

MINUTES
D'61 Class Officers Meeting (Conference Call)
January 7, 2015

Attending the Call: Denny Denniston, Ken DeHaven, Vic Rich, Ivar Jozus, Harris McKee, Hank Eberhardt, Bob Conn, Maynard Wheeler, Mike Murphy, Pete Palin, Oscar Arslanian, Nyla Arslanian, Dave Prewitt, Jim Baum, Rog McArt, John Damon

Absent from the Call: Pete Bleyler, Tom Conger, George Bland

Invited Guests: None

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

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

Oscar & Nyla Arslanian, 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, were preparing a mailing or email to be sent out to all '61 classmates. Dave Prewitt will assist in the communication by preparing the registration form. Harris will also assist in the dissemination of pertinent mini-reunion info. Oscar said that he had been in touch with the national marketing group representing Williamsburg and that they had sent him assorted marketing material about the area, a portion of which he will include in the mailing to classmates. In addition, Denny requested that the assorted materials re the Williamsburg Mini be included on the class website and in the class newsletter.

Approximately 18 classmates had already signed up as of December 31st. A limited number of reduced rate rooms (guaranteed by our class) at the Williamsburg Inn were still available (approximately 12). Denny and Harris requested that a list of the people currently signed up to attend the mini-reunion be included as part of the January mailing to classmates and that a currently revised list be sent out with each subsequent mailing. There was also discussion about developing a telephone tree to contact classmates to encourage them to come.

Nyla requested that she wants one or two hours set aside during the mini-reunion in order to hold a symposium and initial meeting of the recently formed Women's Initiative Committee for the '61 wives and widows.

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 in January.

Re: Women's Initiative Committee (a/k/a '61 Class Spouses and Widows Committee)

Nyla Arslanian, chairperson, reported that after discussions with selected wives and widows, she was changing the formal name of the committee to the Women's Initiative Committee. In addition, as notated above, Nyla was planning to hold the first official meeting of her committee at Williamsburg, VA in April, 2015 and would send out a separate email announcement and invitation to all '61 wives and widows who already have or will have indicated an interest in becoming involved with the committee.

There was then discussion about the necessity to compile the women's email addresses and get them into the college data base in order to be able to communicate more easily and more quickly with them. Nyla will provide the addresses that she already has to Harris as a start, but then a concerted effort must be made to acquire and compile additional email addresses.

Re: New '61 Class Logo

Maynard Wheeler, co-chair of '61 mini-reunions, asked whether we wanted a new updated class banner utilizing our new logo with the picture of the Robert Frost statue and updated lettering. Before making a decision, Denny asked Maynard to obtain the cost to develop and produce one or two new banners.

Re: Robert Frost Statue Proposed Improvements

Mike Murphy, chairman of the Robert Frost statue and surrounding area improvement project, stated he is planning to follow up with Lisa Hogarty, Dartmouth's vice-president for campus planning and facilities, in January after the year-end holiday break 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. 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 the necessary costs related to the aforementioned improvements.

A recommendation 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 objective is to bifurcate the aforementioned project from the larger potential improvement project apparently under consideration for the entire "College Park" area, including the Bartlett Tower and surrounding area along with the Frost statue area.

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 one additional classmate had joined the BTS in December, so that the class now had 45 members versus the class goal of 55 by our 55th Reunion in June of 2015. Now that the solicitation of the '61 class officers and members of the executive committee has been completed, the next emphasis would be to solicit the general membership of the class in January by sending out an information and solicitation letter to all classmates. Pete and John stated that the letter had already been completed and was with the Alumni Office for mailing.

Vic Rich stated that he was now interested in joining the BTS and requested the current application material.

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.

Re: Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Class Drive

Hank Eberhardt and Harris McKee reported that our class was continuing 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 (75%) classmates. Hank reported that through December 31st, we had already received gifts and pledges of nearly \$91,000 from approximately 109 classmates, leaving another \$169,000 from 293 classmates to go.

Hank also stated that ALL class officers had made their current year DCF contribution or formal pledge by December 31, 2014. The next groups in our class to be approached were the class executive committee members and the projected leadership group of contributors, with 10 pre-selected class leadership agents contacting those assigned to them. Finally, during January, assignments will be going out to the remaining class agents. Classmates are encouraged to make a outright contribution or make a pledge payable in full by check or credit card prior to June 30th.

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

Vic Rich again 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. However, with respect to the donation of the Robert Frost statue, there may still be an opportunity in conjunction with the anticipated beautification project to bring it back with a new twist to gain the recognition and accolades from the College which passed us by during the time of the original dedication approximately 19 years ago.

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 Studio Arts, at least one professional artist selected from our class (possibly two) 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 ceremony related costs. Thus, the grand total of projected costs to our class would be approximately \$6,000-\$10,000, say \$10,000, which would certainly be manageable for our class to handle financially as a class project.

Before making a decision on this proposed project, Denny suggested that Vic contact Pete Bleyler, who lives in Hanover and who has been the point person from our class in working with the Studio Arts Department faculty in selecting the undergraduate recipient of the arts stipend of \$1500 each year from our class. Aside from providing input and advice, it was thought that Pete would know whom in the Studio Arts Department to approach for feedback on the potential success of and timetable for the proposed 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 closing, Denny mentioned the slowly deteriorating health condition of fellow classmate, Frank Ginn. The class officers unanimously offered their best wishes to Frank and Madge and their family. Nyla, on behalf of the Women's Initiative Committee and the class officers, offered to call Madge to express the feelings of the class officers.

The next class officers meetings/conference call for 2015 is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11th from 1PM-2PM EDT/EST.

Denny adjourned the meeting at 2:10PM EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, '61 Class Secretary