

1961 Class Meeting at Williamsburg

President Denny Denniston called the meeting to order shortly after 5 p.m. on April 21, 2015.

I. Update on the Legacy.

Denny gave this summary of the current status.

- In 2012, we raised \$95,000, bringing the book value (what we have raised) to \$781,000 and the market value to \$932,000.
- In 2013, we raised \$53,000, bringing the book value to \$834,000 and the market value to \$1.088 million.
- In 2014, we raised \$18,906, bringing the book value (our contribution) to \$853,000 and the market value to \$1.179 million.

Several key points: (1) While classmates continue to make personal gifts, and the class is adding to the legacy with a \$100 gift from the treasury in memory of each classmate who has died since our 50th, the biggest potential future boosts to the legacy are likely to come from bequests from the estates of classmates who have died. Several of those bequests have helped swell the book value.

(2) Since our annual support of the Hopkins Center performing arts is limited to 5% of the legacy endowment, the fund will never be used up.

(3) Our class is recognized in each program to which our funds are applied as well as in the seasonal catalogs listing all Hop events.

(4) There is nothing like our legacy in what other classes have done for Dartmouth.

2. Bartlett Tower Society.

Nine additional classmates became members of the Bartlett Tower Society in 2014 by including Dartmouth in their wills. ***The Bartlett Tower Society does not have a minimum gift—just including Dartmouth in your will in any amount or percentage of your estate will gain you membership.***

3. Frost Statue

Denny reported that Mike Murphy and others are working with the College on improvements for the area around the Frost statue. Mike has been negotiating with the College on the project. The College may improve the whole area, including Bartlett Tower using College funds. We are particularly interested in getting wheelchair access to the site in memory of Pete Synott, who made many mini-reunions after contracting severe Parkinson's disease and who had to be pushed to the site in his wheelchair over very uneven terrain on several occasions. If it can be completed on time, we hope to have a ceremony in connection with our 55th reunion next year,

perhaps inviting the sculptor. Rick Reed reported he had recently visited Mr. Lundeen's studio, and the artist remains very enthusiastic about our class and the project. That may open the way to bringing him back for our 55th.

4. Arts recognition Project

Denny reported that Vic Rich and Pete Bleyler are working with the Studio Art Department to fill in the details of this project. A panel of judges will be selected, perhaps including Lundeen

5. 55th Reunion

Chairman Jim Baum reported on the current status of the reunion, which will be June 13-16, 2016.

One big change will be on registration. The college is enforcing a single registration fee for the entire reunion. There would be no one-day, or partial registration. A discussion ensued with concerns that this might reduce reunion attendance..

Beverages. It's unclear how the ban on hard liquor on College property will affect reunions. Jim will be monitoring this June's reunion by the class of 1960.

Housing: the plan of using dorms remains. A new Starwood Hotel, the Element Hanover, has opened in Centura on the road south to Lebanon.

Activities at the reunion. The possibility of something at the Frost statue has already been mentioned

Ron Wybranowski will coordinate an art show.

Oscar Arslanian mentioned again auctioning off the Tanzi license plate to raise funds for the legacy.

6. **Fall Mini-reunion** will be Oct 9-10. Memorial Field is supposed to be ready after being reconstructed. There is already a slab for all alumni killed in combat in World War I. The College is talking about additional slabs memorializing the dead from subsequent wars. Do we as a class want to contribute to that effort especially for classmates that were killed?

7. Dartmouth College Fund.

Co-Head-Agent Henry Eberhardt reported we have a goal of \$260,000 and have raised about \$160,000 so far. Our participation goal is 75%; we are just below 50%. We need to find another 140 givers by June 30, so we have a lot of work to do. Pledges must be paid by June 30.

8. Early Bird Campaign.

CO-Head-Agent Harris McKee reported on the early bird campaign. **New** gifts of \$1000 or more paid by June 30, 2015 and specifically designated "Earlybird" will count in both the 2015 and 2016 campaigns. It's an opportunity for the same gift to count twice. However the rules say we

cannot go backwards, so gifts and pledges already made cannot count as early bird. And new gifts must be declared as part of the Early Bird campaign.

9. Women's group.

Denny reported the women's group was meeting simultaneously with the class meeting. Nyla Arslanian and Patty Rich are heading this group. Other chairs were being named. They have several goals:

- Collect cell phone numbers and email addresses for all wives and widows to be included in the upcoming class directory, with a June 15 deadline
- When one of our classmates dies, immediately contact the widow to offer condolences and perhaps try to get classmates and/or widows to the funeral or memorial service.
- Establish regional networks.
- Set up a Facebook page.

10. Adopted member of the class of 1961.

Denny Denniston and Henry Eberhardt described the extraordinary effort of **Zhuoman Gardner** of the Dartmouth College Fund office on behalf of our class – including making a personal \$1000 Earlybird gift and attending meetings with us and otherwise helping in any way she can. Henry pointed out that there was a precedent – the class had made Grace Stebbins an adopted member several decades ago. The proposal making Zhuoman Gardner an adopted member of the class of 1961 was moved and seconded. The motion passed **unanimously**.

11. Attendance at Minis

A discussion ensued about boosting attendance at mini-reunions. Denny suggested that each member of the class who plans to attend call classmates or fraternity brothers to encourage them to attend.

12. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Bob Conn

Co-webmaster and acting secretary.