



The Transmission

The Dartmouth Class of 1968 Newsletter

Fall 2015

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Editor's Note

Another summer has passed and we now begin the beautiful New England fall season. This past July we Dartmouth alumni of Western Mass and the Pioneer Valley were lucky to experience the return of Dartmouth On Location to Tanglewood. During a catered tent luncheon, Chair of the Music Department Steve Swayne gave an entertaining lecture based on the afternoon Boston Symphony program. Of special note, Ron Weiss and I with our local club members got our pictures taken with Phil Hanlon, who was attending the event. (See photo later in NL) For those dozen or so '68's who live in the region, stay tuned for the next one because they quickly sell out. Steve Swayne has become well known to music lovers in our area and will return to Springfield in April to give Classical Conversations before a Springfield Symphony concert. In honor of his visit, the Pioneer Valley Dartmouth Club will host a reception and evening at the symphony.

There are many opportunities to get together with classmates in the coming months beginning with the fall mini-reunion on Homecoming weekend, October 9-11. John Engelman has organized a fun program, which includes the traditional Friday night bonfire and parade, a Saturday tailgate before the Yale game, and dinner at Murphy Farm at the Quechee Club. Of special note this weekend Jim Lawrie will be honored as a new inductee into Wearers of the Green for his achievements in Masters' Swimming. In addition, all classmates are invited to attend the '68 class meeting at 10:00 a.m. Saturday in the Zimmerman Lounge at Blunt Alumni Center. Advertised further on in the Newsletter are: the Big East Ski Trip version 3.0 to Okemo in January, a cruise down the Danube in April, and the 70th Birthday Bash being planned for Napa a year from this September. Of course, there's also the 18th annual Western ski trip to Big Sky in March and the November 2015 Bandon Dunes golf trip (See 2015 Spring Newsletter).

Although some of you have commented that working full time makes it difficult to get away for these trips, there is still pleasure to be gained in the shared accounts and images of our classmates getting together and having fun. Even if you can only attend one event a year, these trips are enjoyable and you will meet fascinating people who you never knew on campus.

The most interesting article in the NL is an account of the closing of the "Dot, republished from the Valley News. Please comment and send me your reflections and memories of this iconic late night hangout. It would also be fun to share your experiences in other dining gems such as the Midget, the Four Aces, and others, with or without incriminating pictures. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best,
Dave Gang

Message from Our Class President

Fellow '68 Classmates;

We are quickly drawing within hailing distance of our 50th reunion, currently slated for Friday June 8-Tuesday June 12, 2018. This is a big deal. We participate in the commencement program and seek to have a particularly meaningful and moving collective experience. It may be a bit too early to begin nuts and bolts planning for this event (where's the tent, what's the dinner menu...). But it is not too early to begin brainstorming ideas to make our reunion truly special.

To that end, classmates should now reflect on ideas for off-the-beaten-path programs that would make our reunion the most memorable ever at Dartmouth. Here are a few ideas that have already surfaced:

- To maximize attendance, begin now a program to incentivize previously inactive classmates to commit to reunion attendance.
- In place of a reunion book (impossible to improve on Dick Olson's 40th effort), urge classmates to reflect on their past 50 years and share their thoughts in a 500 word essay on what they would do to make the next 50 years better for their children and grandchildren. Collect and distribute a month or two in advance.
- Conduct an open panel discussion on the effect of the Viet Nam War on our collective life experience. (Many details required to do it right.)
- Collect and display examples of classmates' creative work over the years (books, art, photos...).
- Collect classmates' choices of their favorite music (all genres, not necessarily 1964-68). Then compile the choices and make them available to all without violating copyright laws.
- Have classmates give their answers to a version of the Proust Questionnaire (basically 20 questions that elucidate the meaning of life). Publish and compare.
- Construct a time capsule of stuff from our era to be opened at the Class of 2018's 50th in 2068.
- Hire a few students to tactfully hound us during the reunion and create a documentary DVD of the reunion.

We are also systematically reviewing 50th reunion programs of recent years in order to define the efforts that we want to exceed. **Please think and reflect on the above and share your own best ideas by writing David Gang for inclusion in the next newsletter or to your favorite Class Executive Committee member for discussion.**

Our next Class Executive Committee Meeting will take place in Hanover in the Zimmerman Lounge, Blunt Alumni Center on Saturday, October 10 from 10am-noon. As always, all classmates are welcome at this meeting. Various mini-reunion events will ensue as the day unfolds before and after the Yale football contest. Please join in for a vibrant fall weekend in Hanover.

All the best,
Peter Fahey



News from the College

The class of 2019 met together for the first time on 9/9/15 and observed a student-written performance piece entitled "Your Community, Your Class, Your Words." New to this year's orientation was a Dartmouth Citizenship Pledge, which was to be signed by all students before meeting personally with President Hanlon. The Pledge begins "I hold myself to the highest standards of learning, teaching, service, and scholarship... and I will conduct myself with integrity, in all matters." The Pledge is part of Hanlon's Moving Dartmouth Forward plan.

The 2016 U.S. News & World Report Best College Rankings has just appeared with Dartmouth receiving the #2 ranking for "strong commitment to undergraduate teaching." Overall ranking among National Universities was #12, but this number is less relevant since Dartmouth as an institution is much more like a Liberal Arts College.

Dartmouth On Location held another interesting program in Boston on 9/26/13 co-hosted by our '68 classmate, Forrester "Woody" Lee. The event at the Museum of African American History was an afternoon seminar/discussion of the history of black students at Dartmouth from founding to mid-20th century. Woody is currently Professor of Medicine at Yale and has been researching the topic for the past two years. He was joined by current Dartmouth E.E. Just Professor of Natural Sciences, Stephon Alexander.



Unsung Heros of the class of 1968

Anonymous submission

Beginning with John Ledyard and progressing to our contemporary, Ned Gillette, Dartmouth has always valued and inspired great adventures and adventurers. At least two of our classmates (and probably many more) have perpetuated that spirit in their own ways. They are UNSUNG HEROES because I suspect only a small minority of the Class is aware of these achievements.

Rich DuMoulin has a lifelong list of accomplishments in the sailing world. A surely incomplete list would include: crew in three America's Cup competitions; participant and captain on nine transatlantic races; participant, captain and class winner on countless Newport-Bermuda races. However, two of his seaborne accomplishments seem to stand out. In 1978, Rich operated the tender and shark cage apparatus for Diana Nyad's first attempt to swim from Cuba to Florida. (She finally succeeded without Rich's help in 2013 on her 5th attempt at the age of 64!) In 2003 Rich and a friend set out to break the sailing record for a transit from

Hong Kong to New York. That record had stood for a century and a half, having been established by the clipper ship, Sea Witch in 1849. Rich and his friend (yes, two handed) arrived in their trimaran in 72 days beating the record by two days.

Jim Lawrie was best known as a freshman as the member of the tennis team with the finest classic strokes. Who knew if he had ever seen a pool? However, as an old fart like us, Jim has twice been the age group Master's national champion in swimming the 1650 yard event: 2008 (60-64 year old class), and again in 2014 (65-69 year old). He will become somewhat less unsung at Homecoming Weekend this year by being inducted into the Wearers of the Green for these achievements. Jim has not confined his adventures to the water, however. Also in recent years, he and a friend bicycled 3000 miles across the country. Just the two of them, this was not one of those organized tours with luxury van accompaniment.

Setting the Record Straight

by Peter Wonson

The 2015 Dartmouth College Fund campaign was a tremendous success for our Class. We raised more than \$615,000, 54% more than our dollar goal of \$400,000, and a non-reunion year record for our Class. Great thanks to all those classmates who contributed, and kudos to Head Agent Joe Nathan Wright and our hard-working solicitors.

A unique, one-time component of the 2015 campaign was our "Setting the Record Straight" program. STRS is an opportunity for qualifying class members to retroactively join the Harold C. Ripley '29 Society, which recognizes alumni who have made a gift through the Dartmouth College Fund every year since graduation. In May 2014 our Class Executive Committee approved our STRS plan, and 1968 became the third Dartmouth class to participate in STRS. Peter Wonson, one of our Class DCF

co-participation chairs, volunteered to coordinate our effort.

The essence of this program was that alumni who had missed only a few years could set the record straight by making an extra payment to this year's DCF for each year previously missed. The College determined that the amount of each year's payment should be similar to the person's recent annual giving. Our Class decided that those who had given in at least 40 of the possible 46 years prior to 2015 would be eligible to participate.

When we began our STRS program we had 37 classmates who were already "Exemplars," or members of the Ripley Society. We had 110 classmates who were eligible to join during the one-year window prescribed by the College. Upon completion of the 2015 campaign, 50 of those 110 had become new members of

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the Ripley Society, a remarkable 45%. Thus we now have a total of 87 Exemplars, whose names are listed at the end of this article.

With the additions from the STRS program, our Class is now tied for 3rd for the number of classmates who are members of the Ripley Society out of all the classes prior to 2002, after which larger classes and limited years-out distort the comparisons. Our 87 members represent approximately 25% of our average annual gifts in recent years, which augurs well for future Dartmouth College Fund campaigns. The extra STRS payments also raised nearly \$49,000 toward the record DCF amount cited above.

We want to thank Janet Rosa and Pat Crim, our liaisons in the DCF office, for their expert advice and indispensable assistance with mailings, phone calling and record keeping. Thanks also to our thirty-two classmate solicitors, whose hard work throughout the year, especially in the last month during a concentrated calling and email blitz, made a significant difference in our final total of Exemplars. Lastly, a sincere thank you and congratulations to all our Ripley Society members for their generosity and loyalty to Dartmouth. What a tribute to the Class of 1968!

Adler, Bill	Gang, Dave	McGregor, Sandy (STRS)	Ritchey, Kim (STRS)
Andrews, Russell (STRS)	Gettinger, Peter	Meigher, Chris	Robinson, Steve (STRS)
Axelrod, Jon	Green, Chip	Melski, John	Ross, Bob (STRS)
Becker, Don (STRS)	Griffith, Larry	Mercer, John (STRS)	Rossman, David (STRS)
Benedict, Chuck (STRS)	Highmark, Dolph	Miller, Rich (STRS)	Schley, Bob
Beverage, Parker	Himes, Larry (STRS)	Morrissey, Stephen (STRS)	Schwager, Steve
Bort, Dan	Hinman, Jeff (STRS)	Noon, Jack (STRS)	Sedwick, Jack (STRS)
Boss, Hugh	Hobin, Gary	O'Connor, Mike, (STRS)	Small, Steve (STRS)
Butts, Bob	Hodges, Jim	O'Keeffe, Peter (STRS)	Smith, Larry (STRS)
Calvert, Steve	Hofman, Peter	O'Shea, John (STRS)	Stanley, David
Chandler, Wells (STRS)	Holmberg, Bob (STRS)	Pabst, Rick (STRS)	Stonecipher, Tom
Chapman, Russ	Hotaling, Andy (STRS)	Page, Jon	Tannenwald, Bob (STRS)
Chisholm, Alex	Kam, Ced (STRS)	Patterson, Roger (STRS)	Thompson, Peter (STRS)
Conn, Alex (STRS)	Kruger, Paul (STRS)	Payne, Jim (STRS)	Tom, Dan
Connolly, Warren	Lafrance, Dick (STRS)	Peck, David (STRS)	Warner, Ken
Cruickshank, Jim (STRS)	Lappin, Richard	Powell, Ben (STRS)	Waterhouse, Mark
duMoulin, Rich (STRS)	Lawrie, Jim (STRS)	Preotle, John	Waterman, Dana (STRS)
Dunlap, Sandy (STRS)	Lebwohl, Oscar (STRS)	Prudente, Preston (STRS)	Williams, Rick (STRS)
Engelman, John	Lenahan, Mike	Quist, Burt (STRS)	Witten, Roger
Epstein, Andy (STRS)	Levy, Bruce (STRS)	Reichgott, David	Wolff, Marshall (STRS)
Escovitz, Bill (STRS)	Loring, Dave	Richter, Rick	Zavelle, Michael (STRS)
Florin, Bob	Lowry, Joe (STRS)	Ridgeway, Hap (STRS)	

Class Connections Program: '68 Meets '18 Spring Barbecue

The Latest Update by John Engelman, 5/17/15



On May 2nd, which was a picture perfect spring day in Hanover, the Class of 1968 co-sponsored a barbecue lunch with the Class of 2018. The occasion was the First Year Family Weekend at Dartmouth, which saw over 1000 family members journey to the College to spend time with their freshmen sons and daughters to get a sense of what their tuition money had been going for during the past 8 months. Representing our class were **Peter Fahey, John Engelman, John Everett, Wells and Sue Chandler, Bill Rich, Bill Clark, Gerry Bell, Ron Weiss, Mark Waterhouse and Leslie Cosgrove, and Terry and Susan Lichty.** (Terry and Susan were in Hanover to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their first meeting at a Choate Road dorm on May 2, 1965).

We spent a couple of hours enjoying the barbecue and mixing with the '18s and their families. Many of the parents and students were interested in how Dartmouth had changed in the intervening 50 years, and of course the greatest change was the presence of undergraduate women at the College. But in

comparing our undergraduate experience to the current experience, we marveled at the opportunities that this generation of Dartmouth students have that we lacked: extensive foreign study programs, internships, research opportunities, and facilities that we could only dream of. We also were asked about what life was like in the turbulent sixties – student activism, anti-war protests, politics in that era and how it impacted campus life.

Finally, it is important to note how enthusiastic the students and their parents were about their Dartmouth Experience thus far; and many were effusive about the Class Connections Program, noting how much they enjoyed the meals at the Second College Grant, and the distribution of class pins at the lobster dinner during orientation week. Clearly, this program has had a positive impact on both the students and the parents, and we look forward to sharing with the '18s (and by extension, with their families), more activities and opportunities for interactions in the coming years. Among future activities we are contemplating are a tailgate picnic prior to a home football game in the fall, a sophomore summer event at the Mooselauke Ravine Lodge (sort of a re-creation of Freshmen Trips), receptions and mentoring opportunities during the '18s off-terms (in cities such as NYC, Boston, San Francisco, DC, etc.), occasional breakfast meetings during the academic year, and a barbecue for the '18s and their families during our 50th Reunion. If any '68s have suggestions for other activities, please contact me, or any of your class officers.



A Campus Viewing of *Inequality for All*:

A documentary by Bob Reich

by John Engelman, 5/17/15



On May 5th, the Dartmouth Ethics Institute sponsored a viewing of **Bob Reich's** film, *Inequality for All*, followed by a panel discussion with WSJ reporter Ron Suskind, and our classmate and Professor at the Kennedy School at Harvard, **Richard Parker**. Richard reflected on the quality of his Dartmouth education and his overall experience. He mentioned the activism on campus surrounding the Vietnam War, and made note of a conversation he had with our late classmate, **Robbie Peacock**, regarding Robbie's NROTC commitment and his hope that Robbie could somehow avoid going to war. Sadly, we lost Robbie to the ravages of war, but he is memorialized on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC, as well as the Dartmouth Vietnam Memorial, which was co-sponsored by the Classes of '58 '68 and '78. There are plans to move that memorial to the renovated Memorial Stadium along with the other war memorials at the College in the fall. Richard also noted how much the intervening years had changed the College, praising the increased diversity of the student body, and the opportunities that Dartmouth provided, but lamenting the increasing costs of attending Dartmouth and how those costs discouraged highly qualified students from applying. Classmates attending this event included **Wells Chandler, John Engelman, John Everett, and David Walden**.

End of an Era for the Polka Dot: Longtime Owner Puts Diner Up for Sale

By John Lippman

Valley News Business Writer (Published in print: Sunday, May 3, 2015)



After reminiscing about the Polka Dot Restaurant's heyday, owner Mary Shatney, right, and her daughter Sherry Greene, left, who worked for her mother as a waitress while growing up, prepare for sale signs to tape in the windows Thursday, April 30, 2015. The building, where Shatney first worked in 1959, sits on land owned by the Canadian National Railway. (Valley News - James M. Patterson)

White River Junction. For sale: Small, cozy restaurant building in heart of White River Junction, fully equipped. Loyal clientele. In need of facelift, but great potential. Asking \$130,000. See owner. Sound ideal? For the person who has always dreamed about owning a small eatery or cafe - only 1,088 square feet, kitchen included - purchase of the Polka Dot Restaurant at 7 N. Main St. could

be just the ticket. The new owner likely would not only be embraced by fellow White River Junction businesses, residents and tourists, but also would acquire a piece of vintage local history - the story about the horse in the Polka Dot comes later - in the bargain.

Mary Shatney, who went to work at the Polka Dot more than five decades ago and then bought the business and building

with her late husband, Buddy, in the early 1980s, retired and closed the business last fall. She is again listing the building for sale - it's not the first time Shatney has sought a buyer in hopes it will catch the fancy of someone interested in re-opening the restaurant. "The right person could turn it into something different and still keep the essential charm," said Sherry Greene, Shatney's daughter who,

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with her husband, Joe Greene, operates Greene's Oil and Propane in White River Junction. "If I was younger, I'd probably try to do it."

Despite the relatively modest asking price and key location, selling the Polka Dot building could be difficult. That's because the land underneath the building - all .05 acre of it - is owned by CV Properties, a subsidiary of Canadian National Railway. When CNR sold the former Central Vermont Railway in 1995 to what became New England Central Railroad, the Polka Dot's lease was assigned to New England Central. Then, in 2012, New England Central was acquired by Darien, Conn.-based railroad giant Genesee & Wyoming. Yet the land underneath the restaurant and nearby tracks is still owned by CNR, according to New England Central, even though the company no longer has any railroad operations in White River Junction. Without the security of controlling the underlying property, a bank might be wary of loaning money to a buyer and the building's owner could be in perpetual fear of losing the lease, local developers say. "It's a conundrum for anybody buying the business," said Byron Hathorn, a White River Junction developer who bought and restored the train station in White River Junction. "The railroad could go in and say, 'You have 30 days to vacate,' " leaving the building's owner in an untenable situation.

In addition, the new owner of the Polka Dot likely would have to invest substantially to bring the building into compliance with code requirements and "no bank will finance improvements on the building without control of the land," Hathorn said. Both Mary Shatney and Sherry Greene contend the land issue is overblown and say "the railroad company" - they have dealt only with New England Central - has been good to deal with, and has charged only a nominal fee for the lease. Patrick Waldron, a spokesman for

Canadian National Railway, said the company is not interested in relinquishing ownership of the land beneath the Polka Dot. "The property is within an active rail corridor. ... It's not for sale," he said.



Photo by Jeff Hinman

Classic Diner Fare. New restaurants often seem to be either a new twist on trendy cuisine or cookie-cutter franchises, but the Polka Dot was stubbornly old school. The menu featured such home-style specialties as the grilled "Western" sandwich (ground ham mixed with bread crumbs and chopped onions), the "Eastern" (like the "Western," but hold the onion), the "Boburger" (named for a Dartmouth College student's special-order cheeseburger topped with a fried egg and onion), the liver, bacon and onion platter and, of course, the renowned fried honeycomb tripe. Tripe, for the gastronomically uninitiated, is the rubbery lining of a cow's stomach.

"Tripe was the No. 1 seller," Greene said. "It was (my father's) favorite. He grew up on a farm, and people who grow up on farms don't waste anything and although it looks disgusting, they just love it." Greene said customers would drive from more than an hour away for the tripe, so hard was it to find a place that still served the vinegar-pickled dish. David Briggs, owner of the Gates

Briggs Building and the Hotel Coolidge in White River Junction, calls the closing of the Polka Dot "the end of an era" in the village's downtown, which used to brim with restaurants, bars and all-night

diners serving the passengers and train crews of the railroads and work shifts at the former Tip Top Bakery and one-time sawmill.

Briggs, who said he ate at the Polka Dot "how many hundreds of times," reeled off the names of eateries that once crowded White River Junction's North Main Street and South Main Street: Dick's Diner, The Junction Restaurant, Teddy's Bar & Grill, Norman's Spa (a malt shop), Cafe del Roma, The Marconi Club, The Mayfair Restaurant, 494 Steakhouse (later The Red Shutters), not to mention the lunch counters at the local drug stores and a snack shop in the station house. "With 150 workers pouring out of the bakery, the Polka Dot was only one of three (all-night eateries) chugging along very successfully," he said.

In its railroad heyday, when the Connecticut River Valley was dotted with manufacturing and textile plants churning out everything from rubber soles to machine tools, as many as 50 passenger

cars a day would shuttle through White River Junction, disgorging hungry and thirsty laborers, businessmen and Dartmouth students at all times of the day and night. "It's often said that it was as busy downtown at 3 in the morning as at 3 in the afternoon," said Ken Parker, owner of the White River Junction insurance broker Parker Agency and a former member of the Hartford Select Board. Parker, who grew up on South Main Street in an apartment above The Junction Restaurant owned by his parents, said their place, too, was on leased land owned by the railroad. "The railroad has always had some stranglehold on some development in the downtown area," he said.

A Lively Town. The Polka Dot's building dates to 1925, according to a 2002 application with the National Register of Historic Places to expand the boundary of the White River Junction Historic District. Opened by George Adams, who owned Adams House, the former adjacent hotel, the diner was at first called Quick Cafe and then changed to Walt's Diner in the 1940s before it was bought by Pauline "Polly" Stebbins and her husband, Hubert "Hubie" Stebbins. They renamed it The Polka Dot in the 1960s after a restaurant of the same name run by Polly's sister in Massachusetts, Shatney said. With factory workers coming off and on shifts at all hours, locomotive crews bunking overnight at the Hotel Coolidge, and Dartmouth College students continually arriving and departing, White River Junction was a lively train town where the unexpected was never far from reality.

This was perhaps best captured on a cold, frosty evening "in the late '50s or early '60s," recalled White River Junction resident Harry Hutchins. As he tells it, he was sitting in a booth at the Polka Dot with a friend, Bob, when another friend, Eddie, walks in "two shades and a half to the breeze." The men fell into joking and

teasing each other when Bob made a \$50 bet with Eddie daring him to bring a horse into the restaurant. Bob and Eddie shook on it, Hutchins said, and then Hutchins and Eddie left in Hutchins' pickup truck and drove to West Lebanon, where Eddie kept a racehorse in a stable. Hutchins said they coaxed the horse into the bed of the pickup truck and drove it back to White River Junction, where they parked. "I tried to talk him out of it," Hutchins said. But Eddie was undeterred and led the horse into the Polka Dot. "I followed Eddie in. There was a short-order cook, a waitress and a customer inside. That lady, I forget her name, she let out the most deadly scream: 'Get that horse out of here!' " Hutchins, now 83, recalled, breaking into a chuckle. Hutchins said Polly Stebbins wasn't amused and sued his friend, who had to pay \$1,400 for damage allegedly done to the floor, "although I couldn't see where it done a bit of damage." Worse, Hutchins said, his friend who made the wager never paid up.

100-Hour Weeks. It was Polly Stebbins, in fact, Shatney said, who persuaded her to come north to White River Junction in 1960 and work at the Polka Dot when Shatney was juggling shifts at the Windsor Diner and Nap's Lunch, in addition to working on the factory floor at Goodyear Tire & Rubber in Windsor. By the time Mary Shatney, one of 11 children of a Meriden carpenter, went to work at the Polka Dot, she was divorced and had two daughters, ages 6 and 5, in tow. (She later was married to Robert "Buddy" Shatney and they would have a son, Robbie.) Shatney said she was working more than 100 hours a week, but realized she was pushing things too far. "I fell asleep down on the job at Goodyear," she said. "It was very dangerous." Nonetheless, as a single mother with two little girls, "I had to do what I had to do," she said.

In 1983, after working as both a waitress and cook at the Polka Dot for more than

23 years, Mary and Buddy Shatney finally had the opportunity to buy the diner from Alvah "Stub" Aldrich, who only 13 months earlier had purchased it from the Stebbins's. The diner was a family business: Mom Mary both ran the show and did everything, son Robbie worked behind the stove, and daughters Sherry and Rhonda took orders from customers and bused tables. There was a lot to do - and much to learn. "She taught my sister and I the shortcuts of waitressing," Greene said, "like how to stack dishes up your arm and never coming back empty-handed because it saves a trip and was also a way to keep yourself aware of the customers." Shatney's day would begin at 1 a.m., when she would rise from bed and drive from her home in Cornish Flat to be at the Polka Dot by 2 a.m. in order to be ready to open by 4 a.m. She would often be there for 12 hours a day or more, seven days a week.

The stories of working inside the shopworn diner - the floor gives the distinct impression it's a couple inches lower on one side of the room than the other - light up in the retelling by Shatney and Greene today: how train engineers would halt the train on the tracks a few steps from the back door to run into the kitchen to get lunch and their thermoses filled with coffee; how Vermont's U.S. Rep. Peter Welch, then a lawyer in the village, would double-park out front each morning and dash in for his coffee to go; how customers would pick up the coffee pot from the hot plate and refill other customers' cups; how Shatney would prepare and pack free Thanksgiving dinners for boarders at the old Vermonter hotel down the street; how she wouldn't charge a customer who truly couldn't afford a meal; how, despite her 80-something-pound frame, she would climb up on the Polka Dot's roof to pitch tar to seal leaks; how Shatney "cracked" a customer's head against the jukebox after he called another customer a disparaging



Photo by Jeff Hinman

name; how not once - never once - did the police ever have to handle an unruly customer. "I never had to call the cops," Shatney said flatly. "I handled it."

Work Crews, Hours Shrink. For decades the diner had been open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, but as the factories around White River Junction waned, Shatney cut back the hours to two shifts. As the years progressed and the village's workforce thinned, she began closing the restaurant ever earlier - at first 10 p.m., then 8 p.m., then 6 p.m., then 4 p.m. and finally "toward the end of it, I took off Mondays," Shatney said. Eventually, as Shatney's health became more of an issue, the Polka Dot was open only intermittently without a regular schedule. She grew tired of battling the town of Hartford over what she said was the police department's failure to prevent people from hogging village parking spaces all day while they were at work, thereby making it difficult for her customers, many of whom were elderly, to find a place to park. People's eating habits changed, too. The artsier White River Junction village crowd is now more likely to seek out the chicken pesto sandwich or hummus dip and espresso shots served at the Turkish and Mediterranean-themed Tuckerbox Cafe across the street than the Polka Dot's chicken salad sandwich or onion rings. Shatney "wasn't much open to doing anything different," said Mitch Bryant, owner of Streamline Artisan

Upholstery on North Main Street. "In a way, it worked. Her regular customers liked their meatloaf and mashed potatoes, and you can't go to the Tuckerbox for that."

Bryant said he thinks, with some sprucing up of the building and a new creative menu, the Polka Dot could be reopened. He noted that Robbie Shatney, who has experience both as a cook and managing a restaurant, had shared with him some ideas for updating the menu. Robbie Shatney started a Facebook page for the restaurant to promote the menu, flag specials and give fans a chance to post comments. But, for a time, he had some pointed postings about the Polka Dot in what struck some readers as a family squabble gone embarrassingly public. The posts were later taken down. In 2012, he pleaded guilty to reckless conduct charges in connection with a 2011 incident at his Cornish home that resulted in a two-year jail sentence. He eventually returned to working at the Polka Dot and pushed the diner into the Internet age by offering customers free Wi-Fi (password: polkadot).

Sherry Greene said her mother weighed leasing or selling the restaurant to Robbie, but ultimately decided against it because she believed he didn't have a viable business plan. "He's a wonderful cook," said his mother proudly. Robbie Shatney did not respond to a request for comment. But despite its tiny space and signs of age, the Polka Dot could be a viable business under the right owner, believes Matt Bucy, a White River Junction developer who renovated the former Tip Top Bakery building into a media and arts complex and is currently developing the former American Legion Hall on South Main Street into studio apartments and office space on the ground floor. "Oh, it's got huge appeal," Bucy said, while acknowledging it remained a "tough situation" because of the arrangement with

the railroad company, which in his experience hasn't been very responsive whenever inquiries have been made about the remains of its White River Junction real estate holdings. He suggests Shatney could lease the building to someone who wanted to try their hand at it.

For many people, running a diner is grueling, low-pay work, a first step on the restaurant ladder to something fancier on the upside, or a dead-end job on the downside. It was neither for Shatney. For her, the Polka Dot was a worthy career and one which gave her immense gratification and pride. "I loved the customers," she said, explaining why she stayed at it for 54 years. "I spoiled them. ... I miss it very bad."

John Lippman can be reached at 603-727-3219 or jlippman@vnews.com.

Some reaction by our Classmates to this sad news:

Neal Costaldo – Sad day for sure. ... There was that time some of us almost got into a street brawl with some Townies outside the P.D. as a result of a slight misunderstanding. Thinking Viar's car was mine, the Townies came by our parking lot behind the Palace late that night and shredded his car's convertible roof.

Luckily the Four Aces is thriving in West Leb. I highly recommend it if you're in town. – Doc

Alexander MacWilliams – recall many nights at the Dot, but none without having made several serious social mistakes prior to driving to White Town. – SandyMac

Gerry Bell – I'm with Sandy. The Dot is sort of a scrapbook for The Nights of Bad Gerry. Makes me feel old to think of it as gone. –G.

Class of '68 50th Reunion Gift: Freshman Trip Endowment



by **Bill Rich**, 8/17/15

It is time to give to our 50th Reunion Fund! The Dartmouth class that will graduate while we celebrate our 50th Reunion is settled in on campus. On our Class of 2018 calendar, it is now sophomore year. Our two classes have had several Class Connections events together, and our classes will grow closer over the next three years. And, that means that our Reunion is just around the corner. So, now is the time to do whatever you can to support our reunion gift. As you know, we are endowing the Freshman Trips, and I really can't think of a more worthy cause. Whatever you choose to give, and however you make your gifts, I hope you will join the Class of '68 in supporting our Class Gift as we make our own Trip to our 50th Reunion.

In past Newsletters, I have included a Timeline highlighting the Freshman Trips, the connection of Dartmouth to outdoor activities of all sorts, and—frankly the importance of trips to personal development. This is the key thing about Trips and about Dartmouth. It is my view that Dartmouth is blessed with a competitive advantage over all other institutions of higher education with its Trips and its commitment to them—and what students can learn from being involved.

Unlike earlier Timelines about hiking, skiing, and the legacy of John Ledyard, the last one was a personal story and an invitation to classmates to share similar stories about trips that

they have taken. I received feedback about how my story had brought back memories of trips and activities from years ago. I was particularly struck by learning about the journeys of two of our classmates in particular. Both men were Olympic athletes, competing at the highest level of sport. Both are accomplished intellectuals. Both have traveled extensively and both have written books about their travel. One wrote about an extraordinary trip at an extreme level of human endeavor. The other wrote about his journey through life, facing incredible personal challenges with courage and humor. With their permission, I may write more about these classmates in future Timelines. The point of the stories in these Timelines is to highlight what is unique, what is special, and what is especially good about Dartmouth. I believe it all starts with the Freshman Trips.

Whatever you can do in supporting our 50th Gift will make a real difference. Donations to the Freshman Trip Endowment may be made as an additional gift on your Annual Class Dues payment. You may also give to the Class of '68 Freshman Trip Endowment by phone at 603-646-3621 or by sending a check to the Class of '68 Freshman Trip Endowment and mail it to Dartmouth College, c/o Gift Recording Office, 6066 Development Office, Hanover, NH 03755-4400.

Thank you again for your support!

History of the Freshman Trip: Timeline V — A Personal Story

From **Bill Rich** – 8/17/15

This trip changed my life.

Those are powerful words. Those are really powerful words about something very important—and a very rare event. But, when I read about Dartmouth trips or talk with Dartmouth people who have gone on them, I am struck by how often they will say, “This trip changed my life.”

What do they mean when they say that? I suspect that they mean that they not only learned something important, but that they were given direction and that their life developed purpose. And, without stretching our imaginations too far, this is why I believe we are right to endow the Freshman Trips with our Gift at our 50th Reunion.

So, now you can see what I have been trying to do with these Timelines in our Class Newsletter. And, I think it must be clear to all that they have evolved to less of a historical timeline and more of a reflection on Dartmouth trips in general.

I don’t have a story to share at this time, so the column in this Newsletter is all about the future. I do want to give a brief preview of future topics that I plan to cover. There is so much to write about that it is difficult to know where to start.

I want to write about the 1964 Ledyard Canoe Club Trip down the Danube River from Ulm, Germany to the Black Sea. This National Geographic cover story trip was a political and diplomatic breakthrough as it traveled not only through Germany and Austria, but also through the Iron Curtain and into the old Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the old Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Romania—and at the river delta even along, but not into, the old Soviet Union.

Then, I want to write about the ill-fated trip of **Art Moffat** in 1955. This trip up the Dubawnt River in the Barren Grounds of Northern Canada was meant to retrace, honor, and record on film the 1893 Tyrrell Expedition. The 1955 trip ended in tragedy and is memorialized by two books—one highly critical of the expedition and the other much more sympathetic. The daughter of the trip’s organizer lives in Hanover.

Moving our attention from canoe trips to skiing, I want to write about three pioneers of the sport at Dartmouth. There are many more who are worthy of mention, but these three are a good place to start.

Dick Durrance was born in Tarpon Springs, Florida—hardly the birthplace one would expect for the skier who could have been

the best in the world during and after his college years. His family moved to Munich when he was thirteen, allowing him to ski at Garmisch-Partenkirchen and later become the first American to win a major European alpine ski race. He won numerous international races, made the US Olympic teams in 1936 and 1940, and was later a pioneer in ski area development and management.

Howard “Chief” Chivers followed just behind Durrance at Dartmouth. The son of a Dartmouth botany professor, Chivers began skiing at the age of five. Chief was the national cross country champion in 1940 and also made the Olympic team that year. The ski team that year was probably the strongest ever for the US—clearly one of the best in the world—and it was almost totally comprised of Dartmouth skiers. They never got to ski because of the War. Chivers for years ran both the Keewaydin Canoe Camp and the Dartmouth Skiway. He died way too young at 67 from a cancerous melanoma.

The final pioneer to mention is the first Dartmouth skier ever to medal in the Olympics. **Chiharu “Chick” Igaya** came to Dartmouth just two years after the signing of the US—Japan Peace Treaty. He had been discovered in a Tokyo ski shop by CV Starr, the founder of American International Group. He made the 1952, 1956, and 1960 Olympic teams for Japan, and won the silver medal in the 1956 slalom. Igaya is the only one of these three still living and has enlightened views of attending Dartmouth as the only Japanese on campus, of competing and representing his country, and of being active in life in general.

There are so many more personalities and so many trips to cover, that they could fill our Newsletters for years to come. But, I don’t want to neglect one person who was known by many of us and was only one year away from our class. I don’t see how it would be possible to discuss skiing or hiking or trips of any sort without mentioning **Ned Gillette**. A pioneer in so many ways, a Bad-Ass adventurer, and a gentle man at heart, Ned was an extraordinary member of the Dartmouth community. I will look to the many historians in his fraternity for help in painting a proper picture of this wonderful man.

Thanks for reading. Don’t forget to make your 50th Reunion gifts. Gifts—it is OK to give more than once!

Fall Mini-Reunion, Friday, Oct. 9th & Saturday, Oct. 10th

By John Engelman

Friday

– Homecoming Parade and Bonfire

Saturday

– Class meeting, 10am to noon, Zimmerman Lounge, Blunt Alumni Center

– Tailgate 12:00pm to 1:30, south lawn of Alpha Delta Fraternity (directly across from Stadium)

– Football game vs. Yale, Kickoff at 1:30pm (order your own tickets)

– Class Dinner: 7:00pm Murphy Farm at the Quechee Club. \$60/person

Cocktails: 6:00pm, (open bar serving beer, wine and soda), Cheese & Crackers, Crudite & Fruit Slices

Dinner: 7:00pm - See menu choices below:
Chicken Marsala – sautéed chicken with marsala wine, roasted mushrooms & demi glace reduction

Lemon chive crusted Salmon or Sesame Crusted Salmon served with a sweet sushi rice & citrus soy ponzu sauce

All of the above entrees would include 2 chef side dishes, and a mixed field green salad with seasonal accompaniments and a dessert.



Homecoming Weekend Special: Jim Lawrie to Be Inducted into the Dartmouth Athletics Department's 2015 Wearers of the Green

received from the College, 8/26/15



Jim on Class of 1968 sailing mini-reunion, British V.I., May 2014

CONGRATULATIONS JIM. The College has just notified us that **Jim Lawrie** will be honored for his achievements as Individual National Champion in US Masters Swimming. According to Jim, the award is for winning the 1650 freestyle at the US Masters Nationals Short Course Championship meet at the University of Texas, Austin in 2008 and the same event at the same meet in 2013 at the Santa Clara International Swim Center, Santa Clara, CA.

Wearers of the Green was created in 1984 to honor students, alumni, and coaches who have met specific criteria for athletic excellence in their respective sports. Qualified students and alumni are eligible for induction five years after their class has graduated, while qualified coaches are eligible for induction after they leave the College. Varsity sport qualifiers are inducted in even-numbered years (beginning in 2014), while qualifiers in club sports, masters, and other sports are honored in odd-numbered years (beginning in 2015).

The 2015 Wearers of the Green inductees will be celebrated and recognized for their athletic achievements in club sports, masters, and other sports on campus during Dartmouth Night and Homecoming, October 9 –10, 2015. Learn more about the Wearers eligible for induction, and view photos from the 2014 gathering at the Dartmouth Athletics website.

Below are two photos of Jim in action. The first is from May 2014 on the Class of 1968 sailing mini-reunion in the British Virgin Islands while the second shows Jim swimming in last year's Trans Tahoe Relay. Jim adds: "Incidentally, my team did not win the Trans Tahoe relay in 2014 (event pictured), but we did win in our division (Mixed 360+; 3 men, 3 women, sum of ages exceed 360 years) this year. "Have been doing the Trans Tahoe since 1985 and have been on at least 10 winning teams."



Jim competing in the 2014 Trans Tahoe Relay

Big East Ski Trip 3.0 (or 2.1) Okemo Mountain Resort January 26-29, 2016

By **Gerry Bell**, 7/30/15

Here's a brief heads-up about our annual, instant-classic Big East ski trip, next scheduled for Tues-Fri, January 26-29, 2016. That's the midweek immediately before the Super Bowl, and a week after Martin Luther King weekend, so as to avoid bumping up against anyone's holiday plans.

We'll be staying and skiing once again at Okemo Mountain Resort in Ludlow VT. Also, we're renting the same fabulous house for reunion central. All these do-overs ... totally justified ... but there's my uncertainty about whether to call this trip 3.0 or 2.1!

You can read all about the 2015 trip (including NL Editor Dave Gang's ringing endorsement) in the recently published Spring 2015 class newsletter. Pictures worth thousands of words there and on the class website.

Last year we filled the big reunion central house and a smaller slopeside condo. This year I'd like a to fill a larger house slopeside,

to increase our options for morning meeting and après-ski, and to give more people a chance to stay in a ski-in ski-out place if they so desire.

Please think about joining us. It's a great three-ski-day getaway, and a chance to sample the '68 ski trip ambience without having to commit first thing to the week-long western ski trip each March. (Warning: this can be contagious! Big East 2.0 has already helped recruit at least one classmate, and possibly more, for the March 2016 trip to Big Sky!)

Contact me at skiboy1968@roadrunner.com for more information, and to get a place on the "ski trip interest group" mailing list. It is not too early to think snow!

Class of 1968 April, 2016 Danube / Budapest Trip

By **Bill Rich**, 8/17/15

In April, 2016, I invite you to join us on a Class of '68 Trip from Passau, Germany down the Danube with three extra days after we arrive in Budapest, Hungary. This trip is sometimes known as the Class of '68 70th Birthday Party Phase I or the Class of '68 Birthday Party International Version. We have sent two emails to each and every classmate, but we know that many of these messages have gone right into spam and not been easily read by everyone. As many as half of our classmates are not yet aware that we are even offering this trip.

Without going into all of the details, here are the highlights. We are booked on the Viking River Cruise trip from Passau to Budapest leaving April 16, 2016 and arriving on April 23, 2016. We have three days in Budapest guided by the former Minister of Culture of Hungary, and then we depart on April 26, 2016. We think the Viking sail and the Budapest portion will both be extraordinary experiences. We welcome your interest and we look

forward to welcoming any and all of you to join us on the trip. If you are interested, it is important that you express your interest immediately. We have negotiated discounts from Viking and cannot expect them to hold their offers open indefinitely.

Rather than repeat what we have already written, we invite you to look at the Viking River Cruise itinerary of the April 16 - 23 trip on the Longship Njord from Passau to Budapest. We have sailed with Viking and love the experience. And, my fiancée Sylvia is Hungarian and has worked with her friend Andras on guiding tours in Budapest. Not only is he the former Minister of Culture, but he also has written the first and best guidebook of Budapest. He speaks perfect English and is very personable.

If you have any interest or any questions, I encourage you to contact me by email at wrich@bloomberg.net or by phone at 617-723-3100 x-314.

The Great '68 70th Birthday Bash: Napa, CA: Sept 13-16, 2016

By Gerry Bell, 7/30/15

Since Ed Heald's initial heads-up in our most recent class newsletter, we've concluded that a midweek reunion for our 70th birthday celebration would be preferable to a weekend. So ... September 13-16, 2016, Tuesday through Friday, headquartered at the Silverado Resort in the town of Napa, CA, just as we were for our 60th birthday. We've turned to midweek for this gig, in part because midweek was so successful for our eastern ski trip to Okemo, in part because Napa is far less crowded and hectic midweek in the high-demand wine harvest month of September ... and in large part because we're old enough to do whatever we want whenever we want!

For our 60th birthday party, Ed Heald and Ed Schneider (our man on the ground in Napa) stamped out a marvelous template for us to follow this time. For our 70th, Ed and Ed will do a by-popular-demand return engagement planning and coordinating the highlight of our reunion – our culminating birthday banquet Thursday night, September 15, at Ed Schneider's beautiful hilltop home in St. Helena. In addition to our collective 70th birthday, we'll be celebrating during our stay Dan Hedges' actual 70th birthday, Cedric Kam's official retirement, and Mr. and Mrs. Bell's 25th wedding anniversary. (And they said it wouldn't last!) In any event, I am looking forward that evening to the most memorable meal of my life!

First thing, the all-important early question: "Who's coming?" Here are the guys already in, as of this writing on July 30:

Ed Heald, Ed Schneider, Bob Block, Jim Lawrie, Tad Hooker, Dan Hedges, Clark Wadlow, David Cooperberg, Jim Snyder, Tom Stonecipher, Gary Horlick, Ron Weiss, Dave Stanley, Joe Grasso, John Everett, Fred Palmer, Hugh Boss, Warren Regelman, Don Clausing, Norm Silverman, Jack Sedwick, Larry Smith, Cedric Kam, Warren Connelly, Tim Gifford, Dan Bort, Parker Beverage, John Blair, Mark Waterhouse, David Walden, and yours truly.

Must be some friends in that group you really want to see, yes? Please join us! Here are some other specifics as they stand now:

Golf

Silverado has two courses, one of which, the North Course, is the site of an official PGA tournament stop each October. Apparently Napa has gone a little golf crazy because of this, so we've made golf reservations well in advance. Hugh Boss is coordinating our golf activities, and has already reserved early morning tee times on Wednesday and Thursday of our stay. Contact him at <hmb@amcapgrp.com> if you want to play.



Lodging

We have a block of 40 rooms set aside for us at the Silverado for Tuesday through Thursday nights, September 13, 14, and 15. Also a handful of rooms on Sunday and Monday nights for early arrivals. Most of these are their "Mansion Rooms" – the standard

luxury hotel room – which with tax and resort fees will run about \$280 a night. I've asked them to set aside a few 1BR suites (about \$400 a night) for those so inclined, and even a couple of 2BR suites (about \$550) if there are any couples that want to stay together.

Due to our class-wide blitzmail a few weeks ago, and because of my relentless barrage of emails to ski trip, golf trip, and birthday party mini-reunion veterans, some 30 of these rooms are already spoken for. Never fear, I am sure we can obtain more – but the sooner we ask, the better our chances. (I'll print the link for room reservations later in this piece. The good news is they won't require a deposit from you now, only your credit card number.)

Dining

In addition to the banquet at Ed Schneider's Thursday evening, we're planning a reception and dinner at a delightful Silverado venue called The Arbor (discovered and arranged by Ed Heald last time) for our arrival night Tuesday. This on the assumption that there will be little interest in a dining expedition off-site after traveling a good part of the day. Ed Schneider is taking on the tough task of scoping out Napa Valley restaurants for our

Wednesday night meal – last time we visited Tra Vigne, a wonderful place in St. Helena; this time Ed is certain he can find something equally good a bit closer to the hotel. (Note: We'll travel to the Wednesday and Thursday soirees by bus – a designated driver for all of us so we can enjoy the wine!)

Wines

There are so many vineyards, so many wineries, so many wines ... and I know so little. (My wine expertise ranges from, "Hey, this is good!" to "I'm not real crazy about this one.") Fortunately, I know people, and several of them have stepped forward to help. Last time we had one group expedition to a winery, and the rest was left to "on your own." (And on your own is still a perfectly acceptable way to go.) But we have so much knowledge and expertise in this class (not just about wine either, but that's another story) that I figured, "Why not use it?" Here's what we have so far:

– Tad Hooker has volunteered to leverage his 30-year "best customer" status at V. Sattui winery (so exclusive the stuff is not available in stores!) to see if he can arrange a private tour, tasting, and possible lunch at the winery.

– Jim Lawrie, by virtue of living in Reno (not all that far from Napa) is familiar with a number of places, and has even volunteered to lead an expedition to Sonoma Valley (next valley over) if anyone is interested. (Jim is an expert on Sonoma wines – I know, because he has schooled me!)

– Bob Block led our wine foray (the Hess winery) for our 60th, and has a number of places in mind for this go-round. Based on my experience with him on our Eastern ski trips – well, if you really want to learn something about wine, hang around with Bob!

As we've discussed this, what we'd like is to have a number of wine tours/tasting options available each day, so that groups of us can go to various places—you can visit your favorites, or the ones you're curious about, or whatever. Please let me know whatever preferences you have, and especially let me know if you're willing to lead a group of us for a tour or tasting. The Wine Trust will be glad to welcome you into the fold!

As for the rest, much like the last time, except that access to wineries, vineyards, tours and tastings may be better because of our midweek timing. Also, Silverado Resort is featuring a number of "destination services" like bicycling, hot-air ballooning, a gourmet cooking course, and possibly even a casino night if there's sufficient interest.

Okay, that's probably enough for now. I've let my enthusiasm run away with me again. Now that we have you irrevocably hooked, here's the link to make your room reservations at the Silverado:

https://resweb.passkey.com/Reswebdo?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=13970315

What I need from you now are three things:

– Most important, your confirmation to me that you'll be joining us; or, if you know you can't make it, that regrettable piece of information. We already have a critical mass, but in the event we look like we might become oversubscribed, sooner is better than later for arranging more rooms. So, please act quickly.

– Second, I need money – the Silverado wants an initial deposit as "earnest money" for our block of rooms set-aside and as a deposit on our Tuesday night dinner. For now, \$150 per person (\$300 per couple) will do. Please make your check payable to "Dartmouth '68 70th Birthday"; my mailing address is at the end of this. What's the total tariff, you ask? Don't know yet – it primarily involves three dinners with some nice wines, plus two bus rides, so once we have a better handle on meal planning and our number of attendees, we'll be able to work out the total. I'll probably ask for it in two more installments for ease of budgeting – and if I overestimate, I'll return the excess to you or send it on to the Dartmouth College Fund in your name, whatever your preference.

– Third, please contact any classmates that you regard as fishable, work on fishing them, and have them contact me. What's worked really well for our Hanover reunions is the "who's coming?" list, and I'd like to use that leverage this time as well, and as soon as we can.

Finally, my thanks to Ed Heald, Ed Schneider, Tad Hooker, Jim Lawrie, and Bob Block for all their help already, and for their willingness to help even more – and to you too for wading through this thing and, I hope, joining us. We turn our biblical three score and ten only once, and while from my actuarial viewpoint we are an extraordinarily healthy and long-lived class, nothing is forever. So let's do this right, and make it the best mini any class has ever held.

Keep well.

Gerry

Email address: skiboy1968@roadrunner.com

Mailing address for checks:

Gerry Bell; 129 Paradise Rd; Bethel ME 04217

Class Executive Meeting in Hanover, May 2015

At the post-Executive Committee meeting cookout at Peter Fahey's house in Hanover, several classmates enjoy walking the plank. Left to right: John Everett, Peter Fahey, Greg Marshall, Gerry Bell, John Engelman, Bill Rich, and David Walden.



Dartmouth Club of Pioneer Valley at Dartmouth On Location: Tanglewood, Lenox, MA, July 2015



Club members joined for a picture with President Phil Hanlon and Gail Gentes. Dave and Ron are third and fifth from the left in the second row. Janet and Roberta are behind them.

DCPV had a great turnout at the Dartmouth on Location program at Tanglewood on July 12, 2015. It was a wonderful event. Good food, great talk, enjoyable concert... and fortunately not too hot! The '68's attending were Ron Weiss and Dave Gang with Roberta Hillenberg-Gang and Janet Weiss.

This event, organized by the Office of Alumni Relations in partnership with the Dartmouth Clubs of Eastern New York and the Pioneer Valley, included lunch in the Formal Gardens Tent on the Tanglewood Lawn, a presentation by Prof. Steve Swayne and, of course, the performance. The program included John Luther Adams, Mozart and Dvorák.

Steve Swayne, The Jacob H. Strauss 1922 Professor of Music at Dartmouth, delivered the presentation. He discussed how the works on the program come from very different eras and very different men: a concerto from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, then a precocious teenager growing up in the independent archbishopric of Salzburg; an orchestral

rumination from Pulitzer Prize-winner John Luther Adams, a Mississippian who currently makes Alaska his home and nature his canvas; and from Antonín Dvorák a breakthrough symphony, whose London premiere in 1885 helped launch the Czech composer's international career. These three works challenge how sound plays with time, which was the thread Swayne used to weave these works together.



Professor Steve Swayne



News from our Classmates:

Gary Hobin is still teaching in Kansas and having the time of his life

(Green Card, 5/23/15)

Hard to believe—we're fast approaching graduation here at the Command and General Staff College—my 13th year here. Lots of young majors (Army) or equivalents from sister services and international military forces in that time. I still get a rush each day as an instructor here, and I'll stay as long as possible. Why quit when you're having fun? I'm teaching (really only "Leading") a seminar on the Middle East this term. It's not difficult to keep it "current" with what's in the daily news. And I've been asked to develop a seminar, "Middle East Regional Studies", for Webster University, where I adjunct. Never a dull moment.

And more.....(received 7/8/15)

Wife Liddell was attending an educational technology conference; I joined her for the remainder of the week. We celebrated our Anniversary (9 years) on 1 July and toured most of the Independence sites: Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, the seaport museum, others. Our hotel was right on the river Penn's Landing. We enjoyed seafood every night (after all, we get the best steaks at home in Kansas). Took an afternoon to visit my sister in Maryland. Our Philadelphia adventure ended Saturday; arrived home in time to watch fireworks from several surrounding communities light up our skies.

Those who watch the national weather reports might remember that Kansas has been inundated with rains over the past few months. May saw record rainfall; June was equally wet. Great for the lawn; not so good for the garden (anyone for drowned potatoes?) and potentially disastrous from flash floods and submerged roads. As of this day, we haven't had much damage—other than downed tree limbs—but mother-in-law's house got flooded on Tuesday. We spent Tuesday evening along with a half-dozen of her neighbors bailing out the basement. (Former Physics majors take note: water is heavy.)

The next class for the Command and General Staff College is arriving. International officers and those from "sister services" (Navy, Marines, Air Force) are in their preparatory classes. Army Reserve and National Guard officers along with officers from service support branches (e.g. medical, adjutant general) are here for their preparatory work as well. We faculty too are in preparation classes for this year's revised curriculum. (The "good idea fairy" works overtime here.)

Lest you misinterpret my attempts at humor, be it known, I'm having the time of my life!

Retire?! Heck, NO!

Never a Dull Moment.

Gary Hobin
16209 Sloan Road
Leavenworth, KS 66048
grhobin@aol.com

Steven Reiss has a new book coming out this fall

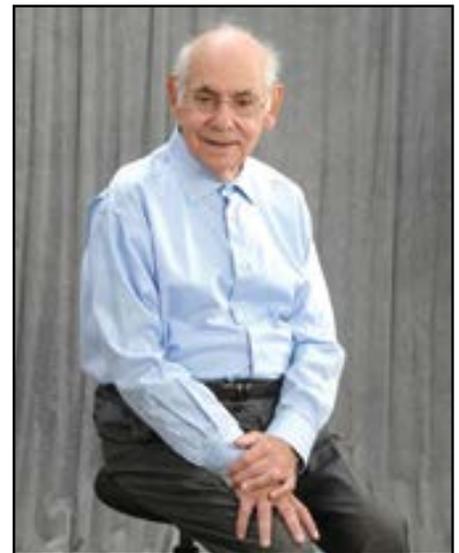
(received 5/15/15)

I am an emeritus professor at the Ohio State University. This fall the University of Mercer Press will publish my book

entitled, "The Sixteen Strivings for God: The New Psychology of Religious Experiences." This is a serious but accessible book (we worked hard to eliminate technical jargon) presenting a new theory of religious experiences. It was very difficult for me to write this book. I wrote eight full drafts over a period of seven years. It is the first comprehensive theory of the psychology of religion since the days of William James, and it is the only such theory that can be verified or falsified scientifically.

At Dartmouth I was a double major in psychology and philosophy, and I was a senior fellow who studied the philosophy of psychology. In "Sixteen Strivings" I finally got to put my dual training to work.

rmpwellness@gmail.com.



Steven Reiss

Howie Soren reports on a symposium in Italy

(received 6/29/15)

I suppose the main news for me is that I was given a symposium in honor of my 25 years working as an archaeologist in Italy. The symposium was given by the Italian town of Lugnano in Teverina (Umbria) and included a town dinner following

the program. Speakers came from Yale, University of Durham, and locations around Italy, and gave formal talks relating to my theories about the spread of malaria across Italy and its role in hastening the end of the Roman empire. It was a beautiful occasion and was attended by more than 120 people and actually filmed by the Italian television network RAI-1 and shown on their news. I am still Regents Professor of Anthropology and Classics at the University of Arizona, where I've been for 33 years now and not thinking of retiring anytime soon because of 64 wonderful colleagues, a fantastic department head, and more than 1000 students a year who keep me young and on my toes. I stay in touch with my college roommate John Stephens, a successful artist and former Dartmouth art major, who lives in the Thetford area.

David (alias Howie) Soren
soren@u.arizona.edu

The Jaegers are staying in shape

(received 6/29/15)

Attached is a photo of my family hiking in Wintergreen, VA (Blue Ridge Mountains) on 12/26/14 near our "cabin." From left to right: Braden (son), Charlotte (wife), Travis (son), me (Bill Jaeger '68), and faithful dog Rosy. We live most of the year on Hilton Head Island, but spend the summer and some holidays at Wintergreen, VA (3500' elevation).

jaeg071@aol.com



The Emmels and Lawries report on a Baltic cruise

(received from Jim Lawrie 6/30/15)

Peter Emmel, '68, his wife Sally, my wife Bev and I recently participated in a Dartmouth sponsored cruise of the Baltic Sea. The trip began in Copenhagen, and we visited Gdansk, Tallinn, Estonia, St. Petersburg, Helsinki, the medieval town of Visby on the island of Gotland, Sweden, and ended the trip in Stockholm. In addition to Dartmouth from which we had 14 representatives of different classes, there were about a dozen other universities and educational organizations represented. The ship was relatively small, 250 passengers, and owned by the French company Ponant. The cruise was organized by Thomas Gohagan and Co. While I had trepidations about any kind of cruise, I would do one on a small ship run by Ponant and organized by Gohagan again in a heartbeat. The education program was excellent! Economics professor Nancy Marion of Dartmouth was among the speakers along with guest lecturers Lech Walesa and Sergei Khrushchev. The on shore tour guides were uniformly excellent as well. The Baltic area has a fascinating history and, as one our speakers told us, is probably the most volatile area in the world today due to Russian activities on the borders of the Baltic countries Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and a recently announced change in the Russian military's policy regarding the use of nuclear weapons in a battlefield setting, i.e., they'll use nukes if they think it will improve their chances of winning a local war (no more MAD)! The weather couldn't have been better. All in all, an incredible trip.



Jim and Bev Lawrie



Peter and Sally Emmel

An update from Steve Jenkins, another '68 author

(received 7/2/15)

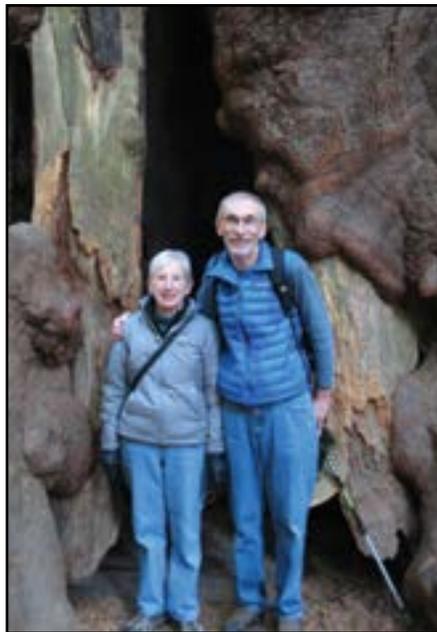
I haven't submitted any information for the newsletter for a long time, so here is an update. I retired in 2011 after teaching biology for 37 years at the University of Nevada, Reno. This spring I also retired from interviewing applicants to Dartmouth from the Reno area for many years, often in enjoyable sessions with our classmate Jim Lawrie. I figured it's time for younger alums to take over this interesting assignment—they can give applicants a much better picture of Dartmouth today than I can.

Kathie and I have been married since 1969, after getting together during the turbulent spring of 1968. We welcomed our first grandchild into the world in September 2014. Our daughter-in-law works for the State Department, and Miles was born in Mexico, lived for a few months in Washington, DC, and now lives in New Delhi. Although not walking yet, we expect that he has a lot of traveling in his future, befitting his name.

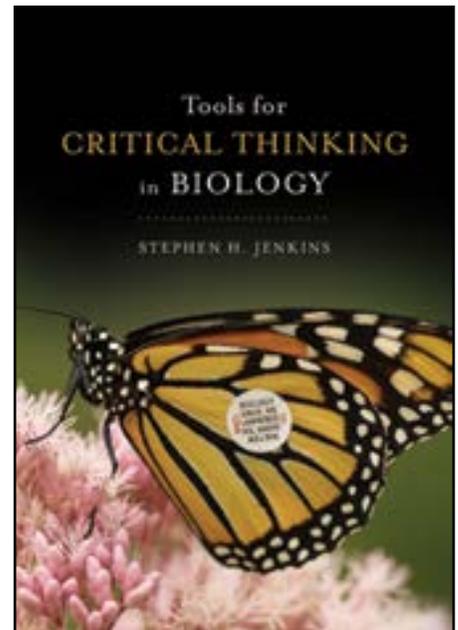
While at UNR, I emphasized critical thinking in teaching students at all levels, from freshmen fulfilling a science distribution requirement to graduate students in ecology. This led to my major retirement project so far, a book called *Tools for Critical Thinking in Biology* published by Oxford University Press in April 2015. I use diverse biological examples to illustrate how scientists apply critical thinking to solve problems. In a chapter on experimental methods, for instance, I describe two experimental studies of the medicinal value of marijuana in humans and an experiment on sex ratio determination in opossums. I write about climate change in the last chapter because this is

the most important and most challenging problem of our time, with major impacts on both human society and natural environments. I use the example of climate change to review six basic tools for critical thinking, in hopes that these tools will be fresh in the minds of readers when they finish the book.

Here is a recent photo of Kathie and me at Muir Woods north of San Francisco in fall 2013. I also attach an image of the



cover of my new book. The link below will take you to my web page. Thanks for your interest in promoting my book and especially in helping to keep alumni like me connected to Dartmouth through producing *The Transmission*. I see from your page in our 40th reunion yearbook that we share an interest in classical music. Kathie and I are excited about a new chamber music series developed by a young faculty couple (cellist and pianist) in the UNR music department. With their enthusiasm and organization, this series



has evolved from a local trio that played 3-4 concerts a year to a series of 8 to 10 concerts, most by increasingly prominent guest artists (e.g., the Miró Quartet this spring).

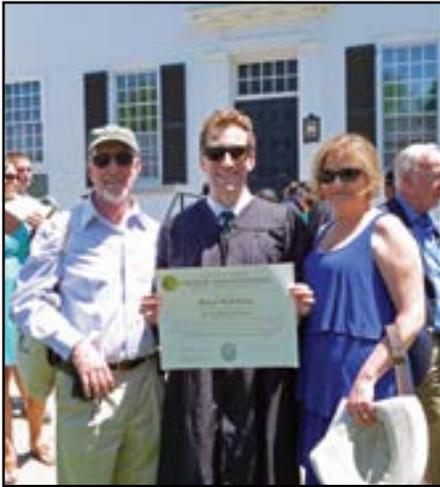
Stephen H. Jenkins Department of Biology/314 <http://wolfweb.unr.edu/homepage/jenkins/> University of Nevada phone: 775-784-6078 Reno, NV 89557 fax: 775-784-1302

Another son of a '68 has just graduated

(received from Roger Lenke, 7/2/15)

My son, Michael Lenke, Class of 2015, graduated on June 14. He will start work as an analyst at Altman Vilandier & Company in Boston in September. My wife, Joanne, and I are thinking of moving from Indiana to Hanover in the near future. Now that he has left the campus, Michael said that it would be okay.

lenke@sbcglobal.net



Proud parents Roger and Joanne on either side of the graduate, Michael..

Warren Regelmann took the enviable plunge to "emeritus"

(received 7/2/15)

I've taken the plunge and am now "emeritus" head of our Pediatric Pulmonary Division at the University of Minnesota. I'm thoroughly enjoying traveling, birding, photography and more time with my wife, Marilyn, and our two grandsons.

regel001@umn.edu

Ned Cummings is still on the job

(received 7/19/15)

My observations: as we all approach 70, or are already there, most news seems happy-clappy: outings in Colorado, European trips, etc. That's all fine, but I bet some of us are STILL WORKING because 1) we need to make money, 2) we're raising grandkids (not me), or 3) doing missionary/volunteer work out of a sense of civic responsibility. Can't we hear some stories of them?

I continue to teach English at the college level 1) because I love it, and 2) I need the cash flow. (Still have 45 grand in PLUS loans to pay off.) Wife is president of an NGO that's established a school in South

Sudan and is beginning an agricultural demonstration project. She travels there twice a year, even though a civil war rages. Am I the only 69-year old with a working family, for whatever reason? I, for one, would like to hear about others. Son now out of Navy SpecOps but grandson is in "training." Anybody else with kids in/out of the military? Those are my thoughts. Hoping to make it to our 50th. (Health OK for now--knock on wood.)

efcned@aol.com

Bob Ross reports on an added job

(received 7/29/15)

It's not a job change, Dave, but an added job. March 16th I became Dean of the Maine School of Ministry (<http://maineucc.org/5451-2/maine-school-ministry/>). When Bangor Theological Seminary closed in June, 2013, it left a void for those Mainers who feel called to authorized ministry but cannot commute out-state to explore the matter. So this little School is one answer put forward by the Maine Conference, UCC. I am happy to say that I have corresponded with classmate Rev. Greg Marshall about participating in the Mentoring program we are currently designing.

Robert H. Ross, Ph.D., M.Div. Dean,
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Augusta, Maine

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Associate Pastor, West Parish
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Peter Fahey reports on fun along the Ompompanoosuc River

(received 8/17/15)

"The Area" was a cow pasture along the Ompompanoosuc River in North Thetford, VT that Phi Delts beginning over 50 years ago would frequent during Spring Term. The featured attraction was a chute where the river necked down to 3 feet wide between some rocks. My kids (though not Phi Delts) renewed the tradition during the '90s and today four of my granddaughters did the honors.

The photo below is of the third Fahey generation going through the Chute, my granddaughter, Emily (12). Quite an adventure to get there at this time of year given overgrown vegetation.





Greg Fetler

Submitted by John Hamer, 6/8/15



Greg and Jean Fetler in a field at Lake Tahoe

Gregory Philip Fetler's 2-year battle with cancer ended April 7, 2015. Greg was born in 1946 in Mississippi to Philip and Maryallyn Fetler. He is survived by his wife Jean, their 3 children and their spouses: Tabetha (and Denis), Tiffany (and Ethan), Joshua (and Brandy), and four grandchildren. Greg was a Dartmouth College alumnus (class of 1968), a United States Navy Lieutenant, musician, painter and devout family man. Greg's career as a painter and restorer of fine art had at its center his studio in his Victorian home in a coastal town close to Monterey Bay in California.

– Obituary written by Jean Cederholm Fetler

Greg Fetler was probably my best friend at Dartmouth. We first met on the Freshman Trip. We both had dorm rooms in South Wigwam and were both in Navy ROTC. We saw a lot of each other that year— walking up to the Green from South Wig, having meals at Thayer Hall, and going to NROTC classes. We both joined the Navy Drill Team and marched together down the back streets of Hanover, chanting bawdy cadence songs.

But one night during freshman year, Greg came back to the dorm with some big news: He had met a girl. Her name was Jeannie. She was a nursing student at Mary Hitchcock. And she had the most beautiful smile he had ever seen. I'll never forget the look on his face as he described her, in a kind of romantic daze. I realized that I probably wouldn't see Greg quite as often after that.

Indeed, he and Jeannie became inseparable. They couldn't get married or Greg would lose his NROTC scholarship, but they spent lots of time together. I was in the Ledyard Canoe Club, and I remember times when we'd paddle canoes with our dates down to a little island in the Connecticut River for picnics.

In his years at Dartmouth, Greg painted a lot. I still treasure a watercolor he gave me in Hanover, called "Birches." I have a still life of flowers, a portrait of a house where I lived in Oregon, and a marvelous forest waterfall painting that my wife calls "mystical realism." Greg acted in several plays at Hopkins Center, including opposite Blythe Danner in one of Luigi Pirandello's works. He was also a talented guitar and banjo player, and introduced me to such classic blues artists as Leadbelly, Son House and Muddy Waters.

Right after graduation, Greg and Jeannie were married in the Little White Church of Christ on campus. I was Best Man. Greg wore his Navy “dress whites” uniform with the bright brass buttons. Several of us who had also been in Navy ROTC, held our swords in a crossed arch as he and Jeannie left the church. At the reception, I toasted them as “the loveliest couple imaginable.” Years later, I told Greg that I regretted not saying more -- including the story of how they first met.

Our lives took separate turns that summer of 1968. A serious car accident led to my medical discharge from the Navy, so I never received my commission as an officer. Greg went on to Navy Flight School and became a navigator on antisubmarine patrol planes. He was stationed in Japan for awhile, then at Moffett Field near San Francisco. He and Jeannie had two daughters, Tabetha and Tiffany. By then I was also married, and a student at Stanford University’s graduate school of journalism. We got together often that year with our wives.

Greg had begun to have doubts about the Vietnam War. I wrote an article about his views for the College Press Service, hiding his true identity but describing him only as “Lieutenant X.” It ran in college newspapers around the country, about the time that Kent State made headlines and campuses nationwide erupted in protests.

Greg soon retired from the Navy and became a full-time artist. He had always painted -- exquisite watercolors, oils and acrylics. He began selling his works at art fairs around the Bay Area. He and Jeannie eventually moved to Watsonville, where they restored a beautiful old Victorian house. His art studio and gallery were on the ground floor and they lived upstairs. Jeannie worked as a nurse. They had a son, Joshua.

I ended up living in Seattle, and my wife and I visited them in California. We stayed overnight and Greg and Josh played their guitars together for us after dinner. We exchanged occasional letters and Christmas cards.

But about two years ago, I stopped hearing from Greg. I wrote a note or two, emailed a few times, but didn’t hear back. I began to wonder what was going on, or if they had broken up.

So in April of this year, my wife and I were planning a road trip to Los Angeles and back. I determined that we would just “drop in” on Greg and Jeannie in Watsonville. But exactly one week before we left, we had a voice message from Jeannie. She said Greg had passed away on April 7, after a long battle with cancer. I was stunned. I didn’t even know he was ill. I called her back immediately and told her of our plan to visit. She urged us to come anyway, which we did.

On our way back from L.A., we drove up Highway 101 to Watsonville. Jeannie and her daughter Tiffany greeted us warmly, along with one of Greg’s granddaughters, Ava. We took Jeannie out to dinner and talked for hours. We toured Greg’s studio, filled with extraordinary paintings—including a powerful abstract of an angel ascending into heaven. Jeannie said it was the last painting Greg ever did.

Then she handed me a letter that she had found in Greg’s bedside table after he died. She hadn’t known he had written it. It was addressed to me and my wife. Here’s what it said:

A Letter from Beyond the Grave to John and Marianna Hamer

Dearest John & Marianna,

I am beyond sorry for “dropping out” like this. I have been an art monk all these years, wallowing in the world’s greatest love affair, with my dear Jeannie, having the greatest kids and grandkids in the world. We also took care of Dad in his declining years, ‘til Jean finally became his hospice nurse before he died peacefully.

Immediately upon our return from burying my father in San Antonio, I was diagnosed with a very bad cancer, called Large Cell Neuroendocrine Cancer (LCNEC), and for nearly two years I have been in constant therapy, with the month-long chemotherapy sessions, abdominal surgery, and months of radiation. At the moment, I am trying to recover from a bile-duct blockage, which really set me back.

This cancer is one of the most aggressive, and considered incurable because while it accepts treatment, it will then bounce back and after a while the treatment won’t work. I do have a chance at an experimental treatment called targeted therapy, but not in my current condition...

I hate to be the bearer of depressing news, however, for monumental reasons I am far from depressed. I have always considered myself to be the luckiest guy in the world, and I still do. Oh, I have anger of course, but it becomes nothing when I recall my lifetime: 50 loving years with my angel Jeannie, the most amazing kids, all with great marriages, spouses and homes. My kids have sprouted wings, and they are helping us in every way. With those beautiful grandkids (our 5-year-old, Ava, lives with us because Tiffany and Ethan have moved in to help, while they rent out their beautiful San Francisco Victorian at an excellent price).

Continued on next page

I was also fortunate in my emphasis at work all these years. Painting was always my top priority, and while I am not proud that my art took precedence over art restoration, I was very glad that it did; when I received the diagnosis, I was working very hard to develop a series of abstract expressionism and I kept this abstract series hidden in my studio for over 25 years, treating the series as a journal of my metaphysical life. For years I have sold my impressionism and the realism in originals and prints. But 5 years ago, I quit the realism to focus on the abstract. So when I got the diagnosis, I realized that I might have just enough time to put a conclusion on the series to tie it up, a summary, or a place to serve as an exclamation point.

Around last August, I was lucky enough to be successful in this, just before a terrible bile duct setback. I was granted over a year to work madly on this, about 10 days every month, between chemo. Of course, I have an abstract....

A FINAL NOTE: Many of us made good friends at Dartmouth. As the years go by, we may drift apart. It's important to stay in touch. Greg was a fine man. May he rest in peace. His paintings may be seen on his website, www.fetlerart.com.



Greg Fetler on his last birthday

Tom Russian

Submitted by Dave Bergengren, 8/5/15



Left to right: David Bergengren and Tom Russian

Tom Russian, 69, died on May 6 at home in Orland Park, Illinois. Tom was a student council president and three-sport letterman at Reavis High School in nearby Burbank, where he turned the number 34 into a symbol of athletic excellence, wearing it in football, basketball and baseball. Recruited to play football at Dartmouth, he separated his shoulder freshman year and switched his athletic focus to baseball and rugby, where he continued to excel.

A history major, Tom joined Chi Phi (now Chi Heorot) and led its sports program into the top echelon of fraternity intramurals. His willingness to go to the mat (literally) for his teams was highlighted by his stepping up several weight classes in wrestling, a sport that was new to him. Tom used his quickness and guile to more than hold his own, making it to the heavyweight finals, where he won what is believed to be the only point ever taken from SAE's formidable Pete "Piggy" Walton, '67, before Mr. Walton took the match.

Tom could be resourceful. Senior roommate Jon Newcomb recalls a spring break in Nassau where he, Tom, and Dave Bergengren arrived "with absolutely no money, spent the nights sleeping on

the beach and, based on a resourceful flash by Tom, figured out how to eat by walking into hotel lobbies, scouting around for dirty plates, rinsing them off in the pool (not easy to do without getting caught), and then getting in the buffet line. . . as if we had paid and belonged. If Tom hadn't become a lawyer, I think there were a number of other promising careers he could have pursued."

In the frigid doldrums of junior year winter, Tom was one of seven Chi Phi classmates who took off for Ripon, Wisconsin, to research the birthplace of the Republican Party (and seek out a young lady Rocky Fredrickson knew). Tom's home just south of Chicago was the only scheduled pit stop on the 2,000-mile road trip this intrepid group made in Rocky's van, accompanied only by a keg, a sense of adventure and maybe a little anxiety that midterm exams were fast approaching. As the journey's unofficial social chairman Jim Hennessey recounts, "when the self-dubbed Magnificent Seven drove up to Tom's family home, Tom with considerable panache, and without a hint of Catholic guilt, told his mom that we were on a mid-semester break. I never knew whether his mom truly believed him or was just so relieved that our stay was brief that she passed on objecting. Nonetheless, I was impressed." As were we all.

Following graduation, Tom earned a law degree from the John Marshall Law School in Chicago. By 1984 he had become a partner in the Burr Ridge law firm of Goldstine, Skrodzki, Russian, Nemecek and Hoff, managing its real estate practice and earning an Illinois Super Lawyers designation. He served on numerous boards of directors and was a volunteer youth soccer coach for many years. An avid golfer, he loved Chicago's sports teams, particularly the White Sox.

Tom and his freshman roommate Jim Noyes got the ball rolling in 2002 for what became an ongoing and highly anticipated annual Chi Phi get-together on Block Island and elsewhere. For thirteen years, Tom was always at the center of these mini-reunions. As another of Tom's Dartmouth roommates Alan Raymond observed, speaking for himself and his wife Charlotte, "He brought love, joy, great stories and memories, political passion, and amazing dance moves to each and every one. We loved everything about him."

Tom was known for his upbeat approach to life, his rich sense of humor, love of sports and the unpretentious genuineness he brought to Dartmouth from his roots on the south side of Chicago and never lost. A natural debater, he was passionate and knowledgeable about the things he believed in. He was "a man who (led) with his heart," as fraternity brother Fred Martin put it. "Solid as a rock," said Jim Noyes.

Tom is survived by his wife Barbara, son David, sister Patricia and niece Anya.

(With thanks to Tom's law partner Howard Hoff and family friend Brian Brost for their input, and to Tom's friend George Spivey, '68, for the photo)



Tom and Barbara Russian

