

Dartmouth 1955

Read all about it!

May 2014

Great Issues Mattered

*Pete Buhler remembers
Chemistry Prof. John Wolfenden*

One of the Great Issues speakers was Dartmouth Professor John Wolfenden, who was my chemistry professor. In his talk he forecast a world energy shortage in about 20 or 25 years. I was stunned at his scientific forecasting ability upon reading my notes from that lecture. That session and many others stimulated a lifetime of reading and a great interest in knowing more about the human condition, the evolution and progress of our civilization, and above all, the creation of our unique American democracy with blessings we all enjoy, but too often take for granted.



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Wolfenden: Rauner Special Collections Library

Joe Herring recalls Susanne Langer, Kemeny, Thurgood Marshall, more



Langer: Wikipedia



Kemeny: Rauner Special Collections Library



Marshall: Library of Congress

I have some rich memories of many of our G.I. speakers. Philosopher Susanne K. Langer argued that art is not primarily a form of self-expression, as our 1950s culture assumed. Rather, she said, it is the surrender of the self to an idea that can become concrete only on the condition of that surrender. There were smirks and giggles rippling around 105 Dartmouth. I felt a little embarrassed, hoping that our guest, absorbed in her well-conditioned sensibility, would not notice the display of a Dartmouth stereotype. Agnes Meyer of the Washington Post, concerned about the decline and fall of the West, hit us with a fusillade of purple oratory worthy of a Hebrew prophet on the 4th of July. President Dickey exhorted us to become men of success in the modern world by “cutting our way to the top.” Dr. Harold Urey, an eminent scientist, argued for world government. I was so deferential to chemists and physicists at that time that I fell for his malarkey. Professor John Kemeny urged sociologists to become transfigured into mathematicians. The great Thurgood Marshall insisted that feelings of race prejudice could not change until the laws supporting segregation were eliminated.



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[more G.I. overleaf]

Randy Hayes: Norman Thomas



Thomas and students: Rauner Special Collections Library

I have a vivid memory of two aspects of Great Issues. First, Norman Thomas’s response to why he was no longer running for the U.S. presidency. His answer was that the Democrats had already passed most of his Socialist agenda, so why bother to run again? Second, on our final I selected the question on Vietnam. I took the approach that if I were a native there and being treated so poorly by the French, I would have joined the resistance. My paper came back with an “A” and a comment that my paper was most refreshing, with well developed arguments. jennisonhayes@me.com



John Baldwin: A Negro Spoke

My recollection of Great Issues, which was, at the time, unappreciated as a 20 year old kid, is now a fabulous part of my Dartmouth experience... all of which was “wonderful.” I still have the bound “essays” that we wrote after each lecture. The year was 1954-1955, and the speaker was a Negro named Thurgood Marshall. I had never been to the Great South, and knew nothing of segregated drinking fountains or “back of the bus” seating. He stood there and told us of the inequalities that then existed. Our class



had, as I recall, just six “blacks” or African Americans (as is now the appellation). Later, in medical school, I drove through Georgia and the Carolinas in 1957 and for the first time saw what he was talking about. I would give anything to have a “course” like that 20 years later, or NOW, which would have had Steve Jobs a geek inventor, an actor/speaker

Ronald Reagan, a peanut farmer Jimmy Carter and an airplane pilot Neil Armstrong. That would have been fantastic. Great Issues still reverberates: Al Capp, Justice Marshall, the future president John Kemeny, and so many others. They live in my mind and actions.

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Rauner Special Collections Library

President Dickey, father of Great Issues, with an earlier speaker, David E. Lilienthal, who headed the Tennessee Valley Authority and later the Atomic Energy Commission.

Bob MacFadyen: A Memorable Glee Club Tour

If your singing at Dartmouth was limited to the fraternity hums, you weren't one of the lucky Glee Clubbers chosen for the extended spring break bus tour of the South and Midwest. A typical long day began wearily mounting the bus for a five-hour drive, being greeted and dined by an alum host, then the concert and a country club dance party with debutantes.

We first stopped in NYC to sing on the Ed Sullivan Show, also starring Sarah Vaughn. Later Ed Wille led 10 of us to McSorley's Old Alehouse in the Bowery --two mugs for a quarter. There we sang the National Anthem in full harmony while many hobo-type patrons stood with moist eyes. Then on to Washington and a White House handshake with Eisenhower, thanks to Bob Leopold. I heard Ike ask Eliot if he played football. On to Atlanta, Lookout Mountain, Tenn., Oklahoma City, Little Rock, and more debutantes. Unbelievably, at a roadside diner in the Deep South, the owner asked, “are you guys with granite in your brains?”

Milwaukee had three special things: a parade welcoming the Boston Braves being transformed into the Milwaukee Braves, a regal Miller Brewery lunch, and keeping my promise to a St. Louis alum couple to look up their daughter. When she answered my knock at her dorm door, I stood awkwardly, staring at, not knowing, the Homecoming Queen of Marquette University. The Injunaires, Woody *et al*, serenaded her in concert.

When dismounting the bus at our last stop, Rochester, Paul Zeller said, “Mac, Bill Webb is severely hoarse. You're doing his solo tonight.” Yikes! Off to a paino for rapid rehearsal with Tom Schoonmaker, the tenor co-soloist. Five years later, at a Third Avenue burger tavern, I bumped into Bill. We talked about the tour. He said his voice was fine.

To watch us singing at a Mel Allen Winter Carnival production, click or google:
www.acontinuouslean.com/2010/02/14/dartmouth-college-winter-carnival-c-1954/macfadyen@capecod.net

Another Good '55 Memory: USS Forrestal (CVA-59)

Newell Stultz winced at the image of “his” ship, the first supercarrier USS Forrestal, being towed to the scrapyard, especially because of this tragic historical reference by Fox News:

“The 1,067-foot ship, which was shut down in 1993 after more than 38 years of service, was being towed Tuesday morning down the Delaware River and along the Eastern Seaboard before crossing the Gulf of Mexico to reach All Star Metals in Brownsville. U.S. Navy officials signed a 1-cent contract with the Texas company in October to dismantle the ship perhaps best known for a 1967 incident that killed 134 and injured more than 300 others, including a young Navy aviator named John McCain.”



Newell’s reaction: “Having been on this ship for close to two years in the middle 1950s, I suppose I can be forgiven for finding this story today a bit too funereal. The fire referred to in this story occurred almost a decade after my ‘tenure’ and so -- for better or worse -- it does not affect my memory of the ship as it must for many others.”

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Fox News

Betty Brady: Update on Asheville September 15 – 18, 2014

Classmates have reserved 16 rooms out of our block of 25 at the Asheville Renaissance Hotel. Please call reservations (800-468-3571) to make sure you will have a room. We need to know how many classmates and wives will attend. If you want to be part of this special class gathering, please reserve now.



The head tax (cost per person) has been set at \$390 per person. It includes meals (excluding breakfast) bus and two days of tours. Please send your check ASAP payable to “The Class of 1955” to Betty Brady, P.O.Box 277, Dover, MA 02030.

Included in our Tuesday (September 16) tour of the Biltmore Estate is a visit to the Biltmore winery. The winemakers combine their science of winemaking with their skillful artistry to create unique wines in small lots. The winery is our last stop on the day we visit the Biltmore. We can relax and enjoy a sampling of these special wines.

Three lovely dinners are planned for participants. There will be a couple of dinner speakers, and following our last dinner two classmates will be honored with a class award.

Come join us in Asheville September 15–18. Any questions, please call Betty Brady 508-785-0790 or email: dooverhugh@comcast.net.

Lives of Fifty-Fives

RICHARD RANDOLPH FORSBERG died on December 30, 2013. Dick came to us from Manchester, N.H., having graduated from Mount Hermon School. A member of Phi Delta, he left Hanover in mid-junior year, as Dick put it (and as Joe McDonald suggested), but returned after two years in the service to graduate in 1957. Dick and his wife, Fanny, lived for many years in Orange, Conn., where he worked for Southern New England Telephone Co. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

Submitted by R.J. Hastings '55 M.D.

Dick Morrill writes: "My current claim to fame is that I prepared a map for electing the Seattle city council by district instead of at-large, and it passed 2 to 1, so a local revolution."

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Amanda Brown '07, Dick Fairley's granddaughter, was named by *Forbes* as one of "30 under 30" in Law & Policy. She's national political director of Rock the Vote, which mobilizes young people.

Brett Gillis '16, whose recruiting trip we sponsored, is a top Dartmouth diver: he won events vs. Penn and Yale, vs. Columbia, and in the Dartmouth Invitational, took second vs. UConn, fifth in Ivy Championships.

Tuck Creamer, his brother Tank '52 assures us, is alive and well: "He settled in the San Diego and LaJolla area after his stint in the Marine Corps. He married a Marine pilot's widow, inheriting two daughters, and then had a son and a daughter. He worked in the stock market for many years with Merrill Lynch and others. He worked for the San Diego chamber of commerce for a few years before retiring. He loved playing golf and became an early member of the Century Club, which sponsors a major PGA event in SDO every February. He remains the official historian for that distinguished group. His marriage ended in a divorce and he now lives in SDO, playing golf three times per week. His memories of Dartmouth are good ones...the Psi U house, being a teammate of John Glover, friends with Doug Melville and many others."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

HANOVER

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1-800-468-3571

HOMECOMING OCT. 17-18
AS CLASS OF THE YEAR,
WE LEAD THE DART-
MOUTH NIGHT ALUMNI
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60TH REUNION
JUNE 15-18, 2015