

## **Class of '61 DAM Article - July/August 2016 Edition**

Several months ago, the Class of '61 received some nice recognition when the Dartmouth on-line magazine published by the Dartmouth Office of Communications, *Dartmouth Now*, opened its March 2016 issue with the lead article, "*Dartmouth Artists Take Inspiration From Frost Statue*". The lengthy piece, including pictures, paid tribute to the statue of Robert Frost donated by our class to the College in 1996, to the '61 Robert Frost Statue Art Contest conceived and successfully administered by our class during late 2015/early 2016 and to the class of 1961, whose resiliency, creativity and ingenuity enabled the class to create the two Frost statue projects, as well as the performing arts legacy and, going back to early 1989, the first ever Dartmouth large-scale off-campus mini-reunion (in Washington, DC). In addition, classmates financially able through the decades have underwritten the cost of buildings, academic chairs, head coaching positions, administrative positions, various academic prizes and other College related awards. Others have become famous, or at least well known and respected, within their respective professions or other endeavors.

The various classmates involved throughout the years have all been mentioned before and are too numerous to mention again now. You all know who you are and most everyone else in the class knows who you are. The purpose of the above-mentioned statement is to illustrate what a great class, although small in number, we have become over the past 59 years, including the outstanding "Class of the Year" designation in September 2015.

By the time that you read this article, our 55th reunion will have come and gone. Since I am writing this article prior to our June reunion dates, I cannot tell you how great it was and that everyone who attended had a fantastic time. However, from pre-planning and the projected final program, I'm sure that it *was* great and that everyone *did have* a fantastic time. Thank you, **Jim Baum**, 55th reunion chair. I only hope that you all decided to attend. If not, the next one occurs in five years — June, 2021— our 60th.

For those of you who cannot wait that long, we have a class on-campus mini-reunion scheduled for September 30th-October 2nd. As usual, **Maynard Wheeler**, on-campus mini-reunion chair, has arranged a great program for the weekend. Hope you can make it.

In closing, I refer to another truism stated by Andy Rooney, the former host of the successful TV show, *60 Minutes*: "Everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it." Well, we have been climbing

the mountain for a very long time; some of us have stopped the climb, voluntarily or involuntarily, while others continue — albeit at a slower pace.

One small indication of the aforementioned is that beginning with the fall issue of the Class Notes section of DAM, our class columns will be reduced from a maximum of 500 words to 350 words. This will be hard as I found it difficult to keep the class column down to its prior word limit.

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