

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2011 10.15.11

Dear '70's,

The news from the Bay Area is that, remarkably, water has been falling from the sky recently, which doesn't happen here all that often. When I was a correspondent at GMA, I did a story once about a long drought in California, and an anchorman in Santa Barbara told me that there were 4-year old kids in that town who had never seen rain. When we first moved to the Bay Area from Connecticut 11 years ago, my daughter Ellie found it hilarious when it would start to drizzle and the local TV weather people would proclaim it to be the "Storm of the Century," as in "Get the children, build an ark!" Ellie said, "Dad, 3 feet of snow is the Storm of the Century, not an inch of rain." In fact, when I started working in TV News in L.A. years ago, my station had me fill in on occasion for the Weatherman on our nightly, prime time evening news when he went on vacation; I soon realized there was basically nothing to report. It was hot and smoggy most of the year, then it rained from November to March. That's why so many LA weathermen are would-be comedians and why the woman were sometimes known as Weather Bunnies... there's very little to say about the weather there. To quote Gertrude Stein in the wrong context: "There's no there there."

The other news from here is Ellie dropped out of her Master's program in Public Health at Dartmouth, which she felt was too focused on hospital management and she didn't want to be an administrator. She's now home and working as an EMT and a reporter for a local newspaper. And I think Norm Livermore is going to operate on my left hip sometime before the end of the year.

Now, a few words from our beloved Class President Jeff Demerath about the recent Class Officer's Meeting in Hanover and some personal news as well.

JEFF DEMERATH: The recent Class Officers Weekend on Sept. 23 and 24 was attended by Mark Heller, Denny Brown and Jeff Dahlman. According to Mark, the emphasis of several of the sessions was "communication" between class officers themselves as well as between the officers and class members.

As to the former, "board meetings" in person or more likely via video or Skype were encouraged which is an idea we have explored and will implement on a regular basis beginning before the end of the year. As to contact between officers and class members as well as between members themselves, of course newsletters, mass emails and the like are important. In addition, our recent "mini-reunion" in NYC is a format that can be replicated in other parts of the country.

Mark also talked to Jennifer Casey of the Alumni Affairs Office regarding a memorial through the College for the sons and daughters of class members who have passed away. Jennifer noted that there is an existing Baker/Berry Book Fund, which any class can establish. In this program, a book for the library is purchased in honor of a classmate's son or daughter or another classmate. The class would create the fund and also fund it. It could be

replenished by donations or as a line item in our class dues notice. The class officers will explore this as well as other options.

On a personal note, Jeff had this to say: [I got married--on May 28 to Holly Blumeyer, an interior designer who I have known for 10 years and engaged to for almost 4 years--we have 3 grandchildren and they are a wonderful invention!! And also we just moved into a house Holly gut-rehabbed and there is plenty of space for any '70s passing through St. Louis.](#)

[Also, Jeff reports that the class Bench has been installed in front of Kemeny/Haldemann Hall and the engraving on it has been enhanced in bronze by the College.](#)

[\(NOTE; KRISTEN, PLEASE INSERT A PHOTO OF THE BENCH OF THE ENGRAVING HERE... THEY ARE ATTACHED IN MY EMAIL. THANKS.\)](#)

On the topic of memorials, I'm sorry to report that John and Georgia McCravey's 20-year old son Gus died this summer after falling from a hotel balcony while studying in Spain. A number of our classmates attending his memorial service in Chattanooga, TN, among them former Class President Star Johnson: "The service for Gus McCravey was very moving and powerful. It was held at the McCallie School's Chapel, with overflowing attendance, including over 100 schoolmates from Gettysburg (College), several of whom got up to speak about Gus. John and Georgia also gave eulogies, which were both brave and soulful. It was an incredible testimony to the extent that Gus had touched peoples' lives in such a short lifespan, and the respect the community has for the McCraveys. We had a strong contingent of '70's present, and for the most part, sat together during the service and congregated at the open house at the McCravey's afterwards. Our group included Vic and Jackie Anderson, Tom Peisch, Roger Grimes, Jon May, Bob Mlakar, Tim Welch, Chip Cody, Earl McAvoy, John Nycz '72 and myself (I think/hope that includes everyone). John appreciates hearing from friends, so don't hesitate to make contact."

And I regret to report the death of Polly Ullrich, the wife of classmate Dave Ullrich. Roger Grimes let us know about this by sending this obituary from the Chicago Tribune, which is excerpted below:



Polly Ullrich, died suddenly on July 6, 2011, in Woodruff, Wisconsin, from injuries suffered in an automobile accident. Polly's life was a relentless and intense search for meaning and beauty in art, literature, music, and most of all, in relationships with people. She was the dear spouse and friend of her husband David; and loving mother of their son Eric. She went to the University of Wisconsin, where she majored in journalism, receiving a bachelor of arts in 1972 and a master's degree in specialized reporting in 1973. She and her husband moved to Chicago in 1973, where she continued her writing, starting with United Press International and moving on to do stories for the Milwaukee Journal- Sentinel, Chicago Sun Times, and New York Times. Her writing moved more and more toward the art world. In 1980, she stopped writing and decided to learn ceramic art and developed her skills to a point where she was showing her work in Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, Florida, and New York City. With the birth of their son in

1990, Polly pursued both being a mother to Eric at home and her love of art at the School of the Art Institute, where she received a master's degree in art history, theory and criticism in 1994.

Harvey Katz writes to say that a recent Northern California Alumni Club event featured: the winemakers TJ Rodgers '70 (Dartmouth's Board of Trustees) and Valeta Massey, who are behind one of the world's most intriguing wineries. This winery focuses on Pinot Noir and has vineyards in the Santa Cruz Mountains and Woodside. They will be pouring their sixth release from the Domaine Valeta and Domaine Lois Louise vineyards. Joe & Gail Adams visited TJ and Valeta just before they stayed with us between Christmas and New Year. She or they own a store in Half Moon Bay that sells must-have tchotchkes to well heeled Yups. I'm sure Joe would have a lot to say about this.

Denny Brown had this to say about the event: Oh, man, how great is this! Now we'll find out for sure if winemaking is art or science!

In other news, Harvey Katz says: Mary & I traveled to New Orleans for the Jazz & Heritage Festival. We spent 2 days at the Jazzfest and another day relaxing, then back here. It was all music, food, drink, food, music, drink, etc. Quite enjoyable and the music was fantastic. The problem is that they have so many stages and people playing at the same time, that you always miss hearing someone you like. We stayed with my childhood friend Phil Magnusson & his wife. They live in Worcester but she's from N.O. and has a family house in Mandeville, across Lake Ponchartrain. The house was destroyed by falling trees during Katrina, and they had it rebuilt. Phil was in Boy Scouts with me and John Person. Ha!

Alumni-related news: Mary & I went to "Jewish Heritage" night at the Oakland A's with Peter Logan. It was fun & interesting: lousy weather so many ticket holders never came. The A's who had been pretty awful, could do no wrong. They won 14 – 0 on a 2-hitter. Heritage Night tickets got you a pastrami sandwich or falafel and an Oakland A's skullcap (yarmulke) with 'Athletics' in Hebrew. We sat way back so we were out of the constant drizzle.

Jeff Dahlman has a lot to report to us in this Newsletter, among them this news from the recent Class Officer's Weekend as our Gift Planning Chair: "During Fiscal Year 2011, Dartmouth received approximately \$5.5 million from terminated trusts and annuities and more than \$9.2 million in realized bequests. These funds will be used to meet Dartmouth's highest priorities and strengthen specific programs including libraries, athletics, scholarships and academic programs. These deferred gifts are important to future generations of Dartmouth students. Let's discuss your estate plans for Dartmouth and define your legacy to the College. Please call me at (973) 376-2988 or the Dartmouth College Gift Planning Office at (800) 451-4067.

More from Jeff on other topics: Gentlemen, in response to the request for news concerning our classmates, please look at the article in the (July 4-11, 2011) edition of Sports Illustrated entitled "A League of Its Own" regarding the making of the movie entitled "Major League."

As you may remember the Producer of this movie is our beloved classmate Chris Chesser who is quoted in the article. You may also remember Chris by the nickname that he acquired from Sandy McWilliams while living on the third floor of Gile Hall during our Freshman year. I will let Sandy provide the nickname.

And more from Jeff: Gentlemen, on the evening of Thursday June 16th, nine members of the Dartmouth Class of 1970 gathered at the "Sidecar" (the upstairs eatery for P.J. Clarke's) in New York for a Dinner/Mini-Reunion. Class members in attendance were: Wayne Bardsley, Trip Dorkey, Demie Duckworth, Chip O'Brien, Rich Ostberg, Tom Peisch, Stew Rosenblum, Stu Zuckerman and myself.

We had a pleasant time catching up with each other. Discussion of various medical conditions was held to a minimum. However, of general concern, was that we have reached the age where many of us have children over the age of 30. Wayne and Tom got the prize for traveling the farthest to attend: namely, Washington, DC and Boston.

The event was generally considered to be a success, especially since no one got arrested and/or landed in the hospital. The manager of the restaurant even invited us back for a return engagement.

One of the more lucid comments made during the evening was expressed by Stu Zuckerman who suggested that we might consider supporting WDCR in some fashion for our 45th Reunion. Stu acts as a senior advisor to the radio station, so I will let Stu carry the ball from here.

In light of the success of this event, the general consensus was to hold another such event next January. I will review this matter with the powers that be and keep you up to date.

From Jeff Dahlman re: Alumni Council meeting:

June 7, 2011

Dear70's,

The 202nd meeting of the Dartmouth Alumni Council was held from May 19-21, 2011 in Hanover. The College was exceptionally green due to the significant amount of rain that fell before and during the Council. Notwithstanding the precipitation, our fellow Classmate and Alumni Council President, Tom Peisch, once again conducted a well-organized and productive meeting.

My first event was a Dinner Discussion Group on Thursday May 19th with seven students from the Dartmouth Outing Club, the DOC's Director, Dan Nelson '75, and a dozen Alumni. Founded in 1909, the DOC is the oldest and the largest collegiate outing club in the country. It oversees fourteen separate clubs and each of the students described their particular group's involvement within the DOC.

The DOC's many accomplishments and goals for this year include:

- (a) Supervised more than 1,000 members of the Class of 2014 who took the “First-Year Trip” (approximately 96% of the Class);
- (b) Selected 260 upper-class students from 800 who applied for positions to organize and conduct the Trip;
- (c) Planned this summer’s Big Green Bus Tour from Maine to Florida to California and return to Hanover while operating on vegetable oil; and
- (d) Supervised the rebuilding of Titcomb Cabin located on an island in the Connecticut River. This project was included in a CBS program on Sunday May 22, 2011.

George Bell '68 announced that his Class agreed to underwrite the First-Year Trip for the Class of 2015 and beyond. He then promptly stated that his Class just has to raise the required funds to do so. My second event was the Enrollment and Admissions Committee meeting on Friday morning May 20th. There were three topics on the agenda the first of which was the report by Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, Maria Laskaris '84 regarding the Class of 2015.

Dean Laskaris was pleased to report that the Class of 2015 was superior in all respects to previous classes. The number of applicants increased this year by 19% to 22,384 and 2,229 were admitted. Approximately 50.1% are male and 49.9% are female. The goal is to have an incoming Class of 1,114 students.

Approximately 1,100 applicants were placed on the Wait List. The unusually high number of 50 were accepted with 42 agreeing to attend. The Overall Yield for the Class of 2015 was 50%, which is consistent with previous years. Of those admitted for the Class of 2015 who elected not to attend Dartmouth, 61% chose Harvard, Yale, Princeton or Stanford while 81% chose an Ivy school, MIT or Stanford. Harvard, Yale and Princeton are more generous with their financial aid. However, Dean Laskaris did not believe this had a significant effect on Dartmouth’s yield even though Dartmouth has reinstated its policy of requiring students with family incomes in excess of \$75,000.00 to take out loans to meet their financial obligations.

In order to stay competitive with our sister schools, the Admissions Office instituted a new program this year entitled “Chatapalooza.” This Program took place on Saturday April 2nd and consisted of 16 Internet chats among current students and members of the Admissions Office with admitted students and their parents. The Program drew 761 viewers of which 366 were parents and included chats in Chinese and Spanish.

For the Class 2016 and beyond, the Admissions Office has retained a communications firm to identify potential applicants and has joined a “National Joint Travel Partnership” with Princeton, Northwestern, Vanderbilt and Berkeley. This Partnership involves participating in three joint information sessions at various locations throughout the country.

The second topic was an examination of the interview process. In light of the increasing number of applicants, the Committee discussed the necessity and/or feasibility of

attempting to conduct Alumni interviews for the vast majority of future applicants. This past year Alumni interviewers conducted 12,519 interviews which represents 56% of the Class of 2015. This number is consistent with the past two years. However, since the admission rate is only 9%, the vast majority of applicants who are interviewed are rejected which in turn is frustrating to the interviewers.

In response, the Admissions Office recommended that interviewers adopt the role of a College ambassador to promote Dartmouth rather than focus on a particular applicant's credentials.

Various members of the Committee obtained information regarding the interview process at other schools. Their findings are as follows:

- (a) Princeton has the best organized program with a member of the University staff overseeing the process. Dartmouth and the other schools do not have such a staff position.
- (b) Columbia's program is very similar to the College's with significant emphasis placed on phone interviews.
- (c) The University of Chicago's alumni engage in a self-selecting process wherein their alumni interviewers are encouraged to discourage applicants who do not appear to be a good fit.
- (d) Duke does not place a great deal of emphasis on alumni interviews. Rather, it relies on its national reputation to attract applicants.
- (e) Yale is the only Ivy school that still regularly conducts on campus interviews.
- (f) Brown selectively conducts on campus interviews for certain legacy applicants.

In conclusion, the Chair of the Committee was passed to Adrienne Lotson '82 and Rob Kugler '67 was elected as the Vice Chair of the Committee.

My third event of the morning was the "Back to the Classroom" held for Alumni Councilors to attend a regularly scheduled class. My class was an introductory Comparative Literature course entitled "Lying and Truth Telling in Literature" taught by Professor Monika Otter. The class reviewed a previously submitted paper and Professor Otter emphasized the value of proper planning and structure. She did so in a constructive and encouraging manner.

The afternoon Plenary Session began with President Peisch introducing another of our Classmates, Gordon Campbell, the former Premier of British Columbia, who is also a member of the Alumni Council. Martha Beattie '76 was introduced as the new Vice President of Alumni Relations. Martha was a member of the College's first four year class to include women and since graduation she has had a thirty year career as a teacher, coach, volunteer leader and board member of a range of schools and charities. Tom Daniels '82, Chair of the Nominating and Alumni Trustee Search Committee reviewed last year's search for two Alumni Council nominated candidates for the Board of Trustees. This process led to the selection of Gail Boudreaux '82 and Bill Burgess '81 who ultimately were elected to the Board to fill the two alumni-nominated vacant seats.

President Kim then led a conversation with the Council. He began by stating that “the College is in a good place!” As an example thereof, the College has resolved its 100 million dollar deficit by focusing on strategic cost reductions rather than adopting equal percentage reductions for each department. As a result, there were only 28 more layoffs in addition to the twelve that been previously scheduled.

President Kim discussed Innovation, Student Health and Student Life. Regarding Innovation, the College will grant a new Masters in Health Care Delivery Service next year.

Regarding Student Health, the College is focused on resolving binge drinking on campus. It has entered into a partnership with fourteen other schools to “adopt public health solutions to a public health problem.” There are thirty more schools which have expressed an interest in joining this Partnership.

The results of a voluntary survey conducted this past year, indicated that 45% of Dartmouth undergraduates participated in binge drinking which is slightly more than the national average. There were 120 drinking related hospitalizations of which one third had the potential to result in death. President Kim’s goal is to reduce the number of such hospitalizations to 0.

Michael Mastanduno, Dean of Faculty of Arts and Sciences followed President Kim with a discussion entitled “Reflections on the Arts and Sciences.” Dean Mastanduno emphasized Dartmouth’s uniqueness due to its ability to maintain a balance as an institution with the research capabilities of a large university while retaining the size and character of a smaller liberal arts college.

As a result of the recent budget constraints the College delayed the hiring of faculty positions. The goal is now to return the faculty to its full strength of 415 positions.

A thorough review of the Curriculum is now under way. The last such review was conducted in the early 1990's. The challenge is to determine which of 1,500 to 2,000 different courses taught each year provides the optimum opportunity to meet student demands when a student only takes 35 courses throughout his/her college career.

Ms. Carrie Pelzel, Senior Vice President for Advancement, concluded the Session with a presentation entitled “Reimagining Reunions.” She discussed the difficulty of accommodating thousands of Alumni attending reunions during the period between graduation and the beginning of the summer term. She acknowledged the lack of interest in mid-week reunions and stated that the College plans to invest funds to improve the quality of future reunions.

Following Ms. Pelzel's presentation, the Alumni Council was divided into groups to discuss improvements for future reunions. My group reiterated their collective displeasure with mid-week reunions and the College's policy of including a significant number of small charges within the total cost of attending a reunion.

Later that evening a reception was held at the “Top of the Hop” during which the “Brovertones” a male a capella singing group entertained the Council. During dinner, Jeff Immelt '78 regaled the Council with his experiences as a College Trustee, CEO of GE, and his recent appointment as the Chair of the President’s Council on Jobs and Competitiveness.

Alumni Council President-elect Danielle Dyer '81, '89Tu began Saturday's Plenary Session by introducing Trustees Peggy Tanner '79 and Bill Helman '80. Bill discussed the closure of the budget deficit and the priority of lowering the rate of spending for the College’s \$3.4 billion endowment to a sustainable 5.5%. Peggy discussed various matters related to Greek and students affairs.

Maria Laskaris '84 Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid then presented “Meet the Class of 2015: An Admissions Update” which reiterated her previous report to the Enrollment and Admissions Committee.

A panel of five exceptional undergraduates then led a discussion entitled “Round the Girdled Earth” regarding their projects to benefit others both at the College and abroad.

The following election results were announced: Regina Glocker '88 and Jennifer Avellino '89 will join the Nominating and Alumni Trustee Search Committee; Alan Barstow '75 will join the Alumni Liaison Committee; and Marty Lempres '84 will become the President-elect of the Alumni Council with Danielle Dyer '81, '89Tu becoming President.

The Session concluded with the recognition of the excellent service provided by Tom Peisch as the outgoing Alumni Council President and Tom Daniels as the outgoing Chair of the Nominating and Alumni Trustee Search Committee. Please let me know your thoughts regarding this Alumni Council and any matters that you would like me to present at the next Council.

From an article in “Institute Insite” a publication of Arizona State University about classmate Steve Doig:

Steve Doig, Pulitzer Prize winner and Knight Chair in Journalism at the Cronkite School, acquired his journalism training in the Army.

While he earned a degree in political science from Dartmouth College, Doig said he gained valuable journalism experience in the U.S. Army’s Defense Information School during the Vietnam War.

“A journalism degree is not necessary in order to be a journalist, but it is a good thing,” he said.

Doig encouraged young journalists to consider applying to an accredited journalism program, noting that accreditation is a stamp of quality for a program. In addition, “Two-thirds of the coursework is usually outside of journalism, so students are well rounded and know about the way the world works,” he said.

While it is not necessary to have journalism degree, Doig said, “It is easier for the hiring editor to see that an applicant has come from a good journalism program that teaches the basics and provides good internships.”

Well, that’s all the news that’s fit to print, or at least all the news that fits, for now. Please fill out of Green Card or email me with your news for the next Newsletter:

stevefox00@comcast.net. Let’s hope that by the time you get this Newsletter, Dartmouth football will have won a couple more games. Might as well hope for world peace, while we’re at it. Although, at this moment, world peace seems more likely. I for one hate that we got shut out by Yale. Years ago, the Yale Coach at the time said Yale professors wanted to beat Princeton, the alumni wanted to beat Harvard and the students wanted to beat Dartmouth, which unfortunately they did this time around.