

CLASS OF 1968 45TH REUNION REPORT

The Class of 1968's 45th reunion was, by consensus, a great success. The weather was outstanding, the activities varied and well attended, the meals were delicious, the liquid refreshment plentiful, (though we clearly do not drink the way we have in the past, a sign of growing maturity, perhaps long overdue); the mood of those attending was festive and welcoming; our student workers were personable, courteous and anticipated our every need. If there was any aspect of the reunion that was disappointing, it was that there weren't more classmates there. Those who did not make it were missed.

Classmates in attendance for all or part of the reunion, along with spouses, significant others, (and in a couple of cases, children), included:

Roger Arvid Anderson, Noel Augustyn, Jon Axelrod, Mark Battin, Gerry Bell, Parker Beverage, John Blair, Steve Calvert, Wells Chandler, Peter Christenson, Sam Choo, David Cooperberg, Tom Couser, Jim Cruickshank, Tony Dambrava, David Debelius, Jim Donnelly, Peter Dunn, Larry Eisenhauer, Linc Eldredge, Peter Emmel, John Engelman, Andy Epstein, John Everett, Peter Fahey, David Gang, Charles Gay, Tim Gifford, Joe Grasso, Larry Griffith, Eric Hatch, Ed Heald, Dan Hedges, Greg Herschell, Jeff Hinman, Jim Hodges, Peter Hofman, Tad Hooker, Gary Horlick, John Isaacson, Bob Jordan, Cedric Kam, Jim Lawrie, John Lazarus, Mike Lenehan, Terry Lichty, Dave Loring, Joe Lowry, Gene Mackles, Greg Marshall, Toby Mathias, John Maxfield, Chris Mayer, Sandy McGregor, John Melski, John Mercer, John Migliori, Max Milton, Mike O'Brien, Tim O'Connor, Kevin O'Donnell, Rich Olin, Dick Olson, Rick Pabst, Jim Payne, David Peck, John Pfeiffer, Bill Philip, Bob Queeney, Burt Quist, Jens Raanaas, Ted Renna, Jerry Reinhart, Bill Rich, Kim Ritchey, Bob Ross, John Russell, Gene Ryzewicz, Bob Schley, Ed Schneider, Steve Schwager, Jack Sedwick, Jerry Smith, Larry Smith, Paul Stageberg, Bill Stahl, David Stanley, Tom Stonecipher, Sam Swisher, Bob Thomas, Dan Tom, David Walden, Mark Waterhouse, Ron Weiss, Dick Wiebusch, Peter Wonson.

The reunion opened with registration at the tent beginning on Thursday afternoon. As classmates drifted in throughout the day and evening, there were encounters with other classmates that many had not seen for years, and people reacquainting themselves with the campus. We saw some rain on Thursday evening, but that didn't deter anyone from enjoying the catered dinner under the tent and plentiful liquid refreshment. Conversations continued well into the evening, but by around midnight, most had turned in, anticipating a full schedule of events over the course of the next two days.

Ed Heald had arranged for a golf outing on Friday morning and over a dozen classmates arose early in order to make their tee times. The Class of '69 organized tennis matches also on Friday morning, and a few classmates took advantage of that opportunity to display their skills. Both these activities concluded in time for the Friday luncheon at the Peter and Helen Fahey's beautiful home across from the golf course. Earlier in the day the skies looked threatening, but by late morning things had cleared and we were able to proceed with a relaxed yet elegant lawn party. (The "powers that be" would not have the temerity to rain on Helen Fahey's party). Towards the end of the meal we were joined by Dartmouth's new President, Phil Hanlon '77 and his wife, Gail Gentes. We presented Phil and Gail with our souvenir reunion hats along with a check for \$1,168,000 for the Dartmouth College Fund. (Kudos to **Joe Nathan Wright, David Walden, Peter Wonson, Peter Fahey, Bill Rich** and all those who worked so tirelessly to achieve this outstanding reunion gift).

Later that afternoon we held our Memorial Service in Rollins Chapel, organized by **John Isaacson** and **David Peck**. The name of each departed classmate was read by classmates in attendance, and in some cases anecdotes and reflections about them were included. The service concluded with a benediction by **Greg Marshall** and the singing of *Dartmouth Undying* and *The Twilight Song* by The Aires

Our Friday dinner took place on the lawn and plaza outside of Rocky, and we were joined by the Class of '69, and entertained by Marco the Magician, a local talent who charmed and amazed us as he proceeded from table to table performing his tricks. Following dinner the two classes

moved to Collis Common Ground where a band – Flagrant Neglect – composed of members of the two classes who played in campus bands back in our day, entertained us with music from the 60s and 70s. Their musical talent and energy was invigorating and infectious, and a good time was had by all. Special thanks to **Peter Wonson** who conceived of this entertainment and made it happen. Along with Peter were classmates **Steve Calvert, Peter Christianson, John Maxfield,** and **David Williams,** as well as guest musicians **Gene Mackles, Greg Marshall, Rich Olin** and **David Peck.** (Also '69s Dave Cross, Lynn Lobban, and Andy Raymond).

Saturday morning began with the Class Meeting, a report of which is elsewhere on this website. That was followed by a presentation in Spaulding Auditorium by President Hanlon, including a short opportunity for a Q&A, and concluding with a performance by The Aires. We left Spaulding Auditorium and headed to the terrace of Collis for lunch. Following lunch many attended a panel discussion with the Class of '69 on medical issues facing our age cohort. It was organized by **Kevin O'Donnell** and Peter Lawrence '69, and proved to be incredibly informative and timely. Perhaps the highlight of the event was a presentation by Peter Schaeffer '69, who suffers from MS, who spoke movingly about living with that catastrophic illness.

Following the medical panel, the College sponsored a performance on the Green by the Big Apple Circus. Thousands of “children of all ages” from all the reunion classes attended on a beautiful afternoon and were thoroughly entertained by the performances – surely a highlight for the entire family.

Our Class Dinner was held in Alumni Hall. It was preceded by a reception at the Top of the Hop, and a performance, once again, by The Aires. The dinner was superb – filet of beef and salmon, seasonal vegetable, potatoes, and a decadent chocolate dessert, along with an outstanding selection of wines. Thanks go to **Ed Heald** for arranging this delicious meal and for organizing all the meals throughout the reunion. The dinner concluded with a speech by Director of Athletics Harry Sheehy. For those who have not had the opportunity to hear Harry, he is a terrific speaker and administrator. He blended humor and insight that left the audience grateful that Harry is heading up Dartmouth's athletic program, and given the “train wreck” that big time college sports has become, proud of the College's approach to intercollegiate athletics.

Upon leaving Alumni Hall we were entertained by the Blues Brothers Review on the Green, sponsored by the College, a singing of the Alma Mater by the Aires (along with all the alumni gathered on the Green) and a display of pyro-technics that brought the entertainment to an end. Many headed back to the tent for a nightcap, while others, exhausted by the activities of the day, turned in. (And thanks to **John Everett** for coordinating the liquid refreshments throughout the reunion. He kept us well lubricated with quality beer, wine and assorted juices and soft drinks). Breakfast at the tent the following morning came with classmates packing their cars, saying goodbye, taking one last look around campus, and promising to return for the 50th Reunion in 2018.

*A note from the Reunion Chairman: I want to give a very special thanks to all the classmates who worked so tirelessly to make the reunion a success, and in particular to **David Walden,** the reunion treasurer, who took on that assignment without realizing how much time and effort would be involved. David met his responsibilities with great competence (no surprise there), a sense of humor, and more than just a little southern charm. We all owe him a debt of gratitude.*