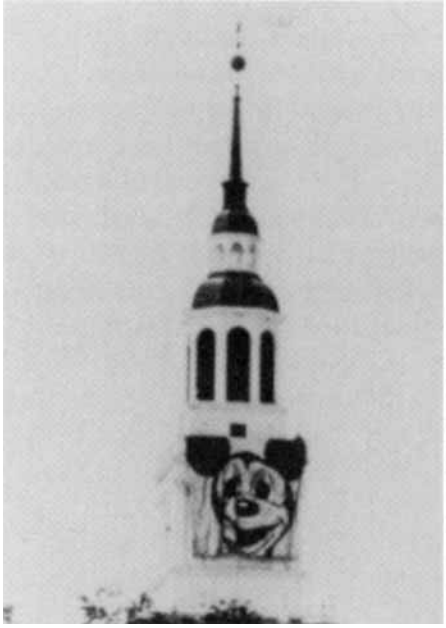
Class of '70 Newsletter



IN OUR TIME

OCTOBER 2009

Yo, '70s… by which I mean "Hey, old dudes," a great line by Will Smith from the film **Men in Black.**

I have some alarming news and some astonishing news. First, the alarming news: our classmate Al Brown is being deployed to Afghanistan for 7 months in November. He's going as a Battalion Surgeon with the U.S. Marine Corps 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion. Commander Al would love to hear from us before he leaves. Contact Al at cabrownmd1@gmail.com or call him at (805) 637-4947.

I learned about this while visiting Al and his wife Sally in Santa Barbara, CA this summer. The story is this: their son Dan, a Dartmouth '05, was the president of AD and a member of Dragon and the rugby club, as were both Al and I. Al claims Dan majored in "either fraternity or rugby studies." After graduating, Dan joined the Marines and served 2 tours of duty in Iraq as a Cobra helicopter gunship pilot.

Apparently, in a show of solidarity – or insanity – Al then joined the Marine Corps Reserves. Earlier this year he was called up to active duty and is now training with his Battalion in 29 Palms, CA, a hellish, desert-like place near Palm Springs. (Editorial Note: anyplace that's between Palm Springs and Las Vegas – which 29 Palms is – is by definition hellish and desert-like. Trust me about this – I've been there. My first wife, Marymiller, who some of you might remember, had a family home in Palm Springs, as a way to escape the Midwest in the winter.)

Incidentally, Al's daughter Lauren '05 is now in Med school at UC Davis, where my daughter Ellie is a nursing intern with hopes of one day getting a Master's in Public Heath from Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center.

Yes, it's true – all roads eventually lead back to Hanover. Al and Sally plan to attend our Reunion there next year. Al and Sally met in Hanover—she's a Vermont native who was teaching there. Which leads me to a timely segue to our Reunion.

Here's the astonishing news: we have been out of Dartmouth almost 10 times longer than we were in there. Our 40th Reunion will be from June 14 to June 17th next year. Who knew we would live this long? I certainly didn't, and my ex-wife Ann maintains that I shouldn't have, given my plethora of bad habits (What a pleasure it is to write the word "plethora" and believe that most of you, okay all of you, know what it means, and that some - perhaps many - of you know what she's talking about).

There's a Reunion committee, and they and the co-chairmen are trying to make the Reunion both interesting and fun and they would like any suggestion or dislikes from all of you, so they call entice you to come. The College, of course, wants you to come so you will give them money. But, my feeling is, come anyway – I'm sure not going to be able to give them a lot of money.

Star Johnson can be reached at star@starjohnsonrealtor.com or (603) 643-3942. Denny Brown is at Dennis.T.Brown@ Dartmouth.edu (Yes, it's true, he has a like insidious worm worked his way into the heart of Dartmouth itself by raising money for the College, which is not a bad thing, in and of itself. And, I believe he's pretty good at it and also ethical about doing it – he has not gotten any South American cocaine dealer to donate large sums to date, that I know of, to preserve the Orozco murals in Baker Library, which always seemed to me to be out of place but also wonderful at Dartmouth).

And, the third co-chairman is John McCravey; reach him at jmcrazy@aol.com or (423) 756-8855, or (423) 756-9106. McCravey's letter about the Reunion is below.

We have tried to assemble some diverse Reunion Committee members, but how diverse we could be, after all, since we were basically a bunch of semi-privileged white guys. Not Nelson Rockefeller, necessarily, but I did live in his suite in Hitchcock Hall for 2 years.

Here are the members of the Reunion Committee. They may be calling you soon to encourage you to come to our 40th on June 14th through June 17th 2010:

Reunion Committee members:

Joe Adams, Jim Aukerman, Wayne Bardsley, Warren Barrash, Gary Brooks, Denny Brown, Thorne Butler, Steve Buxbaum, Jeff Dahlman, Jeff Demerath, Trip Dorkey, Wallace Ford, Steve Fox, Ed Haldeman, Scott Holland, Star Johnson, Harvey Katz, Bill Koenig, Peter Logan, Brian Maher, John McCravey, Gary Miller, Tex Morgan, Al Mulley, David Noyes, Jon Oplinger, Wayne Osmond, Jack Pansegrau, Tom Peisch, Scott Perry, George Roussos, Kadita Tshibaka, Tim Welch

Here's the letter from co-chairman John McCravey::

Dear 1970 Classmates:

As most of you may have noticed, the sands continue to fall in the hourglass, and in my official capacity as reunion co-chairman I am notifying you and encouraging you to attend our 40th Reunion on June 14th-17th, 2010.

Reunions often mean different things to each of us. I have anticipated them over the years with great enthusiasm and have attended all of our Hanover events. I am sure there is a varying amount of support for this view across the spectrum of our class, but I hope that my co-chairs and our reunion committee can pique your interest over the next few months and offer an opportunity for re-appreciating our time at Dartmouth College, the individuals with whom you spent that time, and the perspective you gained in the 40 years since.

A loose outline of the four days in June will include the usual dinners and college-sponsored events. I have suggested to our committee we emphasize time together with our classmates, as personal relationships were and are paramount to my Dartmouth experience, and hopefully yours. We are planning a couple of classmate-led forums because we feel that our class has ample knowledge and experience within our ranks to address any issue of our day and present age, and we invite your suggestions and input.

Some of you may harbor some negative opinions with the college's decisions and initiatives over the years, and I fully admit to be included in that group. However, I tend to focus on the still wonderful memories of the time and place I spent with you all. I want this reunion to reflect the good and the fellowship for us all. I also want to have a ton of fun!

We will need help with all of the various chores of putting on this reunion. If any of you would be willing to help in any capacity, please contact any of us on the committee.

So, let the process begin. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in June.

Sincerely,

John W. McCravey, MD

That's all for now. Please email me with news about you or other classmates: stevefox00@comcast.net.

By the way, does anybody else find himself cringing before opening the Sunday New York Times to check the Dartmouth football score, by which I mean who we lost to that weekend?

Steve

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