

Dartmouth 1955

Read all about it!

October 2017

'55 Mini-Reunion at Homecoming Sees Last-Minute Win over Yale, Hears Jim Wright on New Book



On Dartmouth Night intrepid '55 marchers in the Homecoming Alumni Parade included Dave Conlan, Tom Byrne and Bill Cassell.

--Photos by Sharon Casey Cassell



After upsetting Yale 28-27, the football players linked together to sing the Alma Mater.



Jim's book is "Enduring Vietnam: An American Generation and Its War," based on more than 150 interviews and his visits to significant battle sites there.

Surrounded by bright fall colors the class of 2021 circled the roaring bonfire, alumni and students braved rain to cheer the football team to a cliff-hanger victory, '55s gathered for two delightful dinners, and Jim Wright accepted Ken Lundstrom's invitation to discuss his latest book and the Vietnam War.



Class Meeting

Mini-Reunions, Web App, DUSA



Betty Brady, Hod and Mabel Symes. Betty confirmed that Boston-area alumni are tentatively planning another Saturday lunch, inviting any and all '55s, probably at a local club in April.



Lou Hance and Jennifer Whelpton. Lou reiterated the schedule of our mini-reunion at the Trapp Family Lodge near Stowe, Vt., June 19-22, 2018 (Tuesday-Friday), \$180 a night; \$1000 deposit will be required. Homecoming 2018 will be October 26-27.



Webmaster John French announced that a new app will be up soon on our website, providing an historical record of the class, such as photos of past reunions.



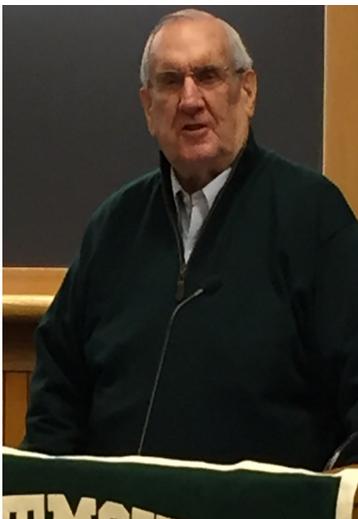
John Dinan, Tom Byrne, Stephen Wilson, Mike and Karen Gorton. Tom noted that Vietnam combat surgeon John Baldwin will receive the James Wright Award from the Dartmouth Uniform Service Alumni (DUSA), in Boston at a dinner on November 11, the day after the Brown football game at Fenway Park.



Jere Daniell, Marilyn and Jack Doyle.

Class Meeting

Students and Finances



Treasurer for Life Ralph Sautter reported that 183 classmates and widows have paid dues (most including the requested \$25 donations to the DCAC and Hood Museum), so we're on track for about the usual 250. The class has \$90,000 in our various funds.



As Larry Pilchman listened, Emily Stehr '21, of Oakland, Calif., and Evan Wetzel '19, of Waukesha, Wis., grandson of our John Wetzel, said hello and thanks for their Class of 1955 John S. Dickey Scholarships.



Dave Conlan introduced Michael Calamari '20, Myrtle Beach, S.C., a former recipient of a DCAC campus visit grant provided by '55, saying Michael had hit over .400 for Dartmouth last spring and even higher in his summer league. Like Dave, Michael is a first baseman.



Bill Cassell, obituary writer for this newsletter, flew in from California with daughter Sharon Casey Cassell.

Lynn and Bill Foggie

At Homecoming

Dick and Ruth Blodgett
Betty Brady
Tom Byrne
Bill Cassell, Sharon Casey Cassell
David Conlan
Jere Daniell
John Dinan
Jack and Marilyn Doyle
Bob and Iris Fanger
Bill and Lynn Fogle
John French
Mike and Karen Gorton
Lou Hance
Ken and Kathy Lundstrom
Bonnie McAdam
Joe Mathewson, Jennifer Whelpton
Larry and Kathy Pilchman
Ward Rowley
Ralph Sautter
Hod and Mabel Symes
Stephen Wilson



From President Ken

The fellowship of Homecoming and the bite of the misty October mornings were still with me when I read today the folksy column in our local paper how the now less mobile senior missed picking apples in the foothills of the Blue Ridge. He went on to say he never tired of picking as did Robert Frost (“After Apple Picking”) “And there’s the barrel I didn’t fill... But I am done with apple picking now.”

The esteemed outdoors writer, Dana Lamb '21, regarding October asked, “Give me a woodlot and an orchard by a long abandoned barn... a frosty morning on the gold and crimson hills, time tested friends with whom I have long shared the secrets of the hills.”

Corey Ford relished autumn. (“The Trickiest Thing in Feathers”) “It’s the very height of creation – it is the reason for everything, it’s Nature’s ambition. What summer can equal their golds and greys, their maroons and oranges?” He walked rutted roads and apple orchards with his Setter, fittingly named Cider, in October to his favorite Grouse cover. All he would reveal is that it is near Hanover, New Hampshire.

We first experienced October apples in our rental home in Waynesboro, VA in 1964. A small orchard was in the back, and the owner leased the harvesting. We gleaned the remains which ended up as apple sauce. We had apple trees in our yard when we lived in Wilmington, DE; a pie or cobbler but mostly applesauce again.

One good year about 35 years ago, the boys and I took our yield one bright golden October day out to rural (then) north-west Delaware where Pete Frederick '65 had obtained permission to run the cider press in what had once been a one-room school. Some hours later we had our few jugs full, Pete had his several and the boys had their well-earned spending money – and the best cider ever tasted.

Homecoming October 26-27, 2018 will be our next sharp and misty mornings when we march, dine, and reminisce together in Hanover as '55 Forever Friends. Plan now also to be with classmates June 19-22, 2018 for a wonderful time of fellowship at the Trapp Family Lodge, Stowe, VT.



Lives of Fifty-Fives

By Bill Cassell bcass1934@aol.com

Dr. William Contini

It can be said that Bill Contini lived a life filled with quiet satisfaction for work well done. The son of immigrants from Italy who settled in Holyoke, Massachusetts, Bill started working in his father's bakery when he was seven. As a teenager he tried his hand at hauling loads of tobacco and bridge construction. He said the experience with these jobs convinced him to pursue a goal in medicine,

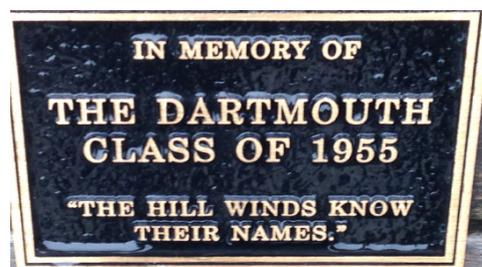
Bill was a talented athlete, whose baseball skills earned him a scholarship to Vermont Academy. He played baseball and also soccer at Dartmouth, while taking a pre-med program. His roommates, Gordie Russell and Dave Conlan, remember him for yet another skill which was his ability to sleep in a chair anytime there was a lull in activities whether for fifteen minutes or fifteen hours. Bill graduated with honors and was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon and Sphinx.

He earned his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania's Perlman School of

Medicine, then served as a Navy medical officer in Okinawa. After completing his military service, Bill made his home in Binghamton, New York, where he practiced medicine for more than 55 years, first as an internist and then specializing in cardiology. He is remembered by many for his laid-back, kind demeanor, and keen sense of humor.

Bill and Kathryn, his wife of 51 years, loved the outdoors and they took their children camping throughout New England. He delighted his children and grandchildren with his endless supply of made-up stories. He was a gentleman farmer who was very fond of his tractor and bush hog. He particularly loved planting trees. His favorite was a Japanese maple which he tended for 25 years.

Bill passed away August 18, 2017, at the age of 84. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn, and their four children: David, Tom, Sarah and Christi.



Plaque on Class of 1955 bench on Main Street at Wheelock Street.

Bryan Roberts '89, Son of Dick and Debbie Roberts, Interviewed for N.Y. Times 'Corner Office' Oct. 15, 2017

'55 Lives



Bryan, who has a Ph.D. in chemistry and chemical biology from Harvard, is a partner in Venrock, a private equity firm in Palo Alto. *The Times* quotes him: “My dad is an infectious-disease doctor, and my mom is in theater. They’re the two most polar-opposite people in the universe. My mom’s broadly intelligent, and my dad is just deeply awesome at diagnosing diseases. . . . I applied to four colleges. I did all the applications on New Year’s Day while watching college football bowl games, which fits into a big theme in my life--lack of planning.” Venrock’s website says Bryan “invests broadly across the healthcare industry,” including past investments in firms now public and others acquired by Roche, Mallinkrodt, Celgene, Allergan and Merck. “Bryan was named a Henry Crown Fellow by the Aspen Institute in 2006 and has ranked on Forbes’ Midas List nine times, 2008 – 2017.”

Marty Aronson has published a chapter titled “All Aboard!” in a new book on aging, “Aging Wisely . . . Wisdom of Our Elders,” by Irving I. Silverman and Ellen Beth Siegel. The book is a compendium of essays by 75 seniors and the professionals who care for them, on a wide range of topics about how we age and how we can do so better.

Paul Zimmerman writes: “As we do annually, a group of ’55s met, this time in San Francisco and Sonoma. We were: **Dan and Tami Nixon, Peter and Bette Fishbein, Frank Davidson and Carol Fishberg, Babs and Barry Rubens, Margot and Paul Zimmerman.**”

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Alan Andersen warily reports from sunny Texas: “My granddaughter Lily Johnson has just started as a freshman in class 2021. I hope she can survive the N.H. winters.”

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Bubba Levy topped off helping rescue operations in Houston’s Hurricane Harvey flooding with a half-dozen 40-mile biking days in Provence with friend Gail Oktavec.

Trapp Family Lodge, Stowe June 19-22, 2018 Calendar it!



Have you paid your class dues?

