

# The Transmission

The Dartmouth Class Of 1968 Newsletter

May 2008

President: <b>R. Clark Wadlow</b> , 5210 Mountain Field Farm Rd., The Plains, VA 20198 (540) 364-4126	rwadlow@Sidley.com
Vice President: <b>Gerry Bell</b> , 129 Paradise Rd., Bethel, ME 04217 (207) 824-4488	jbell@gwi.net
Secretary: <b>David B. Peck, Jr.</b> , 157 Sandwich Rd., Plymouth, MA 02360 (508) 746-5894	david.peck@tch.harvard.edu
Treasurer: <b>Ronald P. Weiss</b> , 169 Wenonah Rd., Longmeadow, MA 01106 (413) 567-8868	rweiss@bulkley.com
Head Agent: <b>William P. Rich</b> , 33 Whiting Rd., Wellesley Hills, MA 02481	wrich@bloomberg.net
Newsletter Editor: <b>John S. Engelman</b> , 22 Haskins Rd., Hanover, NH 03755 (603) 643-3689	john.engelman@dartmouth.edu
Gift Planning Chairman: <b>Dennis F. Donahue</b> , 2 Timothy Lane, Bloomfield, CT 06002	dfdnone@aol.com
Mini-Reunion Chairman: <b>Michael Lenehan</b> , 21 Auburn St., Concord, NH 03301	rosypose@comcast.net

Greetings from Hanover:

First things first. In the February edition of *The 68 Transmission* I noted that the College had informed me that our classmate, **George Gosline**, had passed away. This sad news came as a surprise to many, including George Gosline. He writes:

“While I only spent two years at Dartmouth, and am not active in alumni affairs, this seems insufficient reason to declare me dead – as was done on the last page of the class newsletter. I am alive and well in Seattle and have good memories of winter mountaineering and the early film studies program.

My best to anyone who might remember me.

George Gosline, 2415 East Highlands Drive, Seattle, WA, 98112, (206)-329-1810.

My sincerest apologies to George. We are all heartened to learn that he is alive and well.

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## \*40<sup>th</sup> Reunion

The 40<sup>th</sup> reunion is nearly upon us, and the excitement is building. The reunion committee has created a schedule that includes a wide variety of activities, an opportunity to experience “legendary” Dartmouth professors, programs that have a special connection to our class, and plenty of “free time” to explore the campus and the Upper Valley. Here is a list (as of 4/28) of classmates who have, through word or deed, indicated they are planning to be at the Reunion: **John Issacson, Tad Hooker, Gary Horlick, Mike Lenehan, Dick Lafrance, Peter Wonson, Woody Thompson, Jim Topinka, Peter Fahey, Chip Green, Dan Hedges, Dave Loring, Peter Emmel, Max Milton, Michael O’Connor, Rick Pabst, Frank Hugg, David Peck, Joe Grasso, Dick Seiler, Richard Lappin Peter Brown, Jerry Rinehart, Chuck Benedict, Clark Wadlow, Jim Lawrie, Dick Olson, Ron Weiss, Allen Ott, Gary Kriss, Roger Witten, Bill Adler, Gerry Bell, Bill Rich, Hugh Boss, Tracy Johnson, John Everett, John Melski, Mark Battin, Ted Levin, Dennis Donahue, Buddy Noel, David Chapin, George Spivey, Kim Richey, Jim Hodges, Bill Zarchy, Ed Schneider, Mark Waterhouse, Bob Ross, Alan Hadad, Sandy Dunlap, Linc Eldredge, John Pfeiffer, Eric Hatch, Tom Stonecipher, Kevin O’Donnell, Frank Couper Jon Page, Chris Hjermland, Larry Himes, Peter Dunn, Bob McGee, Dan Daley, Dave Walden, Jonathan Axelrod, Dave Stromeyer, David Rossman, Cedric Kam.** Others are sure to follow. Some may not be able to be here for the entire reunion -- Monday, June 9th – Thursday, June, June 12th -- and to help those who cannot be here straight through the reunion, **Gerry Bell** has proposed a set of “a la carte” charges for partial attendance. (See chart below). Contact Gerry directly if you need to discuss the charges.

- Day One alone: \$ 70
- Day Two alone: \$170
- Day Three alone: \$130
- Day Four alone: \$ 70
  
- Day One and Two: \$220
- Day Two and Three: \$280
- Day Three and Four: \$180
  
- Days One - Three: \$330
- Days Two- Four: \$330

I saw a mock-up of the Reunion Book, and it looks fabulous. **Dick Olson** has done a superb job, and I'm sure everyone will be pleased to receive it, but there is no doubt that it will be more meaningful if you're in Hanover for the reunion. It is certainly not too late to make plans to attend. The reunion will be a terrific time, but it will be even better if you are there.

One order of business during the reunion is our class meeting on Wednesday morning. At that time we will be hearing a report from the nominating committee regarding our class officers for the next five years. We will also have to elect a new Alumni Council Representative, who won't take office until the fall or 2010. (By way of explanation, the AC is being restructured so that every class will have a rep on the Council, but as a result of that transition, we won't send our representative to the Council for two years). If anyone is interested in serving on the Council, or would like to recommend a classmate for that position, please contact Clark Wadlow.

Finally, the Class has officially acted to adopt Prof. Don Pease, and he will be our guest at the reunion, as well as our speaker at the Wednesday dinner at the McLane Family Lodge at the Skiway.

#### **\*Association of Alumni Elections**

At our class meeting in Hanover on April 26th, those in attendance asked that I include the following in the next newsletter:

To Members of the Dartmouth Class of 1968:

An election for the Executive Committee of the Association of the Alumni of Dartmouth College (AoA) begins on April 28th and concludes on June 5th. **The election is not routine; it is vital to the future of the College.** Even if you have never voted before, please vote in this election. You can vote at <[www.voxthevote.org](http://www.voxthevote.org)>, or by returning the paper ballot you will receive or have received in the mail. The voxthevote website also has detailed information on all the candidates.

Although not presented this way on the ballot, there are two slates of candidates:

#### ***Slate #1 – The AoA Nominated Slate:***

President	John Mathias '69
1st Vice President	Cheryl Bascomb '82
2nd Vice President	Doug Keare '57
Sec./Treasurer	David Spalding '76
For the Executive Committee	
	Marian Zischke Baldauf '84
	Veree Hawkins Brown '93
	John Engelman '68
	Ron Harris '71
	Kaitlin Jaxheimer '05
	Otho Kerr III '79
	Ronald Schram '64

This slate plans to withdraw the lawsuit against the College launched last year by the incumbent Executive Committee. This lawsuit is costly and disruptive to College operations and may undermine the upcoming search for a new Dartmouth President.

### *Slate #2 – The Petition Slate*

President	J. Michael Murphy '61
1st Vice President	Bert Boles '80
2nd Vice President	Paul Mirengoff '71
Sec./Treasurer	F. Marian Chambers '76
For the Executive Committee	
	Frank Gado '58
	Zack Hafer '99
	Alexander X. Mooney '93
	Richard Roberts '83
	Marjory Grant Ross '81
	John Steel '54
	Charles J. Urstadt '49, '51Tu

This slate supports the continuation of the lawsuit against the College. The objective of the lawsuit is to reverse the Trustees' September 2007 decision to expand the Board by increasing the number of Trustees appointed by the Board rather than elected by the alumni.

Note that all Trustees, whether appointed or elected, are presently alumni.

Your class executive committee (listed below) unanimously urges you to vote in this election. The overwhelming sentiment among us is that you vote for the AoA nominated slate (slate #1), identified above.

Clark Wadlow, Bill Rich, Gerry Bell, David Peck, Ron Weiss, John Everett, Dick Olsen, Peter Fahey, Michael Lenehan, Dennis Donahue, Greg Marshall

### **\*President Wright to Step Down in 2009**

Several weeks ago President Wright announced that he will be stepping down following the 2009 Commencement. A search committee, headed by Trustee Al Mulley '70 will be looking for his successor, and the composition of that committee will be announced sometime later this spring. During the coming year we will all have time to reflect on the accomplishments of the Wright Administration, and Jim Wright's service to the College. I wanted to share with you my thoughts about President Wright, and invite classmates so share their thoughts in upcoming newsletters.

Let me say that I am an unabashed fan of President Wright. While I acknowledge that he may have stumbled from time to time – the roll out of the Student Life Initiative in the winter of 1999, and the announced “end of the Greek system as we know it” come to mind -- on balance, I think Jim Wright has been an outstanding President.

In my experience there has never been a President more devoted to the lives of the undergraduates, both inside and outside the classroom. The academic and scholarly opportunities for students have grown tremendously during the past 10 years -- internships, assisting in research with distinguished members or the faculty, international studies, independent studies of one's own design, etc. Outside the classroom, both Jim and Susan Wright have been regular attendees at athletic events, student performances and recitals, thesis presentations, awards banquets -- anywhere you find students involved with extra-curricular activities, you will find the Wrights there to support them. They make an unbeatable team.

Jim Wright has spent his entire professional career at Dartmouth, and I truly believe that he more fully understands what makes Dartmouth unique than any alumnus who spent 4 years, (and in

some cases more), as an undergrad in Hanover. He is able to make the emotional connection with Dartmouth alumni so clearly missing with his predecessor, James Freedman. When President Wright speaks about Dartmouth, he speaks from the heart. In addition, his work with returning veterans, encouraging them to pursue a college education, and then raising funds to provide those opportunities, has brought well deserved accolades to him, and as an alumnus, makes me proud that he is the President of our College. Dartmouth is truly fortunate to have a leader of Jim Wright's character, qualities and commitment. His successor will have big shoes to fill.

### **\*The Wearers of the Green**

The College's athletic hall of fame is called the "Wearers of the Green." Founded 1984, the Wearers of the Green includes some 800 alumni who have achieved athletic distinction as All Americans, National and International Champions (both individual and team), Olympians, major league professionals, members of halls of fame, Ivy League players of the year, first team All Ivy for three years, and members of a national team. Beyond all of these categories, there is a special one just for master's champions.

Within every Dartmouth class there are alumni who compete as masters in everything from track and field, skiing, and swimming to tennis, rowing, and squash. And within this group there are alumni who have earned national and international titles.

This is where we can use your help.

The next induction for the Wearers of the Green will take place in 2009. If someone in your class has won a national or international masters title they should be in touch with David Orr '57 at [david.orr@dartmouth.edu](mailto:david.orr@dartmouth.edu).

In 2004, five alumni masters' champions were inducted, ranging from the Class of 1952 to the Class of 1983.

We hope you will help us find the next group of champions.

### **\*Announcement from the Jack-O-Lantern**

"The Dartmouth Jack-O-Lantern, one of the Ivy Leagues' oldest humor publications, will be celebrating its centennial anniversary this Fall. Because you only turn 100 once we would like to take this opportunity to bring together Jack-o alumni from all over to help us celebrate a century of comic survival. Whether you're a recent graduate or have been getting college donation requests for more years than you care to remember we'd love to get in contact with you. Besides events to be held on the campus over the next Homecoming weekend we are also looking to publish a special alumnus issue of the magazine with articles written by both current and former members of the magazine. Even if you're no longer involved in comedy or writing we know you have a good story to tell. This is a rare chance for the generations that shaped the magazine's history to come together under one roof before global warming ends it all. If you're interested in finding out more please send us an e-mail at [Jack-O-Lantern@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:Jack-O-Lantern@Dartmouth.edu). We look forward to hearing from you!"

### **\*2008 Ski Trip Report**

Okay, Canada have one more task of preparing for the world's arrival in Vancouver for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games out of the way: the '68s have been to Whistler, looked it over, concluded that it will be a great Olympic venue. Whether they'll get the famous Sea-to-Sky highway upgrade and the Vancouver rapid transit system done in time might look a little iffy, but there's no question the ski mountain is in great shape.

And what a ski mountain! The twin peaks of Whistler/Blackcomb boast a full mile of vertical drop and over 8000 acres of skiable terrain -- that's over three times as big as such U.S. giants as Squaw Valley, Snowmass, or Jackson Hole. You could ski at Whistler for a long, long time and not ski the same line twice. Nevertheless ...we tried to notch them all on our gunbelts, including the full vertical Peak to Creek trail, the Olympic's Dave Murray Downhill course, Whistler Bowl, Harmony Bowl, Symphony Amphitheatre, Seventh Heaven, Blackcomb Glacier ... and

who could forget Spanky's Ladder? (Certainly not the machismo group who scaled a sheer ice wall to ski down the damn thing!)

Our ski group (and spouses) included **Gerry and Jackie Bell, Jim and Bev Lawrie**; their daughter Dawn Allen '97, her husband Craig "Woody" Allen '97, and their daughter Jessica '28; **Paul and Kathy Fitzgerald; Larry and Julia Griffith; John and Chris Blair; Peter Fahey; Clark Wadlow; Jim Noyes**; and John Manaras '67 and John's brother Steve and his wife Lindsay. Reunion HQ was a wonderful mountain home at Heron Place, scene of ArrivalFest and the now-famous LawrieFest, as well as the presentation of awards under the direction of newly anointed Mirth and Merriment Chairman Jim Noyes. We sampled some of Whistler's renowned restaurants as well; their gourmet food (and prices!) are certainly ready for the world's arrival two years hence!

It was over all too soon. But not before we decided on next year's trip: Steamboat Springs, Colorado (I can't believe we've been doing this for ten years and we still haven't been to Steamboat!). Home of Champagne Powder (yes, they've trademarked the name), the world's best tree skiing, the last real working cowboy ski town, and the famous clothing-optional hot springs. The dates are Saturday, February 28 - Saturday, March 7, 2009. Expect to be a recruitment target at our 40th Reunion in June!

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### News from Classmates

**\*Greg Marshall** is hard at work writing a play about Samantha Smith, the young girl from New England who traveled to Russia to promote peace some 25 years ago. Greg writes:

“Just a note to let you know that *Samantha's Stars*, my play about Samantha Smith's journey to the Soviet Union 25 years ago, is going to have six performances in the perfect place- the beautiful and historic Town Hall in Plainfield, NH. Samantha was an American girl from a small, New England town and that is Plainfield!

Since the play is at least half-Russian, invitations have gone out to friends from Russia to be there. The script has been translated and all will know what's happening on stage. I have even invited Valentina Tereshkova, the first woman astronaut, whose character plays a vital role!

The dates are October 23-26, 2008.

You can learn about the play and accompanying project at <[www.samanthastars.com](http://www.samanthastars.com)>

**\*Peter Wonson** has been busy promoting the Reunion Book, and in so doing has reconnected with a lot of classmates:

I am truly grateful to Dick Olson for recruiting me to make calls about our Reunion Book. I had a fantastic time re-connecting with friends I hadn't seen or spoken with since we left Hanover. Great email exchanges with **Paul Stageberg** (one of my sophomore Richardson roomies); **Dave Loring** (**Burt Quist's** name came up several times); and **David Soren**. Terrific phone conversations with **John Blair, Gary Brooks, Ford Cashion, Don Clausing, Bob DuPuy** (at the end of a difficult MLB week involving a certain home run king), **Steve Elliott, Doc Hagen, Mugsy Homeyer, Tony Kuester, Scott McQueen, John Meehan, Kirby Nickels, Ted Nixon, Tim O'Connor, Chris Redden, Bob Thomas, Wayne Wadhams, Russ Weinecke** and others, as well as multiple calls and emails with Dick.

I know there are a great many people who will log countless hours to make our reunion a success, but I really want to tip my hat to Dick. His enthusiasm for and dedication to the Reunion Book project, and the enormous time commitment he has made, have been truly impressive, and I can't wait to see the finished product in June.

I am hoping to make the middle part of the reunion. A work commitment in Roanoke on June 9 and a family commitment in Minneapolis on June 12 leave only Tuesday and Wednesday, June 10-11, but the flight connections look promising.

In June of 2006 I retired after a 34-year career as a secondary school administrator. Then, this past December, an old friend smooth talked me out of retirement, so I am back in the saddle as Dean of Faculty at National College in Salem, VA. Was age 60 too young to retire? My aching body tells me "not at all" almost every morning! Too poor, after all those years on a schoolmaster's salary? Kinda, not really. Too much of a workaholic? Less and less each year. The belief that this old dog can still learn new tricks and contribute? You betcha, as they say back in Minnesota!

Peer Wonson, 3519 Windsor Oaks Circle, Roanoke, VA 24018, <pwonson@cox.net>

### Final Note

After 10 years as newsletter editor, I have decided to step down. The class is fortunate that Greg Marshall has come forward and volunteered to take on the job. It has been a lot of fun doing this, but I need a breather, and I'm sure Greg will bring new energy and imagination to the newsletter.

It has been a rewarding experience for me in so many ways. The chance to connect (and reconnect) with classmates, to help keep our remarkable class informed and together, and in doing so, support our beloved Dartmouth College, has truly enriched my past 10 years. I know you all with support Greg as he assumes the reins, and provide him with news and views that will fill the newsletter, bind classmates more tightly to each other, and connect the class more closely to the College.

Cheers.

*John*



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