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**Class of 1961 DAM Article – July/August 2015**

The Williamsburg, VA mini-reunion has come and gone, after three event-filled days and evenings of activities and camaraderie among 48 classmates and spouses/significant others from across the country, from New Hampshire to California to Florida. These included a history lecture by our own Professor **Ron Heinemann**, walking tours, bus tours, meetings, breakfasts, lunches and dinners, with the highlight being our 75<sup>th</sup> birthday dinner with great entertainment. **Denny Denniston**, our class president, led a spirited class meeting. Finally, thanks to **Dave Prewitt** and his lovely wife, Joan, for putting together another spectacular, and special, out-of-Hanover mini-reunion. Our next chance to get together as a class will be our 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion, from June 13-16, 2016. Try to attend as we are planning some really special events, and we are not getting any younger.

Speaking of the 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion, our class project, *The '61 Frost Statue Art Contest*, has now been approved by the class officers, the appropriate faculty and the appropriate alumni administrator. The goal of the contest is to reward the best artistic representations of the Robert Frost statue submitted in each of the four major forms of studio art and then to select a single overall winner. All winners will receive a cash stipend and a framed certificate acknowledging their artistic excellence. The contest will be open to all “D” undergraduate and graduate students. We expect to tie in the granting of the awards and the anticipated completion of the physical improvements of the property surrounding the statue with a Frost statue re-dedication ceremony to take place during our 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion. In addition to **Vic Rich** and **Pete Bleyler**, as of April **Ron Wybranowski**, **Ben Gitchel** and **Maynard Wheeler** also have agreed to participate and assist with the project and **Mike Murphy** is working with the College on the nature and completion of the improvements.

Speaking of Ron Wybranowski, he has become a professional photographer during the past decade and recently has had an exhibit of his photography, titled “The Beauty of trees”, at the Andover Memorial Hall Library in Andover, MA. The images are from Utah, Colorado, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Most of the pictures were literal renderings of the scenes photographed, while a few had a distinctive impressionistic flair. Several were printed on a bright canvas. Check out Ron’s catalogue for yourself at [www.ronwybranowski.com](http://www.ronwybranowski.com).

In April, Patti and I attended the annual Stephen F. Mandel ’52 Society dinner in New York. Also attending from our class was **Gerry Kaminsky** and “**Red**” **Facher** with his wife, Marylou. The Stephen F. Mandel ’52 Society, begun in 2008, recognizes alumni volunteers who provide visionary leadership in raising gifts for Dartmouth through the Dartmouth College Fund. Included in the list of prior recipients of the award was **Don O’Neill**, who received the award in 2010.

Finally, also in April, **Dick Beattie** was honored with an awards dinner in new York, where he was recognized by the foundation for New Visions For Public Schools for his outstanding and ongoing support of and contribution to public school education.

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