

Class Notes—Jul/Aug 2005 issue of *DAM*

1962 The tune plays over and over in my mind. Clarinet licks, trombone tag lines, jazzy trumpet and terrific rhythm. It's a foot-tappin', finger-snappin', body-movin' refrain from "Over in the Glory Land," the last cut from the CD **Tom Komarek** provided for us in New Orleans this February. I think of that memorable scene when the Dixieland band played and led us from the lobby, shaking the chandeliers and startling the other hotel guests: "*Over in the Glory Land / I'll join the happy angel band. / Over in the Glory Land.*"

People were gathering at the Carousel Lounge before dinner. **Tom Davies** joined the group. "How is your son's book going?" I asked Tom. "Fantastic!" he replied. "In fact Kristian asked me to help with some editing and business consulting." Tom explained that the book includes 310 magnificent images from American and European artists who worked in the Middle East from 1850 to 1900. The finished product, *The Orientalists: Western Artists in Arabia, the Sahara, Persia and India*, by Kristian Davies, was recently published to rave reviews. It embodies 5 1/2 years of research, travel, interviews, museum study and negotiations, and painstaking analysis and commentary. Critics find the work offers a timely but different perspective of the Middle East from an independent, artistic viewpoint.

Don Samuelson wrote to the class listserv a while ago reflecting on how Dartmouth stimulated us to learn of foreign travel and work. He talked of the many Dartmouth grads that joined the Peace Corps. I thought back to the late winter of 1961 when the Reverend James Robinson showed up on campus and captured my imagination about Operations Crossroads Africa. Six Dartmouth students signed on to travel and work in West Africa the following summer.

One was **Al Cook** who lives near Denver. "My time in Senegal and Mali in 1961 was an absolutely life-changing experience for me. Hardly a day goes by that I don't think of my African experience. Our work project was to build a schoolhouse in Popenguine, Senegal, which is south of Dakar on the coast. We worked with Senegalese students from university and the lycee." Upon his return to Dartmouth Al changed his career plans from medicine to the ministry. He studied at seminary for a year, met and married Mary Jane, his wife of forty-two years, and then earned a master's degree in social work at the University of Chicago. After that he worked with the federal impact-planning program at Cape Kennedy, Florida, and later with inner-city programs in Houston, Texas. Al landed a gig as Assistant Secretary of the College in Hanover from 1972 to 1977 and then a one-year assignment as executive director of the Big Brothers program in New York City. Al and Mary Jane moved to Colorado and eventually moved from the non-profit sector into finance. For twenty years Al has run The Cook Company, a financial services company.

Interesting guys and careers--all on this side of "the Glory Land."

Richard Hannah, 11 Sunset Road, Salem, MA 01970; 978.744.0655 (fax); rjhannah@massmed.org