



# Class of '87 Newsletter

## Happy New Year – Happy Newsletter!

### Notes from the Hanover Plain, where Christen O'Connor now resides:

Welcome to the first 87 class newsletter of 2008. We personally guarantee it won't be the last. Thanks to the firm leadership of “**H**” **Randy Morgan** at the helm of our class, we are back on track and looking forward to improving both the quantity and quality of our newsletters over the coming few years. But we need you – so take a minute and fill out the enclosed green card, or email one of us with your latest news.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, I have recently moved back to Hanover and have been surprised by the number of classmates I have seen and otherwise been in contact with since then, so I thought I'd share some of those encounters.

*--Notes from Christen O'Connor, cont'd page 2*

### Mark Your Calendars for the 87<sup>th</sup> Day of the Year!!

Get out your calendars and check Thursday, March 27th (and the days around it). Nothing fun planned? Well, we've got something for you to do: go to an 87th Day/Night mini-reunion! Our class was recently honored for continuing this unique tradition, so be part of the fun!

Once again, Mini-Reunion Chair **Laura Gasser** and her gang of enthusiastic volunteers are planning mini-reunions around the country for that date and other nearby dates in March. Watch your email and the Events and Mini-Reunions page of the class website ([www.dartmouth.org/classes/87/](http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/87/)) for updated info and further details as we get closer. For a tentative list of some of the mini-reunions being planned...

*--cont'd page 8*

#### Class of 1987 Officers

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##### TREASURER

[Anne Schnader Jones](#)

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##### EDITORS

[Christen O'Connor](#)

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##### CHAIR

[Laura Gasser](#)

##### HEAD ALUMNI FUND

##### AGENTS

[Tim Bixby](#)

[Raffiq Nathoo](#)

##### WEBMISTRESS

[Jenifer Holcombe Soykan](#)

**Fund the Class Scholarship!! Read more on page 6...**

# Class News

## *Notes from Christen O'Connor, cont'd:*

Homecoming always brings a handful of classmates back to town, and so it was no surprise to bump into **Ernie Torain** and his family on Main Street that Friday afternoon. Our parade presence has been minimal in recent years, but you can always count on stalwarts **Chrissie & Mike Drescher** and **Holly Taylor** to take up the '87 sign for the class. Their kids all do a great job tossing candy and representing the class, even in the rain! I actually see Holly around town quite a bit, as we have children in the same class at the elementary school, though she's a busy woman these days. She teaches in the psychology department at Tufts University, so spends Mondays and Tuesdays in Boston while her husband holds down the fort in Hanover with their three young children. Then, she's home for the rest of the week and has office space on the Dartmouth campus to do her research and writing. It takes endurance (and some very helpful local parents) to keep up that schedule.

It was at an absolutely freezing Dartmouth/Cornell football game that I ran into **John Jakiemiec** and **Brian Brady**. I gave up and headed to Molly's for drinks before the end of the third quarter...you know it was cold because Brian offered to buy my fuzzy purple mittens right off me!

Considerable discussion took place on campus this fall as well as around the country regarding the lawsuit filed by members of the Association of Alumni against the College, contesting the Board of Trustees recent changes to their composition. What I would not have known if I did not read the "D" every day is that our own **Rick Pepperman** is representing the College as lead outside counsel on this case. He is a partner at Sullivan & Cromwell in New York, and has spent much of his career representing a little company called Microsoft in antitrust litigation.

When I first moved back to the Upper Valley, I had a nice note from **Jeff Blatt**, who I have known for 30 years now. He related a moving story about his daughter, which he gave me permission to reprint here: "We've just been through a bit of an extraordinary stretch as parents. Our 11 year old daughter Charlotte ("Charlie") was chosen from a nationwide search that started with 10,000 applicants, to be one of fifteen 10-12 year old contestants on Kid Jeopardy with Alex Trebek. That was the good news. The not so good news was that it wasn't her day on the show, which taped last week, and she finished a very distant and non-competitive third. We were so proud of her and the way she handled herself, and the accomplishment that just getting on the show represented, but Charlie was and is

# Class News

## *Notes from Christen O'Connor, cont'd:*

very, very upset and doesn't want anyone to watch the show (it aired October 9th.). It was a brutal parental experience, watching her fail on such a grand stage and just sitting in the audience, unable to help our child at all. It was also frustrating because amazingly, several items we went over with her were actual questions on the show, but she really wasn't paying attention when we tried to prep her and she either erred or didn't buzz in when the questions came up. She just didn't listen to her parents that the competition would be tough. Imagine the nerve! And now she is embarrassed, and it didn't have to turn out this way. Oh well, there's a few lessons in there somewhere, right? Even for Erin and me, who are wondering if we should have MADE her focus..." Jeff and **Erin Foster** have three daughters and live in Scarsdale, NY. Jeff is the new CEO of Synapse Group, which is a subsidiary of Time Inc. and is the largest marketer of magazine subscriptions in the U.S.

A few visitors to Hanover that I missed were those who attended Dartmouth's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Coeducation. Several hundred alumnae descended on the campus over Veterans Day weekend to celebrate the Women of Dartmouth.

Participants from our class included **Magda Lukl Fleckner**, **Heather McCutchen**, **Laurie Lopes**, and **Crystal Crawford**. **Ricki Stern** was also here that weekend to screen her latest documentary, The Devil Came on Horseback, about the crisis in Darfur. The film has earned rave reviews and is available to rent on Netflix or to purchase on Amazon.

I look forward to seeing and hearing from many more of you in the future. I work right on the Green in McNutt hall, so be sure to stop in and say hello if you are visiting campus. And please continue to send your news to me or Amy Baker...the next issue of the newsletter should reach you in early summer.

Cheers,  
Christen  
([christen.oconnor@alum.dartmouth.org](mailto:christen.oconnor@alum.dartmouth.org))  
and  
Amy  
([amy.baker.87@alum.dartmouth.org](mailto:amy.baker.87@alum.dartmouth.org))

# Class News

## Those Green Cards are Trickling In...

Is wintry weather getting you down? Bask in the glow of this update from **Holly Silvestri**: “Here I sit on my balcony on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of heat above 100F. Yes, I’ve moved to Phoenix and brought the intense heat with me, apparently. I love it, however. Not even the rattlesnake in front of my classroom would get me to move back East! Native New Yorker – 1, Rattler – 0!

**Richard Middelberg**, his wife Kellie and their two sons Nicholas (5) and Christopher (2.5) are living in San Diego, CA. Richard put up his consulting shingle a few years ago and advises small to mid-size companies in their finance/accounting/performance improvement strategies. His current client, Aperio Technologies, recently received a second round of VC funding and will double its revenues this year. Kellie juggles her teaching job at the Poway school district with many daytime activities with the kids until she hands them over, exhausted, to Richard on the weekends. Nicholas attends Montessori School, and soon Christopher will, too. The Middelbergs keep in touch with several Dartmouth alums, but alas no 87s. Any takers?

**John Steele** was good enough to check in from Old Greenwich, CT, where he lives with his wife Joanne and their three children Jacqueline (11), John (7), and Lauren (2). “I am working as a consulting actuary for Watson Wyatt Worldwide in Stamford. Work and kids keep us extremely busy as the days go by in a blur. I can’t believe our 25<sup>th</sup> is approaching; it feels like we just graduated a little while ago.”

What is the next career move for a circus clown? **Steve Lough** fills us in: “My wife and I just moved to the Raleigh/Durham area. I took a marketing job for a large food corporation and so far I’m loving it. The Dartmouth Club here is great! Just saw the Dartmouth/Cornell game with about 20 alums from ’67 to ’05 and some nice Cornell folks. 87s in attendance were **Betsy Booth Scalco** (organizer extraordinaire!), **Nathan Gilliatt**, and myself. Already looking forward to the Christmas party!”

**Deb Marchiony** writes: “Not much new news - September was back to school so we get to see **Dennis Goldstein** as his son Ryan and my son Max are in the same second grade class. Dennis and Beth adopted a beautiful baby last summer (maybe spring?). We saw them at a lot of little league games....

# Class News

Speaking of baseball, I bumped into **Ginny Wise Wilkins** at Fenway Park. Obviously, she is smarter than I am as she was there with girlfriends, and I had my sons Max (7) and Charlie (4). Oh well... the Red Sox won and a good time was had by all.... We expect to see **Jeff Meade** as his son Willie and my daughter Samantha are sixth graders who carpool regularly.”

And finally, here’s a happy update from **Alicia Altman Southwell**: “I was remarried to Kirk Grosel in March 2007 on top of the mountain in Alta, Utah. **Jim & Jessica Slosberg Benjamin** and **Chris & Mary Halpin Carter** were there with their skis on. Kirk has two teenagers, and my two children, Lizzy and Ned, are 14 and 12. We moved to a new house with better spaces for four teenagers. Now that my kids are older, I’m starting to think about the next chapter in my life – probably going back to school.”

## Our Class Officers, hard at work

### Class Officers Weekend, Hanover, NH Oct 2007

(From left to right: Anne Schnader Jones, Laura Gasser, H. Randy Morgan, Allison Bleyler McDonald, Christen O'Connor)



# Class News

## A Message from our Class President...

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year!

First off, allow me to express my continued gratitude to all our Class Officers and Executive Committee members for their unremitting commitment, their hard work, and the cooperative momentum that we have successfully created over the past year.

In our most recent quarterly meeting, all 14 Officers and Executive Committee members worked together to articulate a number of goals which we intend to accomplish within the next 5 years. Among the most significant are:

### 1.) Endow the Scholarship

Please help us to get this done now. We have limited time to raise the remaining \$17,000 to endow the Class of 1987 scholarship before the College raises the required funding level by up to \$200,000. Send contributions, payable to Dartmouth Class of 1987, to Anne Jones, 10 Burroughs Rd., Lexington, MA 02420.

### 2.) Class of the Year Award

We want it! The College awarded this to us once a few years ago when we were under Christen O'Connor's leadership. We can do it again, primarily by ensuring we accomplish all our other goals.

### 3.) Fantastically Successful 25<sup>th</sup> Reunion (June 2012)

This is the most ambitious and most important of our goals. Co-Chairs Allison Bleyler McDonald and Daniel Wolfe have commenced to define what a fantastic, successful 25<sup>th</sup> will look like.

Other goals that we have established for ourselves include:

- o **Finance:** Establish an on-line payment system for dues, and other class finances.
- o **Class Directory:** Update class members' contact information in a database maintained and controlled by the Class. (Individuals' information would not be shared with the College without their written permission.)

# Class News

*(Note: Class “schwag” prizes are available for contact information you provide for Classmates with whom we have lost touch (send information to Webmaster Jenifer at jsoykan@cox.net)).*

- **Mini Reunions:** Broaden our 87<sup>th</sup> Night Reunions to include overseas locations throughout the month of March; initiate additional events, such as skiing and Homecoming reunions; and coordinate events with other classes.
- **Development:** Tim and Raffiq will lead us to surpass our annual and 5-year gift levels.
- **Newsletter:** Publish 2-3 newsletters per year with content from a team of Officers and Classmates.
- **Dartmouth Alumni Magazine:** Publish Class Notes on Classmates from every letter category (A-Z) at least once prior to the 25<sup>th</sup> Reunion. For the immediate term, Wendy and Melissa are looking forward to getting to letter “D”.
- **Class Project:** Broaden Classmates’ awareness of and involvement in our class project (See related article on Dartmouth Partners in Community Service).
- **Officer Communications:** Specific goals to facilitate regular communication of information between Officers and committees.
- **Succession:** Establish a process for developing new officers and Executive Committee members, including creation of a nominating committee. *(Note: The Executive Committee is always open to additional members. Please contact me if you have any interest in participating.)*

Quite a bit we’ve bitten off! I have no doubt we will succeed. However, any help that you, our Classmates, can offer is much appreciated.

We are always interested in hearing from you. If you have comments or questions, please feel free to contact me or any member of our Executive Committee.

Here’s to a great 2008!

H. Randy Morgan  
Class President  
[randymorgan10@gmail.com](mailto:randymorgan10@gmail.com)

# Class News

## *87<sup>th</sup> Day of the Year Events, cont'd:*

Watch your email and the Events and Mini-Reunions page of the class website ([www.dartmouth.org/classes/87/](http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/87/)) for updated info and further details as we get closer, but here's a tentative list of some of the mini-reunions being planned:

Amherst/Northampton, MA - March 28, 2008

contact **Allison Bleyler McDonald** at [allisonmcd@gmail.com](mailto:allisonmcd@gmail.com)

Atlanta - March 27, 2008

contact **Maury Lawrence Stephan** at [annemaury@mindspring.com](mailto:annemaury@mindspring.com)

Boston - on or around March 27, 2008

contact **Deb Rowe Marchiony** at [Deborah.Marchiony@fmr.com](mailto:Deborah.Marchiony@fmr.com)

Dallas/Ft. Worth - March 27, 2008

contact **John Gannon** at [John.Gannon@fmr.com](mailto:John.Gannon@fmr.com)

Fairfield County, CT (around New Canaan) - on March 27, 2008

contact **Melissa Wallshein Smith** at [melissaj@optonline.net](mailto:melissaj@optonline.net)

Hanover, NH - on or around March 27, 2008

contact **Christen O'Connor** at [Christen.M.O'Connor.87@Alum.Dartmouth.org](mailto:Christen.M.O'Connor.87@Alum.Dartmouth.org)

Hartford, CT - on or around March 27, 2008

contact **Liz Spear Deakin** at [lizdeakin@comcast.net](mailto:lizdeakin@comcast.net)

Los Angeles - March 20, 2008

contact **Pam Haering** at [haeringp@yahoo.com](mailto:haeringp@yahoo.com)

London, England - March 18, 2008

contact **Wendy Becker** at [wendy.becker.87@alum.dartmouth.org](mailto:wendy.becker.87@alum.dartmouth.org)

Miami - on or around March 27, 2008

contact **Sara Dann** at [sarakdann@yahoo.com](mailto:sarakdann@yahoo.com)

# Class News

San Francisco - March 27, 2008  
contact **Laura Gasser** at [lgx@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:lgx@cpuc.ca.gov)

New York City - March 27, 2008  
contact **Tim Bixby** at [bixby@liveperson.com](mailto:bixby@liveperson.com)

Washington, D.C. - March 27, 2008  
contact **H Morgan** at [randymorgan10@gmail.com](mailto:randymorgan10@gmail.com)

\*\*Please let Laura know if you're up for organizing a mini-reunion in your area, whether on March 27th or another day that works for you.\*\*

## **Dartmouth Winter CarniVAIL in Vail, Colorado - Feb. 29 through Mar. 2, 2008**

And here's yet another chance to "mini" with your classmates: the Vail Dartmouth Club is hosting its annual alumni blow-out the weekend of February 29, 2008, full of skiing, eating, cocktail party-ing, and socializing. They even have their own website ;

**[www.dartmouthwintercarnivail.com](http://www.dartmouthwintercarnivail.com)**

which lists the schedule of festivities. Our class can turn this weekend into an official mini-reunion if at least two of us show up!

If you're at all interested in heading to Vail for the fun, and would like to meet up with other '87s while you're there, please contact Laura as soon as possible at [lgx@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:lgx@cpuc.ca.gov) so that she can plan some '87 class activities for while you're there!

***Wanted:  
A few great  
classmates!***

***Our Class already  
boasts a strong  
team of class  
officers and  
Executive  
Committee  
members at-large,  
but we want  
more classmates  
to be involved.***

***Please contact  
H. Randy Morgan  
([randymorgan10@gmail.com](mailto:randymorgan10@gmail.com))  
if you have an  
interest in joining  
the  
Class of 1987  
Executive  
Committee or even  
if you would just  
like to participate in  
one of our quarterly  
conference calls.***

# Class News

## Our Class Project is Going Strong – Get Involved!

We would like to remind all of you again about ways to get more involved with our class project, DPCS (Dartmouth Partners in Community Service). The program provides funding to Dartmouth undergraduates so they can work in a non-profit community service organization during an off-term. DPCS matches up every intern with an alumni mentor.

Issue

10

'08

February

1.) Give of your time. **Alicia Altman Southwell** served as a mentor from September-December '07. She writes: "I was a DPCS mentor to Meghan Lawrie '09, who is a communications intern at Rosie's Place in Boston this fall. Rosie's is a wonderful organization which provides daily meals, shelter, clothing, and many services to Boston women and children in need. I have been involved with Rosie's as a monthly meal provider and bi-annual meal coordinator for a number of years, so it was good to have this connection with Meghan. It was a great experience for me to meet Meghan, as it put me in close touch with what is going on at Dartmouth today. I think it was a positive experience for her to meet an older Dartmouth alumna, in that I was able to offer perspectives on women and work, family, volunteerism."

2.) Give us ideas. We are always looking for new community service organizations to introduce to Dartmouth undergraduates. Many times they pick their own programs (because of their interests or location constraints) but we always love to hear about the great organizations with which you are involved that could use a Dartmouth student's help.

3.) Give. It costs on average \$3,000 to support one intern for a term. We have interns in the field four times a year and provide funding for all, more if they receive some sort of scholarship from the college.

4.) Check out our website: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~dpcs/>

Please feel free to contact DPCS at 603-646-2558 or [DPCS@dartmouth.edu](mailto:DPCS@dartmouth.edu).

Thanks for your support,  
**Jessica Slosberg Benjamin** and **Ricki Stern**