

Minutes

D'61 Class Officers /Executive Committee Teleconference

March 10, 2021

Attending the Meeting: Don O'Neill, Denny Denniston, Vic Rich, Ron Wybranowski, Harris McKee, Pete Bleyler, Maynard Wheeler, Dave Prewitt, Henry Eberhardt, Oscar Arslanian, Rog McArt, Bill Collishaw, Dave Armstrong, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich, Vince Wilson, Al Rozycki, Gim Burton, Mort Lynn, Glenn Gemelli, Hop Holmberg, Jon Sperling

Absent from Meeting: Gerry Kaminsky, Tom Conger, Joan Prewitt, Jim McElhinney, Art Kelton, Tim Grumbacher

Invited Guests: None

Don O'Neill, Class President, called the meeting to order at noon EST.

Don asked for the approval of the Minutes for the February 10, 2021 class officers/ executive committee teleconference meeting, which Minutes were approved unanimously as submitted, with one correction submitted by Vic ---- Jon Sperling was listed as absent when in fact he attended the telecom by telephone.

Don welcomed the one newly nominated member to the Class' expanded executive committee (Tim Grumbacher), who was unable to attend this telecom.

Secretary's Report

Vic Rich, Class Secretary, reported that he had completed the Minutes for the February 10, 2021 class officers/executive committee teleconference.

Furthermore, Vic further updated DRAFT version #5 of the archive of "D" related awards and recognitions received by the Class of 1961 and by '61 individual classmates for insertion into the Class' 60th Reunion booklet by expanding the archive to include class members who are or had been members of the prestigious Dartmouth Alumni Council and/or a president of a "D" Alumni Club. The final draft version will be completed in April and then sent by email to all classmates for a final review. We will also make one final attempt to obtain assistance from the Alumni Relations Office to review at least the

sections of the archive dealing with awards received by the Class and alumni positions held by individual classmates within the hierarchy of various alumni organizations.

In addition, Vic prepared and submitted the bi-monthly class column for the May/June issue of the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine (DAM).

Finally, Vic communicated with several classmates and various members of the College's administration dealing with alumni matters in general and the Class of 1961 in particular.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Wybranowski, Class Treasurer, reported that the Class' current cash balances as of February 10, 2021 totaled \$48,244 in the Class' checking account and \$11,048 in the Class' reunion/mini-reunion checking account, totaling \$59,292. Since July 1, 2020, the Class has collected dues of \$12,505 from 205 classmates at \$61 and voluntary contributions of \$10,880 from classmates for various existing class projects. For the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, the Class has to date made a donation of \$2,500 to the Dartmouth Athletic Sponsors program, \$1,500 to the Performing Arts Legacy project in memory of deceased classmates and spouses and \$3,774 to other existing class projects. Expenses incurred by the Class with the College and outside vendors are paid to date based on invoices received.

After the upcoming virtual mini-reunion in early April, Ron will transfer additional funds from the Class' regular account to the Class' reunion/mini-reunion account so that the total in the reunion account will equal the \$16,000 agreed-to amount that the class will provide for a virtual 60th Reunion, plus any special gifts for the 60th Reunion received from classmates, et al, to be used exclusively for the 60th Reunion, less any 60th Reunion expenditures paid to date. One such special gift for \$1,000 was from Virginia Rice Kelsey and will be used specifically for a 60th Reunion Class Directory.

Another classmate, Jim Baum, has contributed \$4,000, as yet unallocated, to be used toward a specific class project to be identified by the Class' Executive Committee, which project can be Dartmouth related or community related. Furthermore, Jim has stated that if he likes the project he would be willing to provide additional funding for another one or two years.

The second dues notice for the current fiscal year will be mailed out to classmates in March. Dues collections for the current fiscal year are currently running significantly behind the prior year, partly due to being a result of the passing of many classmates during the current year.

Nominating Committee Report

Dave Prewitt, chair, Art Kelton, Oscar Arslanian and Rog McArt comprise the Class of '61 current nominating committee. Dave reported that one additional classmate, Tim Grumbacher, has been invited and has agreed to become an additional at-large member of the Class' executive committee. The goal to engage a total of ten new members of the '61 Executive Committee by our 60th Reunion has now been reached.

In addition, David also reported that Don O'Neill, outgoing class president, has been nominated to be the next Class of '61 representative on the Alumni Council, beginning on July 1st, 2021 for a period of three fiscal years. As there were no further nominations from the floor and as all comments received in writing and orally from the floor were supportive of Don's nomination, the selection of Don was approved unanimously.

Finally, Dave reported that the Nominating Committee has selected Al Rozycki to become the co-chair of the Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) along with Dave Armstrong.

Don thanked the nominating committee for their excellent choices and efforts to date. He also requested that each new member of the executive committee submit a brief description of their strengths and interests so that they can be assigned class tasks which they are both interested in and most capable of handling.

Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Class Report

Harris McKee, co-chair (along with Henry Eberhardt and Rog McArt) of our Class' DCF efforts, presented the Class' report of actual dollars contributed to date by classmates and number of classmates contributing to date versus projected goals for the Class of '61 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021:

- Our stated class DCF dollar goal is \$610,00 but our stretch dollar goal is \$725,000 for our 60th Reunion and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. As of February 10th, the Class has received approximately \$437,000 in cash and firm pledges, leaving approximately \$173,000 and \$288,000 to reach its stretch goal. Thus far, the Class has achieved 71.6% of its dollar goal and 60.3% of its stretch dollar goal.
- A Class DCF challenge plan entitled "60th Reunion Double-Double Challenge" was activated to encourage more '61 donors to raise their projected donations by providing for matching incentive gifts from an anonymous classmate for any current year gift that equals or exceeds the greater of the classmate's gift for the 55th Reunion or doubles his/her gift for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. As of

March 1st, several classmates have accepted the challenge and qualified for the matching contribution currently totaling just over \$65,000.

- Our DCF participation goal was established at 72% for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. Classmate contributors (including firm pledges) to date amount to 171, or 38.8%, including all of the 28 current class officers and executive committee members (excluding only 3 spousal class officers whose husbands also serve as class officers). Another 147 contributors (46.2%) from our class are needed to reach our participation goal for the year. Henry Eberhardt noted that the Class of '61 to date leads all other classes with its current interim participation rate of 38.8%.

Henry emphasized that our 60th Reunion will be the last major reunion effort by our Class. As a result, we should go out on top, having achieved and possibly even exceeded both our 60th Reunion dollar goal and our participation goal.

D'61 On-Campus and Off-Campus Virtual Mini-Reunion Report (Quarterly)

Maynard Wheeler, on-campus and off-campus virtual mini-reunion chair, reported that the one-day virtual mini-reunion scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 was ready to go, with over 70 classmates, their spouses, widows and friends already signed up to attend.

The program will consist of a single program of 1.5 hours about the status of the public education system today in the U.S. The sole speaker will be classmate Mike Kirst, one of the most knowledgeable and well respected people in the field of public education today, and the moderator will be classmate Dave Blake. Following this will be another brief display of classmate art for approximately 0.5 hour, moderated by Ron Wybranowski. The program will close with a 1.0 hour set of smaller breakout sessions discussing the various issues of public education today and tomorrow in this country, following with a summation general session.

Following this was a brief report of the annual Fall mini-reunion, planned to take place in October 2021, which probably will focus, as in past fall minis, on various undergraduate students to whom we provide financial grants under various class projects and possibly also include a discussion of a book by a classmate and/or adopted classmate. The big question at this time is whether the mini will take place live on campus or will remain virtual or will be some combination of the two. Also unresolved at this time is whether or not there will be a Dartmouth at-home football game. Because of our age group, the anticipated lingering carryover effects of the Covid-19 pandemic

and the increasing participation and increasing success of our recent virtual minis, most comments favored retention of a virtual mini, at least in part.

Maynard ended by noting the mini-reunion assistance he has received from Harris McKee and Pete Bleyler.

D'61 On-Campus Virtual 60th Reunion (Hanover, NH – June 2021)

Pete Bleyler, 60th Reunion chair, reported that he has been holding periodic meetings with the various sub-groups on the 60th Reunion Committee and has assisted Maynard with the recent virtual mini-reunions held and to be held in order to gain more ZOOM experience and insight into learning to maximize the potential benefits of ZOOM while minimizing its potential problem areas.

1. The 60th Reunion will take place between June 14-17, 2021, will be fully virtual and will be cost-free to all attendees.
2. All aspects of developing and implementing the program aspect of the 60th Reunion has been completed with six classmate panel discussions, one memorial service for classmates who have passed on, one women's group discussion, one passages session, one Dickey Center student panel discussion group, one class meeting, two evening entertainment sessions and two class artist slide shows.
3. The underlying theme of three panel discussions will be classmates who have changed, altered or revised their professions or occupations so as to include an entirely different aspect or direction to it. Three other panel discussions will focus on classmate student athletes, classmate alumni arts initiatives and classmate authors and writers.
4. Most of the other class events will be run by and/or consist of classmates and/or spouses and/or widows of classmates, including one of the entertainment sessions, two of the classmate artist slideshows, and the Dickey Center student panel.
5. An extensive 60th Reunion booklet will be prepared for all classmates by Nyla. Among other things, it will include a detailed program of the reunion's events and the speakers, moderators and organizers involved. It will also include a detailed historical archive of Dartmouth awards and citations which the Class has received and Dartmouth awards and citations which '61 classmates have received as well as significant positions held by '61s within the Dartmouth alumni leadership and

advisory structure during the past 60 years. Finally, it will include the highlights of each of the Class' significant projects over the 60 year period.

6. The class directory will be revised and updated.
7. A 60th Reunion gift will be sent to all classmates.

Assisting Pete in this endeavor are Maynard Wheeler, Harris McKee and Ron Wybranowski, along with an extensive classmate and spouse/widow reunion committee.

Robert Frost Endowed Class Project

Pete Bleyler, committee chair, stated that there was nothing significant to report at this time. The dual project, consisting of grants provided to undergraduate students in accordance with the John Sloane Dickey Center/'61 Stephen Bosworth Award and the '61 Arts Legacy, appeared to be running smoothly. One of the 60th Reunion panel discussions will focus on students connected with the Dickey Center and will be moderated by Chris Bosworth, widow of Steve Bosworth in whose honor an endowed class project has been implemented.

Digital Content Manager/Webmaster's Report

Harris McKee, Class Digital Content Manager/Webmaster, reported that he had generated 15 class website updates, 15 iModules emails, and dealt with 1 recent communications problem between the College and various classmates.

In addition, Harris has greatly supported the ZOOM mechanical aspects of all class officer/executive committee meetings as well as all virtual mini-reunions, informal roundtable discussions and other virtual meetings/teleconferences.

Class of '61 Annual Birthday Party

Harris McKee, event chair, reported that 74 classmates, spouses, widows and even a few grandchildren participated in our fifth annual Class birthday party on the 61st day of each calendar year, which this year occurred on March 2, 2021. All participants either posted a photo using the '61 Class logo sheet for 2021 and/or participated in an evening b.y.o.b. virtual cocktail party held on March 2nd. All participants have been posted by Harris on the Class website.

Memorialist's Report

Harris McKee, Class Memorialist, reported that during the past month we learned that 4 more classmates (Dick Selph, Don Shropshire, John Manske, Jeremiah Simmons) had passed away and that obit notices had been published on the class website for those whom obit notices had been received. In addition, Harris notifies the Class Treasurer of the passing of each classmate and classmate spouse so that \$100 can be contributed to the '61 Performing Arts Legacy to honor each such person.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Tom Conger, Newsletter Editor, was unable to attend the meeting but reported that he was planning on publishing four issues of our class newsletter, *Wide Wide World*, for the current fiscal year ending June 30th, instead of the usual three issues. To date, three issues have already been published with the fourth issue to be published in late April or early May.

Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) Report

Dave Armstrong, Class BTS chair, reported that Al Rozycki had volunteered to work with Dave as the co-chair of the Class' BTS committee to communicate with classmates who appear to be good candidates for joining BTS. Several classmates have shown interest in this now simplified process and two are currently in the process now of signing up with a testamentary bequest to the College.

Our original Class' goal for the current fiscal five-year period was to sign up an additional 33 BTS members by June 30, 2021. Our Class currently has 67 BTS members. However, for several reasons, that goal (which was overly optimistic to begin with) should now be revised downward to a more realistic number.

Women's Initiative Committee (WIC) Report

Nyla Arslanian and Patti Rich, WIC co-chairs, reported that they were continuing to communicate, orally and/or in writing, with the spouses of all classmates and with all widows of deceased classmates.

In connection therewith, Nyla has been working with Harris to establish a more reliable and more consistent direct communications link to all '61 spouses and widows, which apparently has now been achieved.

In addition, Nyla has begun to organize and gather material for the 60th Reunion booklet, with assistance from several classmates to provide the content.

D'61 Special Classmate Awards Committee Report

Dave Prewitt, Awards Committee chair, reported that he and the committee, consisting of Denny Denniston, Harris McKee and Vic Rich, were expecting to present one or more awards during our 60th Reunion in June 2021 and also at the anticipated mini-reunion in the Fall of 2021.

Class and Classmate Alumni Awards Archive Report

Vic Rich, co-chair of this committee with Denny Denniston, reported that this multi-year project was near completion. The finalized archival information would then become part of our Class' permanent written history and also included in the 60th Reunion booklet. The final sections to be completed are a list of those classmates who have served on the Alumni Council and/or the Dartmouth Alumni Association Executive Board and also those who have served as president of a Dartmouth Alumni Club. An email and/or letter was sent out by Harris to all classmates and widows to solicit this information.

New Business

Al Rozycki proposed two new class projects to eventually bring more alumni into the College's decision-making and decision-communication process, which has exhibited possible gaps and/or a possible lack of transparency in the recent past which may have been to the detriment of the College, the students and/or the alumni. In addition, Vic Rich, as Class Secretary, was asked to draft a letter concerning the aforementioned which Don, as Class President, would review and edit and then submit, if approved by the Class Officers and Executive Committee, to Dartmouth's Office of the President, the Board of Trustees and to the Alumni Council ---- or to whomever.

The next class officers/executive committee telecon will be on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at noon EST.

Don adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, '61 Class Secretary