive a last minute approval to board a boat with the class.

The country is particularly colorful and attractive. Infrastructure problems abound. The original colonial buildings are slowly being brought back to their original charm. Great music. Love the 1950s cars."

Look for more information regarding our sensational Max-mini scheduled for Oct .3, 4, 5, and 6 in New York City. For complete up to the minute information please contact Charles Buchanan at CharlesBuchanan53@gmail.com.

We conclude sadly with our profound condolences to the families of our beloved classmates; Richard R. Kuhn, John D. Camp, Lawrence E. Harrison, Paul R. Bousquet, Charles R. Noll, and Harold W. **Presson, Mitch Strickler, Dick Nunley, Bob Pierce, and Arthur Little.**

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Collins Corner

Welcome to Spring and a new season for the Great Class of 1953. Boston had a delightfully mild winter compared to 2015 and we loved it! Your loyal and energetic class leaders, workers and organizers have been dutifully and creatively making sure that 2016 is another banner year for our Class in so many ways. 2015 closed with the two great Christmas luncheons, one in Hanover and one at the Yale Club in New York. Both well attended and a great chance to catch up with seldom seen classmates. Hope one or both will be on your calendar come December. As noted elsewhere in this Newsletter masterpiece, Dave Donovan's long standing March ski outing was cancelled due to lack of snow. A first ever!! However our erstwhile mini reunion co-chairs, Put Blodgett and Harlan Fair, carried on the tradition by hosting a wonderful event at Harlan Fair's place at Kendall. Attendees listed elsewhere.

I have been back and forth to Florida several times this winter, and had the opportunity to be at Harbour Ridge in time for Dick Fleming's annual bash mid-March. Once again, he had a good group of Harbour Ridge residents with varying degrees of association with Dartmouth including many '53's, spouses and widows. Included were Leo and Dolores Clancy, Al Collins, Lore Dodge, Dick Fleming, Nick Hagoort, George and Patty Sarnier, Bob and Anne Simpson, Jane Springer, Joe and Jane Stevens, Jean Vitalis and Jack and Jody Zimmermann. All in all, 47 assorted Dartmouth types enjoyed the wonderful hospitality of Dick Fleming, as we have for many years. Many thanks, Dick!



While I was at Harbour Ridge, I enjoyed the hospitality of hosts Bob and Anne Simpson at their wonderful home right on one of the golf greens. Harbour Ridge, the creation of classmate John Dodge many years ago, boasts two wonderful eighteen hole golf courses, a yacht club many tennis courts and a beautifully designed relatively new club house. The chairperson in charge of developing the impressive new clubhouse was none other than our own Bob Simpson who had an equally important role in the creation of our famously successful 1953 Commons! The picture is of the grand hostess of Harbour Ridge – Anne Simpson.

The New York mini-maxi reunion – October 4th through the 7th

Charlie Buchanan, our venerable reunion creator, is hard at work with his committee putting the final touches on our next mini-maxi reunion. It will include opportunities to visit some museums, a Broadway play, a few wonderful dinners with your classmates and fellow attendees, a river tour, some private entertainment, some personal time and of course an opportunity for the wonderful camaraderie that we always share on these events. Our past reunions up the Hudson to West Point and the well-attended time in Philadelphia in 2014 were greatly enjoyed by all who attended. This New York experience looks like another winner! I hope you will be able to put it



on your calendar and join us. More specific details from Charlie and his committee will follow shortly. Although we have several classmates already aboard, we would love to get an early feel for your interest, so please contact Charlie through his email to sign up or to have any questions answered. Charlesbuchanan53@gmail.com.

Dartmouth Alumni Fund – 1953 – and a New Record:



Yes, Ron Lazar, our record breaking Alumni Fund Chair has done it again. Under his leadership and the diligent commitment by his regional and class agents – and of course you – we achieved a remarkable **75%** participation for the campaign ending this past July. Truly remarkable!

We are now well underway on this year's campaign and having set this incredible mark, we would like to make this a habit for the Great Class of 1953. Most classes do not come anywhere near this level of participation and only one class has exceeded it. Of course, we and the College would like you to continue with your legendary generosity, but at this stage of the game, your participation makes a great statement for the cohesiveness and character of the Class of 1953.

Make it happen? Come to a meaningful decision on the amount you wish to contribute to the Fund this year – and then get it done early. The fewer classmates who have not yet participated near the end of the campaign, the easier it is for Ron and his crew to help us all get to where we want to be – **75%**. I just did mine today – how about yours by the weekend if not already done? Thanks!

Quick Look at Next Fall:

Dartmouth shared the Ivy League title in football last year for the first time in a very long time. Wouldn't it be nice if we could also make that a habit? Here's the line-up for the 2016 football schedule so you can make your plans and reservations early.

Sept 17 – New Hampshire at home, Sept 24 – Holy Cross away; Oct 1 – Penn at home; Oct 8 – Yale away; Oct 15 Game TBA; Oct 22 – Columbia away; Oct 29 – Harvard at Home – Homecoming; Nov 5 – Cornell away; Nov 12 – Brown at home; Nov 19 – Princeton away.

Put Blodgett and Harlan Fair will keep you posted as to any class activities related to any of the home games. Hope to see you in Hanover at one or more of the above.

A Look at the New Class of 2020:

The early decision letters went out in December, and the final decisions were released at 5 pm on March 31st. 2176 students were accepted into the Class of 2020 selected from a total of 20,675 applicants. That's an admission rate of 10.5% and the College expects a final class of 1,120 students. Of the 2,176 students admitted to the Class of 2020, 51.6 percent are students of color, including African American, Asian American, Latina/o, Native American, and students who self-identify as multiracial. A growing number of Dartmouth students come from public schools. This year, 63 percent of admitted students are public school students, up from 60.8 percent last year, with 25.4 percent this year from private schools, and 11.6 percent from parochial schools.

Of the students accepted to the Class of 2020, 94.6 percent rank in the top 10 percent of their graduating class, with 37.1 percent honored as valedictorians.

Demographic profile:

- 51.6 percent are students of color
- 8.2 percent are international students
- 14.7 percent are first-generation college students
- 8.1 percent are daughters and sons of Dartmouth alumni
- 10 percent are recruited athletes

Academic profile:

- 94.6 percent rank in the top 10 percent of their high school class
- 37.1 percent are valedictorians
- 63 percent attend public schools
- 25.4 percent attend private schools

Academic interests:

- 43 percent listed the sciences as a top choice
- 32.7 percent picked social sciences
- 9.8 percent listed the humanities
- 9.7 percent favored interdisciplinary studies

Mean SAT scores:

- 737 Critical Reading
- 741 Math
- 741 Writing

Financial aid:

- 47.7 percent of admitted students qualify for need-based financial aid
- \$43,915 is the average scholarship at the time of admission
- \$40.2 million is the total amount of scholarships offered

Most Recent Trustee Meeting:

The trustees met the weekend of March 6th, and the attached link will take you to a review of the discussions and decisions made during their meeting. Included are the new tuition rates and financial aids detailed for the incoming classes. The new total tuition, room and board will be \$66,174 – a 3.9% increase over last year. I think you will find the article interesting reading.

http://now.dartmouth.edu/2016/03/trustees-prioritize-campus-diversity-and-inclusivity?utm_source=Dartmouth+Now&utm_campaign=aa63f0fd72-Dartmouth+Now+Daily+Update&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_4ae973c30b-aa63f0fd72-391088226

Enjoy the pending spring weather and the warmer months ahead. We are expecting some snow in Boston on April 3rd and we all thought it was an April Fool's day joke. It was not. Stay well and keep my Dad's, '26, mantra in mind. *"If you don't reach out, it may be a long time before someone reaches in."*

Best to all, **AI**

Scribe Scribbles

For starters I thought I would give you the tough but inevitable news at our Octogenarian time of life, and then move on with news from the rest of the class who have sent in a number of stories. ***We lost four of our classmates in March, including Mitch Strickler, Dick Nunley, Bob Pierce, and Arthur Little and what follows is the Obit data we have obtained to date on Mitch and Bob.*** Neil Isaacs has prepared one of the most beautiful tributes to a dear friend that I have ever read, so warm, so compelling, that I chose to publish the entire letter. Thanks so much Neil and though my time with Mitch was primarily during Hanover days, even then the essence of this beautiful and exceptional human being was so evident and has been captured exquisitely by Neil. Here he is for Mitch:

Mitch Strickler '53 --- How did I know Mitch? Let me count the ways. We were classmates from first through third grade at the Edgewood School in New Haven, bunkmates for several summers at Camp Everett in Taconic CT, classmates at Temple Mishkan Israel (where Mitch won the Engel Medal as the outstanding boy in the 1947 Confirmation Class--I've teased him for decades for stealing that award from me, though I'd done nothing to earn it), fellow camper-waiters at camp one summer, where we spent a rare day off hitchhiking to Tanglewood to take in Serge Koussevitzky conducting rehearsals), roommates for three semesters in Russell Sage. During our brief run at the WDCS, Mitch hosted a short-lived musical quiz with a team of three resident "experts" (me included) matching wits with challengers. After graduation we went separate ways: Mitch to grad school at Columbia (Journalism); then newspaper assignments in Holyoke, at the Wall Street Journal, and Stars and Stripes during his military service; then to Yale Law School and a career in labor law that brought him to D.C.; while I did my graduate work at Cal, Berkeley and Brown, and taught at CCNY and U-T, Knoxville, before ending up at UMCP. Our personal reunion, then, began in 1971 (he preceded me to the D.C. area, and I was delighted to see that his home on Gramercy St. NW was the mirror-image of his boyhood home on Westwood Rd.) and lasted till last week. We played a lot of squash together, sometimes with our classmate and racquets maven Larry Harrison (attached is a photo of the three of us at my son Ian's wedding in Silver Spring), and for the past twenty-five years met for lunch every other week. Our wide-ranging and amusing conversation often included Ed Jordan, Yale '53, who had been my classmate at the Roger Sherman School in New Haven and Mitch's classmate at Hopkins Grammar, class of '49.

Mitch was one of the brightest people I've ever known, an amazingly multifaceted if quirky enthusiast, not just for matters related to sports and current events, but for automobiles, photography, electronics, history, and particular personages. On our trip to Tanglewood, a highlight for him was spotting in the parking lot the latest iteration of the Packard luxury sedan. I would never buy a car without consulting him; he read automotive and consumer magazines, and his last car, which he drove once at Watkins Glen, was an RX8 (with the license tag LSTFLNG).

An eclectic reader, he rarely read fiction but was a faithful reader of my own efforts. As a dedicated grammarian with a keen eye for style and a fine-tuned ear for logic, he was my primary copy-editor for my all-too-frequent letters to the editor. I could also rely on his recommendations for movies, TV, and plays. An avid sports fan, loyal to local teams and tennis favorites but keenly analytical of performance, he was a ping-pong whiz early on and a dedicated bike rider most of his later years. I remember him as a touch football wide receiver whose tricky routes won him the nickname "Legs" and a baseball/softball first baseman primarily because he always came to play with the biggest mitt on the field.

In Washington Mitch served in the general counsel's office of the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation (an independent government agency known familiarly as the Penny Benny), rising to be second in command before retirement. At his retirement luncheon, I was privileged to be a "surprise guest" who told stories about embarrassments and awkward occasions he and I had shared. The large gathering was rolling on the floor, making me feel like the successful stand-up comic I had once aspired

to be. One featured tale was of his unrequited teen-age crush on a fellow employee at his family's department store with the unforgettable name of Monica Longo and its inevitable suggestiveness. But Mitch stole the show, after all the tributes were offered, by singing a response he had written in anticipation of the occasion, working all the participants (except me) in, to a familiar Gilbert and Sullivan tune. I was the only one there who had seen and heard him in the role of the Lord High Executioner in a summer camp production of *The Mikado*.

He loved music, mostly classical, and for years sang baritone in one D.C. choir or another. For twenty-five years he also devoted his voice to the worthy effort of reading for the blind, faithfully appearing every week to serve at the Metropolitan Washington Ear. (In lieu of flowers or other donations, by the way, a gift to that cause would be appreciated: @ 12061 Tech Rd., Ste. B, Silver Spring MD 20904.)

As undergraduates, Mitch and I were among the few who took advantage of the opportunity to design our own majors, "Modified Philosophy" so-called. This allowed us to enjoy not only the wisdom of a Wheelwright and a Rosenstock-Huessy, but also take courses in music theory and Roman Guthrie's tour through Proust-land. Had it not been for Mitch's guidance through an all-night cram for the required comprehensive exam in Philosophy, I seriously doubt that I could have earned my baccalaureate.

Dave Halloran has aptly called Mitch "exceptional." One of the most exceptional things about him was his capacity for maintaining long-lasting correspondence with a wide variety of people. Here are three examples among many. Guido Calabresi was his classmate at Hopkins Grammar, but by the time Mitch started law school Guido had become the youngest Professor in Yale Law history and Mitch's friend became his teacher. He served as Dean of the Law School, won many degrees, and is now the senior judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second District. They maintained an exchange of news, opinions, and laughs right up through last month. A second example followed the untimely death in 1968 of our classmate Jim Zeisel, who had been his roommate junior and senior years. Mitch became a faithful correspondent and confidant of Jim's lovely redheaded wife Lil until the very eve of her death last year. And third there was another case of finding a pen-pal indirectly through her one-time boyfriend. As a tennis fan, Mitch followed the career of Pete Sampras very closely, and was quite impressed with Pete's taste in women, especially the young actress Kim Williams. No typical fan-mail adulator, Mitch wrote her knowledgeably about her successes in co-starring roles in *Nashville* and *The Father of the Bride* and the long-running TV show *Relativity*. She evidently liked his style and would respond. He met her once at a function in California and their friendship became a reality. He rejoiced when the short film she wrote, directed, and starred in (*Shade*, 2006), won several medals on the film festival circuit. He would often bring new photos of her to our lunch gatherings, and in his way enjoyed the teasing it earned him. The regular Kim-bulletins only increased over the years as she moved to Nashville and a showplace home as wife of country-western star Brad Paisley and the mother of two children. Just a few months ago he had new shots of her, pretty as ever in a formal gown, at one of those music-award occasions where Brad performed.

In recent years, Mitch had given our lunches a real-live lesson in Tip O'Neill's old maxim that all politics is local. Not long after the Stricklers had sold their home and moved into a new condo building called "The Towers," Mitch was elected to the condo's governing board for a three-year term, and he served for a year as Chairman of the Board. He took his duties very seriously and reported the anguish of the deliberations and skirmishes involved. It all seemed like sitcom material to us, but for him there was nothing to laugh about. In retrospect, the burdens on his nerves and heart might just have shortened that full life of his. Mitch is survived by Karen, his wife of fifty-six years, his brother Gil and sister-in-law Thelma, his daughter Sarah, his son Daniel and daughter-in-law Kendall, and four granddaughters. Karen may be reached at 4201 Cathedral Ave. NW, T-14E, Washington DC 20016.



Mitchell Strickler 12/19/31-3/8/16 *Shalom chaver; ave atque vale.*

Robert T. Pierce '53 was born in New York and passed away peacefully on February. 26. He married the love of his life, Ann, sixty years ago in 1956. They lived to Providence, R.I., where Bob had a very successful car dealership for 30-plus years, and there raised their three children. He retired in 1988 and moved to one of their favorite travel points in Saint Augustine, Florida. Bob was an avid golfer and the two of them loved to travel in their retirement years. Their travels took them to all seven continents. Bob was preceded in death by his Ann and his son. He is survived by his two daughters. The Pierces were very active in support of the Shriners Hospital for Children and would appreciate any gifts in their memory being sent to Shriners. We have not yet received any obits for Dick Nunley and Arthur Little, and will augment this letter when received.

Virginia (Ginger) Schoder It is with a heavy heart that I report that we recently lost a valued member of the 1953 family - Ginger Schoder. (Mrs. Barry (Smiley) Schoder '53). Her husband and our classmate Barry (Smiley) Schoder passed away three years ago and Ginger has continued to be an active participant in '53 happenings. Ginger has many long term friends among our classmates as well as being in close touch with many in our widow cohort. She attended the 60th reunion, has flown in from Chicago to our New York Christmas luncheons, attended Dick Flemings Harbour Ridge annual bash and joined us on our Philadelphia Maxi-mini reunion. She spent the winters recently at Vero Beach along with many Dartmouth friends. She was planning to join us on our New York Mini-maxi next October. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her as she had a smile and a personality that would light up any room she entered. She was a true and loyal friend to many of us, Dartmouth and the Class of 1953.



Virginia Ann Owen Schoder, of Evanston, Illinois, passed away peacefully on March 24, 2016. She was born April 20, 1933 in Decatur, Illinois, daughter of Honore Martyn and Virginia Hunt Owen. Known as Ginger by her friends, and Gigi by her grandchildren, she attended Dana Hall School in Wellesley, MA and earned a BA degree from Smith College. While at Smith, she met the love of her life and future husband, Barron ("Barry") Schoder (Dartmouth'53). Upon her graduation and his return from serving in the Marines in Korea, they were married in Decatur in October 1955. Raising their family outside of Washington, DC and New York City, they moved to Winnetka, Illinois in 1968. In addition to being a devoted mother, loving wife, she served as an active civic, school, and charity volunteer, a religious education teacher, and a Winnetka Park Board Commissioner, and worked at The Book Stall. Humane, energetic, curious, possessing a passion for learning, she lived life to the fullest -- reading, dancing, music, investing, travel, tennis, swimming, and the theater were among her many activities and interests. Indulging her love of travel and fascination with different cultures, she explored six continents with her husband, family, and friends. She and Barry were also devoted members of Kenilworth Union Church and spent many happy years in Sea Pines on Hilton Head Island hosting friends and family. She was predeceased by her husband and her brother, H. Martyn Owen, Jr, and is survived by her three sons, Andy (Karen), Rob (Jeanne), and Tom (Mari); grandchildren Rob, Steve, Mari, Michael, Katie, Will, Scott, Tommy, Charlie and Ginny. They will remember her as an engaging, passionate, and fun-loving mother/grandmother. She will be greatly missed. A memorial service will be held at the Kenilworth Union Church at 211 Kenilworth Avenue in Kenilworth, IL on April 16, 2016 at 10 a.m. Memorial gifts may be made to the Kellogg Cancer Center at the Northshore University Health System.

Great note from John Amerman.

It has been a long time since writing to “53 Out”. Too long! So on a long flight, I thought it would be a perfect time to catch up on what has been happening with the Amerman's.

The latest edition of “53 Out” is always a treat to read about what is happening with Dartmouth’s “Greatest Class”[thanks John!] I remember listening to Professor Al Foley speak to the Class at our 10th Reunion. He stated that our Class was the dumbest ever to enter Dartmouth. Many drinks were had that evening so I don’t know whether the statement from Professor Foley was true or not. If it was, it shows that “underdogs” can actually win with great leadership and great communication. Our Class has had the ability to win, notably through excellent scribes that kept everyone’s focus on classmate activities and the needs of the College. The Class of ’53 has had togetherness that has made us “the best of the best”. [Editor’s note. Al Foley was aware of the well-known Bob Malin plea at our graduation party in 1953 when Mole said “We were a mediocre class with some good scholars and some good athletes, but then the President of the United States came to our graduation, so we had better go out and do something.” WE DID and when one looks at the cross section of our class and its contributions to America, and to Dartmouth, we really did something. Thanks Mole.]

Enough of patting the Class on the back and on to the Amermans. Since my retirement 18 years ago, we’ve been involved in projects that have given us a great deal of satisfaction while also being “fun”.

We are owners of thoroughbred horses. People invariably ask how many horses do we own. The glib answer is “too many” – but the actual answer is approximately 60. The number includes mares, stallions, foals and yearlings so the actual number of horses that are racing is probably about 15. While we haven’t won the Kentucky Derby, we have won 25 Grade I races, so the “thrill of victory” has been good. Unfortunately, for every winner there are four, five or six losers, so the “agony of defeat” can be painful. All in all, owning thoroughbreds has been our great passion over the past 30 years.

As a corollary to racing, we have a rehabilitation farm in Temecula, California (i.e., Peacefield Farm, which also is our main residence). When horses get hurt at the racetrack or in the show ring they come to Peacefield for therapy and rest. When they are healthy they go back in sound condition to the track or the show ring.

Giving back has always been important, just as our great class has given consistently to Dartmouth. As one might imagine, we operate under a charter to give to animals and kids. We have been fortunate to have had the Grand Victoress German Shepherd in the U.S. and one can figure out that the link to kids is through Mattel, the company I ran. Examples would be a dog therapy program for kids at Children’s Hospital – Los Angeles and a thoroughbred riding facility at a ranch for disabled children, which is modeled after Paul Newman’s Hole in the Wall Gang Camps. We have a great Board that is dedicated to seeking worthwhile charities for children and animals.

After retirement, I was on various corporate boards – until I reached age limits. Then I turned to being on thoroughbred racing boards – e.g., The Jockey Club, the California Horse Racing Board, the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Board, etc., etc. These boards don’t have age limits!

About eight years ago, we purchased a residence on Jumby Bay Island that is about two miles off the coast of Antigua in the Leeward Islands of the Caribbean. It is a self-sufficient island of 300 acres that has approximately 70 homes and a resort. The best way to describe Jumby Bay is to find it on the internet. We love the beauty of the island and spend about four months of the year at Jumby Bay. If one happens to be looking for a new vacation spot, Jumby Bay is one you might try.

Things took a turn for the worse about four years ago when Jerry had a stroke. The major difficulty was that she was alone on the floor for three hours before she was found. We were truly blessed, however, since the stroke didn’t affect her thinking or her speech. You would notice a limp in her left leg. Most people would think it is just “old age” --- but we know that’s not true since Jerry is six years younger

than me. Yes, I married a young co-ed from Auburn University. She went on and graduated from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey and did graduate studies at Vanderbilt.

Our daughter, Anne, never married. She has always loved horses and still competes in the show ring. She runs Peacefield, the rehabilitation farm in Temecula. Our son, Garrett, married a doctor and has a real estate business in northern California. Garrett and Wendy don't have children, so we may be one of the very few couples in our Class that don't have grandchildren. Jerry and I would have liked it to be different, but that's the way "the cards were dealt".

The plane is landing so I'll stop the Amerman tales, until the next time I write.

All the best to Dartmouth's Greatest Class!

[Thanks John for a Great Letter and we will give you a holler next time we sail by Jumby Bay. We cruise the Lake of the Caribs about 4 or 5 times a year [more now that the Med has become a war zone] and see you from afar when sailing past Antigua.]

'53 Annual Ski Day cancelled due to poor snow conditions!!!!

For at least 10 years, Cynthia and Dave Donovan have been hosting a '53 Ski Day at Sunapee, at their home afterwards for cocktails where non-skiers joined for comradeship and then dinner arrangements for the group. Questionable conditions due to lack of snow resulted in cancellation of the skiing this year, but the Donovan's travelled to Hanover for '53 cocktails at Harlan Fair's and dinner at Kendal at Hanover afterwards. Also attending were Harlan's friend Granthia Preston, Donna and Chuck Reilly, Marjorie and Russ Cook, Marion and Put Blodgett, Liz King, Elsa Luker, Mitzi Carleton and friend and Harlan's grandson, Jim, a Dartmouth sophomore. [Ed. note---once again the superb sociability of Dartmouth Greatest Class is unmatched---even nature cannot stop it.

The Super Swinging Sanibel Sociability Society Sextet



Professor Donald Pease commented a number of years ago, while joining us on the Mississippi River Boat Cruise reunion, that the Dartmouth Class of 1953 had greater affability, conviviality, and sociability than any other class from the College!!! Doesn't that sound like Don? Sort of like the Medal of Honor isn't it? Well, the beat goes on and pictured on the previous page is the Super Swinging Sanibel Sociability Society Sextet, known as S to the 6th, headed by our Gib Warren and Jack Tukey, and shown with their ladies welcoming Steve Pearsall and his bride who were visiting from the land of sands and grands, Crystal Bay, Nevada. From left to right are Maryann, Toni and Sue Paul. Good times happen with good people. Viva La Fun. Viva La Good Friends.

And to Show All That We All Have Literary Kultur Down Here in Cracker Land, Here is a Poem that has been Around Our Digs for a While.

CRACKER LOVE POEM



A REDNECK LOVE POEM

SUSIE LEE DONE FELL IN LOVE,
SHE PLANNED TO MARRY JOE.
SHE WAS SO HAPPY 'BOUT IT ALL,
SHE TOLD HER PAPPY SO.

PAPPY TOLD HER, SUSIE GAL,
YOU'LL HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER.
I'D JUST AS SOON YO' MA DON'T KNOW,
BUT JOE IS YO' HALF BROTHER.

SO SUSIE PUT ASIDE HER JOE
AND PLANNED TO MARRY WILL.
BUT AFTER TELLING PAPPY THIS,
HE SAID, 'THERE'S TROUBLE STILL'

YOU CAN'T MARRY WILL, MY GAL,
AND PLEASE DON'T TELL YO' MOTHER.
BUT WILL AND JOE, AND SEVERAL MO'
I KNOW IS YO' HALF BROTHER.

BUT MAMA KNEW AND SAID, MY CHILD,
JUST DO WHAT MAKES YO' HAPPY.
MARRY WILL OR MARRY JOE;
YOU AIN'T NO KIN TO PAPPY.

(Kinda brings a tear to yer eye, don't it!)

Peter Bridges' Fascinating Experiences in Foreign Service.

Peter has published a memoir of his first two years in the Foreign Service which classmates would like to read as it is fascinating. The memoir is in the electronic journal American Diplomacy at http://www.unc.edu/depts/diplomat/item/2016/0106/fsl/bridges_desk.html. Briefly, in 1957 Peter became the junior Foreign Service officer on the State Department's Soviet desk. His assignment was arranged because of his knowledge of the Russian language which he began studying at Dartmouth, plus a summer at the Middlebury Russian School as well as graduate study at Columbia.

Among Peter's tasks in the Department was the monitoring of Soviet officials' travel in the United States, and the trips that the embassy staff made in the USSR. The Soviets severely restricted the travel of foreign officials in the USSR, and the US responded in kind. Washington needed to understand what was going on inside of our principal adversary and that could not be done by sitting in Moscow reading the Soviet press. There were also limits to what our intelligence officers could learn. And there were circumstances that presented things to be learned on trips to the Soviet Union.

In 1959 the Foreign Service learned that a young American officer had confessed to taking money from a Soviet diplomat, Evgeny Zaostrovsev. Secretary Dulles approved a memo drafted by Peter recommending that the US expel the Russian. In retaliation the Soviets expelled our number-three diplomat in Moscow, David Mark, who might well have become our ambassador to the USSR but now was precluded from ever returning there. Later he was ambassador to Burundi. Zaostrovsev became a major general in the KGB. The young American who had taken the Russian's money was fired but not prosecuted. In 1959 I left the desk to go to Panama; Moscow came later. Khrushchev had just sent his protégé Frol Kozlov to Washington. Kozlov was the highest-ranking Soviet official to visit America in many years; soon Khrushchev himself came. The reciprocal expulsions of Mark and Zaostrovsev had done no lasting damage—except to David Mark's career. Sure recommend you take the time to read Peter's memoirs at http://www.unc.edu/depts/diplomat/item/2016/0106/fsl/bridges_desk.html.

And, while we have Peter front and center, he has contributed another short piece commenting on the change in the housing program at Dartmouth to commence in the fall. Recall in our last newsletter the article [College Unveils Six House Communities to Open Next Fall](#) . It turns out that Peter and Mary Jane lived in Houston 20 years ago when a similar program was set up at Rice University. Peter recently researched the progress on that transition on the Rice website and here is his report:

If the College looks seriously at introducing a house system they should look at the residential college system at Rice University in Houston. We knew a number of Rice faculty members when we lived in Houston, including two who had been resident masters in a college, and they all thought the system worked well. That was over twenty years ago, but I have just looked at a Rice website and find this:

"Rice students love the fact that Rice has no Greek life. It is nearly unanimous amongst students that the residential college system is far superior to the Greek system because it offers many of the positive aspects of the Greek system while eliminating the negatives. The college system provides you with a

small, tight-knit group of people from the time you enter Rice as a freshman. These people become a support network and a family. The colleges help you make friends and contacts with whom you share a common ground. The residential colleges also sponsor social, athletic, and cultural events. However, because of the random assignment, there is no degrading or stressful selection process to go through, and each college is home to individuals of all backgrounds, personality types, styles, strengths, and interests.

"While most students feel very positive about the college system, many even naming it as one of the top reasons they chose to come to Rice, some students also point out that the system can limit students in their social life. By the end of your first or second year, your residential college may begin to feel a bit confining: knowing everyone, knowing everyone's business, and knowing that they also know your business. Fortunately, you can branch out to people in other colleges by participating in extracurricular activities."

I can't recall all that you reported in '53 Out, but one main problem with introducing such a system at Dartmouth would be the physical plant. Most if not all of the colleges at Rice were designed as such, with dining halls and lounges and a place for the Master to live.

Bob Longabaugh is conducting a Revival of C.E.Z., a Post Sixtieth Reunion "Great Issues" exchange amongst this great Class. Here is the note he sent out recently and will be getting in touch with all.

Fellow Dartmouth 53'ers;

some many years ago classmate Bert Melcher initiated C.E.Z. and we had a good run for a while. I would now like to resurrect the CEZ to have a heavy class e-discussion on current events. Most specifically: whether Donald Trump is good or bad for our country's politics at this time?

Here is a follow on note from the new C.E.Z master. *Scribe Dave, You may be aware of my attempt to bring back CEZ (Continuing Education Zealots) but with exactly zero responses as I "pen" this, it's not news unless you want to report that all the class-members on the newsletter e-list are comatose. Admittedly, I chose a topic [Trump] that incites violence and the Class of '53 does not want to promote sucker punches and the like. Bob, Don't be discouraged, keep being provocative and they will respond as did Dave. Why not make it a broader subject, e.g. [What America needs in its next president]*

Here is a summary of the ongoing conversation among Bob, Bert Melcher, David Salter, and memories of Fred Chase and Lynn Atherton on the original CEZ attempt.

Bert, To give you a bit more background on CEZ, it was Fred's idea, but it did develop out of almost weekly conversations that he and I had about current issues. I am not clear as to what CEZ stands for. It is the C that gives me a problem. C Something Educational Zealots I think. You joined immediately, and added greatly. I was surprised when it sputtered and died because I thought it would be great if we had a forum on which we could all discuss important subjects. I think you should be the person who re-institutes it, and Dave Halloran should promote it as best he can. Thank you for your interest, and let's hope we succeed in getting it going again. David Salter

On Thu, Mar 17, 2016 at 11:46 AM, Albert Melcher <a.melcher@comcast.net> wrote
Fred Chase was really the founder of CEZ: I was only an early eager beaver. With Fred and CEZ, there was someone who was rather like Nancy Regan's importance to Ronald as regards Fred and CEZ: that wonderful person was Lynne Atherton. Fred would like this email discussion and would have excellent comments on the dystopian USA of today. I think that resurrecting CEZ with a single focus and probably on a temporary basis is an excellent idea. I suggest a time frame that would extend to the inauguration of a new president or slightly longer to enable some retrospection to be involved. I do believe, however, that the subject needs to be much broader than "whether Donald Trump is good or bad for our country's politics at this time" and also much beyond the idea that "authoritarianism" be given major analysis. It should not overemphasize such that other motivating forces are excluded or underemphasized. For example, what sets those apart who are proponents of governance that prevents the rise of authoritarian leadership? (The history of the founding of the New World and of the United States of America is certainly relevant. Could not this political campaign or at least the CEZ discussion of it ask if the principles of those constructs serve us much better than a Trump and also reduce the fear factor that drives the authoritarianists?) "Authoritarianism" is but one of several dots that need connecting, i.e., an element in a system. Are the seekers of "complete" freedom (Libertarians/) driven by fears? I am almost through reading a history of Russia going back about 800 years and I believe that Putin is merely another in a continuing line of bloodthirsty power-hungry autocrats: authoritarianism at its best (in a nation that was 3/4 serfs (slaves) in population until the mid-1800s.)

I am giving a book report next week on Bob Woodward's "The Last of The President's Men" about Alex Butterfield's installation of the Oval Office taping system, the eventual discover of which led to Nixon's resignation. It is directly relevant to "Authoritarianism" on Nixon's desire to be the dominating authority and on how the chaos and fears of the 1969's triggered this. (We should all recall the special conditions and fears of the 1960's' dramatic and traumatic National decade of revolution: social injustice, political turmoil, burning cities, assassinations, Vietnam, the Draft, the Cold War (MAD), Cuban missiles (WWIII?,) Civil Rights Act of 1964, Model Cities, the Chicago Republican Convention, national/Federal urban transportation concerns, Chicago Democratic convention, Rachel Carson, environmentalism, high tech/science, man walks on moon, Elvis, Beatles, Pete Seeger, the Pill.) As I read the book, I ask myself if Nixon was essentially a more sophisticated and wiser Trump.

Tomorrow I am in a discussion group that meets every other Friday – I was a founder of it in 1962. Here is our topic for tomorrow, relevant to this political campaign. *The New Yorker of Feb. 29, 2016, published an interesting article by Joshua Rothman on the changing nature of leadership (pp 64-69). One observation cited is that 'historically, the 'trajectory' of leadership has been 'about the devolution of power,' from the king to the voters, say, or the boss to the shareholders. In recent years, technological changes like social media and globalization have*

made leaders less powerful." Another is that "leadership is a word that has come to mean all sent things to all people." He also says that "For leadership to exist, a leader must cross paths with a crisis....imagine Lincoln without the Civil War or FDR without the Depression." What do the Friday Club members think? Are leaders born or made? Have we come to a world in which leadership is a lost quality?"

Anyway, I offer these thoughts (and connecting dots) for the good email discussion going on. Bert.

Bob, there is some pretty good counsel on how to get C.E.Z. reactivated and from the preceding review of the CEZ discussion, there are some great thoughts available to make it success. We will be happy to provide the technical support to communicating the commentary to the class.

Now on the more reflective side, here is a poem discovered by the original CEZ Meister, Bert Melcher, which is a gem. Thanks Bert. Sort of fits into our Class character, n'est Paz

About Ben Adhem

**About Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!)
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,
And saw, within the moonlight in his room,
Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom,
An angel writing in a book of gold:-
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,
And to the presence in his room he said,
"What writest thou?" –The vision rais'd its head,
And with a look made of all sweet accord,
Answer'd, "The names of those who love the Lord."
"And is mine one?" said Abou. "Nay, not so,"
Replied the Angel. Abou spoke more low,
But cheerily still; and said, "I pray thee, then,
Write me as one who loves his fellow men."
The angel wrote, and vanish'd. The next night
It came again with a great wakening light,
And show'd the names, whom love of God had blest,
And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.
*Leigh Hunt, 1784-1859.***

Marines Always Have a Way of Showing Up at the Right Time --- Great Note from Former Marine, Perry Free---[this came in right at press time!]

Dave, eight years ago Ann and I moved from Monterey County, California, to be closer to our kids and grandkids. We live in a 50 year old "Active Adult" community called Oakmont near Santa Rosa which is about 45 miles north of San Francisco. Specifically the area is called the "Valley of the Moon's" and was made famous by Jack London's writings in the early 1900's. Our valley is about 1 1/2 miles wide sided by our local "mountains" rising to 3000 feet. This is in Sonoma County which is prime wine country, with the nearest vineyard about 1/2 a mile away.

Our main activity is volunteering at Bergin University of Canine Studies (BUCS) located nearby. BUCS is the only accredited college in the world devoted to advancing the human-canine partnership through research and education. Basically that means they educate students to train dogs with emphasis on Service Dogs while there are also hearing, therapy, bomb sniffing, K-9 patrol and disease sniffing (cancer/diabetics) dogs. Dogs for the Blind are similar but not part of this program. With the recent expanded attention to the needs of returning service people (i.e. PTSD) this whole training area has exploded. BUCS works with national programs like Dogs Helping Vets and Paws for Purple Hearts. Initially we were puppy raisers giving basic training and socialization prior to the formal training. For the last several years we have been functioning as a foster home for breeder dogs, dogs sidelined by health issues, or dogs whose handlers dropped from the program. Our dogs are Golden Retrievers or Labs or a mix. While it is always difficult to part with a dog, we know we will be getting another one soon and that someone needy will be benefiting from having a trained dog.

To balance this endeavor we have taken to cruising. In recent years we have been taking 4-5 cruises a year so we seem to be on the water somewhere for about 2 months a year. There are still many places for us to see but the rigors of air travel to distant lands seems to be getting more trying as time passes. So if any classmates are in our area please give us a call and we will sip some wine together while we watch the golfers on our golf course here in the Valley of the Moon's. [Oh what a beautiful spot on the planet. Joanne and I visited there some years ago driving down the coast from our B.C.summer time share. We'll take you up on that wine stop next time] All the best to you and Semper fi, Perry

A Nice Note from Jack Avril, and with a Profound Message. Thanks Jack.

Dave, Thank you for putting class notes and photos in "safe keeping". And, your periodic news letters are welcome relief from the global news. Along the way I recalled the late 1950's and early 1960's when the prognosticators(is that a word?) saw science and technology expanding leisure. Never happened. My kids are working long hours just like their old man. Meanwhile, the percentage of the population working is declining while the workers are paying taxes to support those who are not. And the socialist from Vermont and the big mouth from New York are promising bread and circuses. A large segment of the voters are ignorant of history. I fear for the future of the republic! Yours in '53, Jack Avril

A Note and Picture Out Of The Past From Bill Brown

Hi Dave,

Cleaning out my closet in an attempted downsizing exercise, I came across the attached picture that you may want to share. I believe it was in a 53 Out edition many years ago. Wally Ashnault and I were skiing near my home in Yosemite National Park in June of 1951. It was a great summer of trail crew work for the National Park Service. [Were Wally and Bill modelling new ski wear?]



And speaking of skiing, take a gander at Winter Waltz, A Winter in Austria

https://www.youtube.com/embed/Hom1k-ug1sQ?feature=player_profilepage

[Continuing Bill Brown's note]

I am currently very busy as a working member of the Board of Directors of the Port Townsend Public Development Authority (PDA). We have taken over from the Washington State Parks Commission the management and operation of 100 acres and 73 circa 1900 historic buildings at the Fort Worden State Park. Port Townsend is a fine Victorian Seaport town about 2 1/2 hours northwest of Seattle on the Olympic Peninsula. Classmates in the area include Don Bremner in Gig Harbor and Harry Jackson in Port Angles. Thanks for all your good work.
Bill Brown

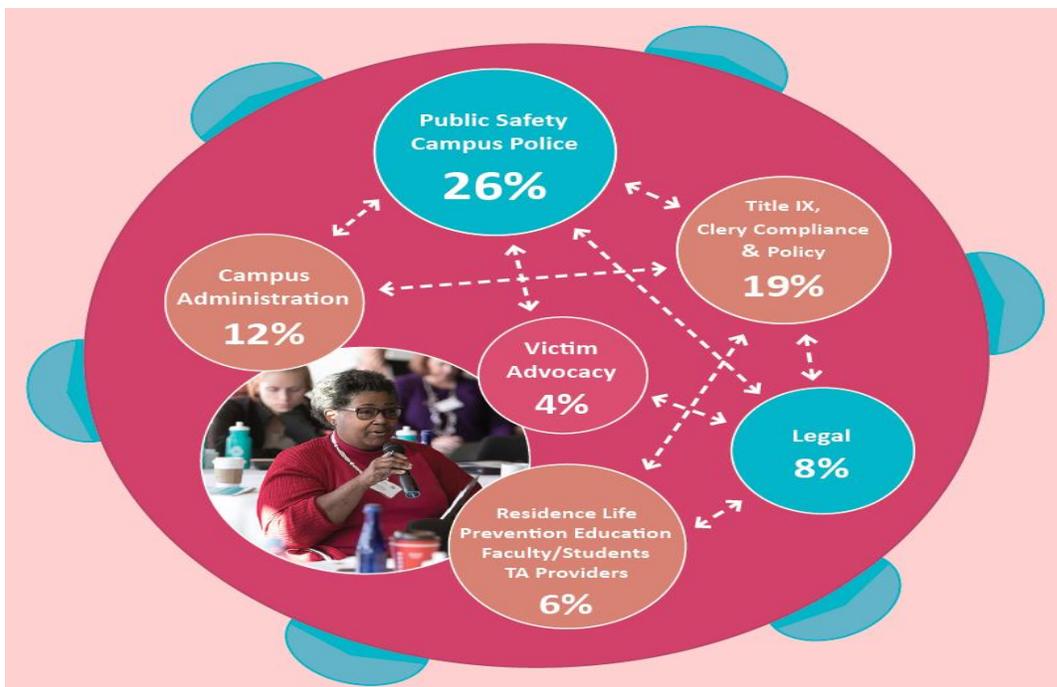
You are most welcome Bill. Joanne and I drove through there on one of our Whistler summer trips a few years back. Have been in touch with Harry Jackson as well and will give all a holler next time we plan to visit that beautiful part of the world. Cheers, Dave

Connie Clery's Executive Director Reports on Progress at the Clery Center

Connie had her Executive Director Allison Kiss send this report along as a response to our request for Class News. It is AWESOME and well worth your read. Thanks Allison and Connie.

Hi Dave: Connie asked me to share some exciting news from the Clery Center and I thought that this link would be a good start as it is our 2015 annual report and summarizes an amazing year for the CleryCenter:<https://medium.com/@CleryCenter/clery-center-annual-report-2015-7adb71e31a4e#.yrx9mrlv4> We produced a Hazing Prevention Education film that was selected for a national education broadcast award and is available for colleges and universities throughout the country. We also continue to work to train colleges and universities across the country to make campuses safer. Please let me know if you have any specific questions about the report. Best, Alison [The initial part of this exciting Annual Report of the Clery Center follows, but we recommend you activate the link provided by Allison to see the whole story. God bless all of you that have made this program work.]

Looking Back, Moving Forward: 25 Years of the Jeanne Clery Act represents 25 years since the Jeanne Clery Act passed into law. On November 13, 2015 we gathered in Washington, DC with leaders in policy, advocacy, and campus safety. The day began with a beautiful speech by co-founder, Connie Clery, followed by the presentation of the Jeanne Clery Award for Campus Safety presented to Lynn Rosenthal, past White House Advisor on Violence Against Women, & Christopher Houtz, Sergeant at Lehigh University, for their outstanding work.



A snapshot of our conference attendees and their background



Connie Clery presents the Jeanne Clery Award to Ms. Lynn Rosenthal



Connie Clery presents the Jeanne Clery Award to Mr. Christopher Houtz

Check out our website commemorating the history of the Jeanne Clery Act and a 25 year legacy.

Spring Party at Dick Fleming's Harbour Ridge Pad

Dear Dave: There were 47 people in attendance at our Annual Party that Cal started 21 years ago for our classmates and friends among the Harbour Ridge residents. The '53s in attendance were: Leo and Dolores Clancy, Al Collins, Lore Dodge, Dick Fleming, Nick Hagoort, George and Patty Sarner, Bob and Anne Simpson, Jane Springer, Joe and Janie Stevens, Jean Vitalis and Jack and Jody Zimmermann. ..



Bob Simpson and Host Dick Fleming



Jack Zimmermann and Pat Brace, wife of Bob '52



Anne Simpson is Ursula Scott - wife of Wylie '58



Leo Clancy and Phil Kron '60



Howard Sudikoff '56 and Wylie Scott '58 and Bob Simpson, Jean Vitalis, Anne Simpson and Al Collins

A Note from Byron Menides

Dave I retired last September but still do FINRA Arbitration and as of now, have three cases this year. After 12 years as a WPI assistant football coach, 2015 was my last year of coaching since it became too physically difficult for me. The head coach still wants me to join the team on the sideline for home games even though I have to use a cane. As we 1953 survivors know, growing older isn't easy. Regards, Byron

Byron, I have to use a cane as well and find it very useful when sitting on the sidelines of my various grandson's teams as a "pointer" to the referees making some bad calls, backed up by vocal virtuosity. Halloran the Greater, Richard '51, says it best. Growing Old Ain't for Wimps. Cheers and congratulations on all you have done for those kids.

Rodger Ewy and His Selfie Shots and Doodles

Hi Dave, My latest news. Still shooting but find both my mind and cameras are dated. Open to any upgrades available. Regards, Rodger (The camera is a 4x5 Graflex, same as used by Dorothea Lange in her great Farm Security Administration photos of the 30's Dust Bowl.[a bear to copy!! But I finally broke the code---greatest selfie shot ever taken; camera is bigger than self.]

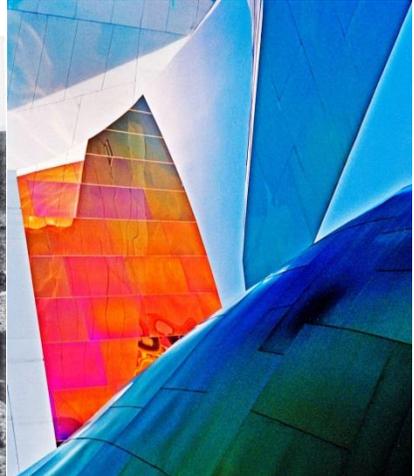
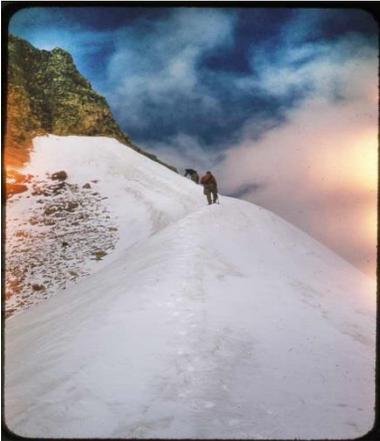
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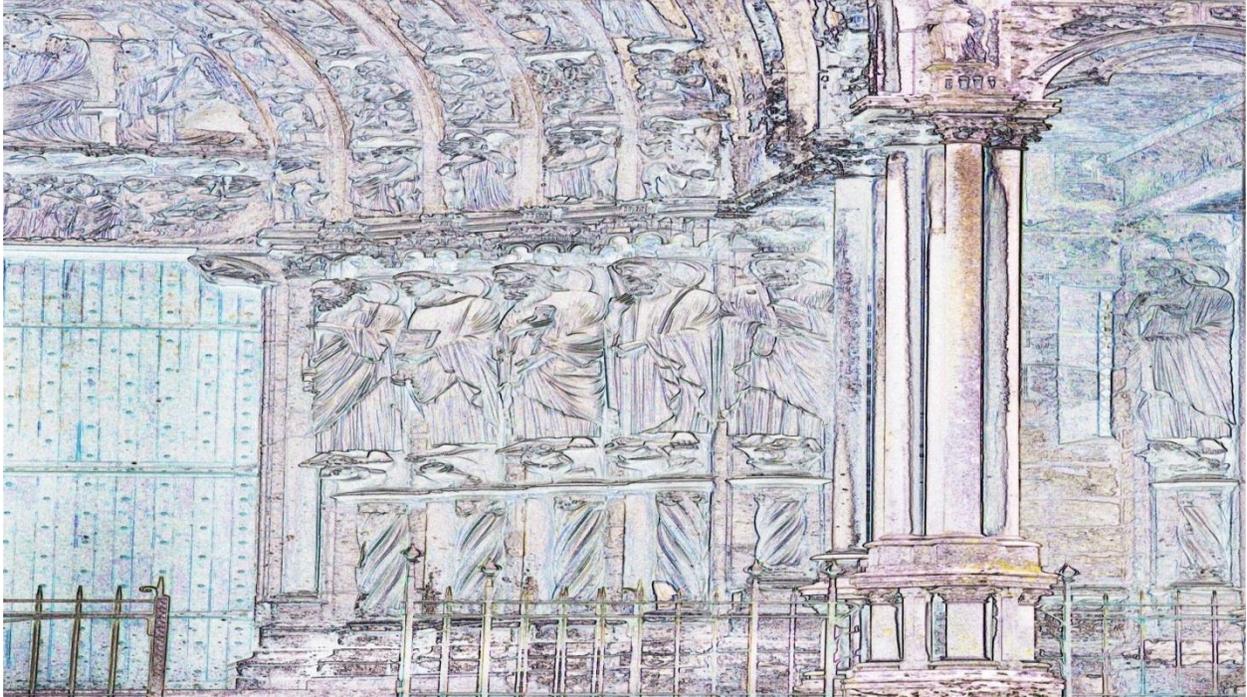


Hi Again, Dave, Here are a few doodles suggesting what I do while in the looney bin. They span a few years from climbing with Barry Bishop in Zermatt (1952) to Chartres (2014), with lotsa water in between. Busy radar building in Turkey, airfield construction in France, IBM, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Freelance, House Building, City Haranguing, Book Publishing, Four Babies, and so on. Bit of a bore for all you high-end executive types [no way] I s'pose, but still and all, a good life and no complaints except for the loss of so many buddies that have gone down before me. Bill Chafee, Barry Bishop, John Bishop, Charley Haws, Stir Ambler, Nail King, Jim Skinner, Hank Edler - and so on, and on. My regards to all back there on the eastern seaboard. Seems like once I get started east I just skid past you all and land in France where I've spent numerous great years with friends still standing. Rodg Ewy, 3714 Wonderland Hill Cr., Boulder CO, 80304

"Rodg, next trip east, hit the ejection button over the Peninsula Paradise and we will show you some great doodle spots for shots."

HERE COME RODG'S DOODLES!
[Next page please]





Now, if you are wondering what all of Rodg's doodles are, here is the code. First, Rodg on Zermatt Ridge of Matterhorn; Second, BMW on road to Turkey while in Greece; Third, Gehry; Fourth, Blue and Orange; Fifth. Bridge Crane Chain; Sixth, Glorious Rivet; Seventh, Blue and Rust scratchy paint; Eight, Magnificent Chartres South Portal Sculptures. Moral of the collection; Beauty is everywhere in the eye of the beholder. Rodg, you doodle the same as I play piano. Love it and a new song is born every day.



ThisIsGoingToBeUsS
omeday.asf

**Just click on the blue spot and chuckle a bit with us. From Australia
And now, a few more chuckles then we'll wrap this edition up.**

GRAND SENSE OF HUMOR

A SIGN IN A SHOE REPAIR STORE IN VANCOUVER THAT READ:

We will heel you

We will save your sole

We will even dye for you.

Sign over a Gynecologist's Office:

"Dr. Jones, at your cervix.";

In a Podiatrist's office:

"Time wounds all heels.";

On a Septic Tank Truck:

Yesterday's Meals on Wheels

At an Optometrist's Office:

"If you don't see what you're looking for,

You've come to the right place.";

On a Plumber's truck :

"We repair what your husband fixed.";

On another Plumber's truck:

"Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber.";

At a Tire Shop in Milwaukee :

"Invite us to your next blowout.";

On an Electrician's truck:

"Let us remove your shorts.";

In a Non-smoking Area:

"If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and will take appropriate action.";

On a Maternity Room door:

"Push. Push. Push.";

At a Car Dealership:

"The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment.";

Outside a Muffler Shop:

"No appointment necessary. We hear you coming.";

In a Veterinarian's waiting room:

"Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!";

At the Electric Company:

"We would be delighted if you send in your payment on time. However, if you don't, YOU will be de-lighted.";

In a Restaurant window:

"Don't stand there and be hungry; come on in and get fed up.";

In the front yard of a Funeral Home:

"Drive carefully. We'll wait.";

At a Propane Filling Station:

"Thank Heaven for little grills.";

In a Chicago Radiator Shop:

"Best place in town to take a leak.";

And the best one for last...;

Sign on the back of another Septic Tank Truck:

"Caution" - This Truck is full of Political Promises!



*"If you want a good friend,
you have to be one"*



Donald Carpenter Goss,
The Dartmouth Class of 1953



A Band of Brothers and their Ladies---Forever