

MINUTES
D'61 Class Officers Meeting (Conference Call)
December 3, 2014

Attending the Call: Denny Denniston, Vic Rich, Harris McKee, Hank Eberhardt, Bob Conn, Maynard Wheeler, Mike Murphy, Pete Palin, Oscar Arslanian, Nyla Arslanian, Dave Prewitt

Absent from the Call: Ken DeHaven, Ivar Jozus, Pete Bleyler, Rog McArt, David Birney, John Damon, Tom Conger, Jim Baum

Invited Guests: None

Denny Denniston, class president, called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM EST.

Re: D'61 Mini-Reunion (Alexandria, VA)

Denny opened the meeting by announcing that the H & W marketing juggernaut, Oscar & Nyla Arslanian, would be spearheading the marketing and promotion of the Williamsburg, VA mini-reunion, organized and developed by Dave & Joanie Prewitt for the period from Sunday, April 19, 2015 – Wednesday, April 22, 2015. Oscar said that he had already been in touch with the national marketing group representing Williamsburg.

Approximately 17 classmates had already signed up as of Nov. 30th. A limited number of class guaranteed reduced rate rooms at the Williamsburg Inn were still available and it was decided to increase the class commitment from 20 to 30 rooms, because of the early commitment of classmates signing up and the significant discount negotiated for our classmates staying there.

The cost is currently projected to be \$475 registration fee + \$222 per night hotel fee at the Williamsburg Inn. A request for a deposit against the registration fee will be sent out to all classmates by December 31st. Harris McKee suggested that a list be prepared and published on the class website of all classmates who have already signed up and those who sign up in the future and, further, that such updated list be sent out to all classmates as part of all mini-reunion solicitation notices. Everyone agreed with this suggestion.

Re: Class Treasurer's Report

Ivar Jozus, class treasurer, was unable to attend the conference call so that no treasurer's report was available. Denny, however, knew of nothing out of the ordinary with respect to the class treasury.

Re: Class Spouses and Widows Committee (a.k.a. The Women's Initiative Committee)

Nyla Arslanian, chairperson, reported that she had been in touch with several spouses of classmates and with widows of several deceased classmates. Upon discussion with these people, it was decided that the emphasis, at least initially, would be on the "wives" of '61 classmates rather than on the "widows" of such classmates. Several wives and a few widows have indicated to Nyla that they would very much like to serve on and be a part of such committee. Nyla is planning to build a contact list of preliminary committee members by December 31st, to follow with a request-for-volunteers mailing to all class spouses and widows by the January of 2015 and to hold her initial live committee meeting during the mini-reunion at Williamsburg, VA in April, 2015.

Re: Robert Frost Statue Proposed Improvements

Mike Murphy, chairman of the Robert Frost statue and surrounding area improvement project for the class of 1961, stated that Jennifer Casey, from the Office of Alumni Affairs, appeared highly receptive as to the requested improvement work for the statue area. Mike will follow up next with Lisa Hogarty, Dartmouth's vice-president for campus planning and facilities, after the year-end holidays in order to try to solidify her support and nail down the details of the work to be done by the College and a specific timetable for the work to be completed. Again, our class' objectives are to have the renovation of and improvements to the statue and surrounding area and access path completed prior to our 55th Class Reunion and for the College to pay for all of the necessary costs related to the aforementioned improvements.

An issue put forth for consideration by several class executive committee members is for the construction of an "informal" low stone wall on one side of the area only, directly opposite Robert Frost (to correlate with the poem that he is penning on the statue pedestal). Another potential issue might be our desire to bifurcate the aforementioned project from the larger potential improvement project under consideration, which encompasses the improvement of the entire

"College Park" area, including the Bartlett Tower and surrounding area along with the Frost statue area.

See below for Vic's recommendation of a 55th Reunion class project which would center around the proposed Frost Statue beautification project, would involve a wide portion of current students and alumni and bring much increased awareness of and publicity to the Frost statue on campus.

Re: The Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) Program

Pete Palin, co-chair of our class' planned giving and BTS program along with John Damon, reported that following the solicitation of the '61 class officers and members of the executive committee, the next emphasis would be to solicit the general membership of the class by sending out an information and solicitation letter to all classmates in January, 2015 (following the calendar year-end campaigns by the Dartmouth College Fund, the various graduate school funds and the various ongoing "D" special interest funds).

Again, it was emphasized that classmates could become a member of The Bartlett Tower Society by agreeing to donate some portion of their estate to Dartmouth College directly or indirectly by donation to the '61 Legacy Fund for the Performing Arts at Dartmouth, or some other specific Dartmouth project. In order to keep the positive momentum and success continuing from the prior fiscal year, gift planning inserts prepared by the College will be included in the class newsletter and a personalized letter from the planned giving co-chairs will be sent in January to all remaining classmates not yet contacted.

Re: Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Class Drive

Hank Eberhardt and Harris McKee reported that our class was on its way to achieving the two goals set by our class officers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, including a total dollar goal of \$260,000 and a total participation goal of 402 classmates and widows of classmates. Hank reported that through November 30th, we had already taken in just over \$50,000 from 74 classmates, leaving another \$210,000 from 328 classmates to go. Hank also requested that ALL class officers make their current year DCF contribution or formal pledge by December 31, 2014; everyone on the conference call agreed to do so.

Re: Future Goals and Objectives for the Class of '61

Vic Rich suggested that ALL class officers from our class think about where they want the class to be by our 55th Reunion in June of 2016 and how we should get there. Apart from correcting or improving some technical areas in order to increase our already high self-rating class score, we needed to develop a unique "hook" to achieve the external recognition that our class warrants and deserves in order to place ourselves as serious contenders for the annual Outstanding Class of the Year Award or Outstanding Reunion Class of the Year Award, neither of which has been won by our class during its now 53 years in existence. We are not a big class and we are apparently not a very rich class, so depending on large dollar reunion contributions will not do it for us.

However, our class has proved TWICE that we are capable of being original in thought and outstanding in follow-through when we conceived, developed and funded the Robert Frost statue donation to the College and the Class of '61 Legacy for the Performing Arts at Dartmouth. We have pushed the Performing Arts Legacy above and beyond its projected peak, earning a special class award designation one year and several notable accolades in other years. However, with respect to the donation of the Robert Frost statue, for which (in my mind) we never received the accolades and recognition which we deserved, there may still be an opportunity in conjunction with the anticipated beautification project to bring it back for a second life. This could be accomplished by having the improvements to the area completed prior to our 55th Reunion, having a formal re-dedication during our 55th Reunion (perhaps with the original sculptor, George W. Lundeen, as our special guest) and involving the College's students and possibly also alumni from all classes in a contest designed to achieve the best and most original artistic renditions of the Robert Frost statue in the four mediums of art (eg. oil painting/water painting; pen and ink/pencil and charcoal drawing; photography; clay/plaster/metal/carved wood sculpture). The proposed selection committee would be comprised of 3-5 people, including at least one member (possibly two) of the "D" Department of Fine Arts, at least one professional artist selected from our class (possibly two or one plus Mike Murphy, the "father" of our Robert Frost statue project) and, hopefully, the original sculptor of the Robert Frost Statue (George W. Lundeen).

The winner of each of the projected four divisions would be awarded a monetary stipend from our class (approx. \$500-\$750 to each = total of \$2000-\$3000 to the four division finalists), with the overall winner receiving an additional stipend of approx. \$1500-\$2000. Thus, the total stipends being awarded would equal between \$3500 and \$5000. Add to this approximately

\$1500 and \$3500 in travel and other possible related costs, depending on whether and to what extent we could get the original sculptor involved, and another \$1000-\$1500 for re-dedication related costs. Thus, the grand total of projected costs to our class would be approximately \$6,000-\$9,500, say even up to \$10,000, which would certainly be manageable for our class to handle financially as a class project.

If not the aforementioned, then the class officers should come up quickly with another creative class project for us to add to our class' legacy as we move forward in Dartmouth's alumni history book. This may be the last real opportunity for our class to make an impact, before we become too old, thinned in ranks and too complacent. The clock is ticking and time waits for no man!

The next class officers meetings/conference call for 2015 is scheduled for Wednesday, January 7th from 1PM-2PM EST.

Denny adjourned the meeting at 2:10PM EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, '61 Class Secretary