

Dartmouth Class of 1968 Executive Committee

Minutes from Meeting of April 25, 2009

108 Kemeny Hall, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

In attendance: Ron Weiss, Bill Rich, John Everett, John Engelman, Parker Beveridge, Mark Waterhouse, David Gang, Mike Lenahan, Dennis Donahue and David Peck; Janet Rosa from the Development Office was a guest; Jim Lawrie, Joe Nathan and Dave Bustard by phone.

1. President Ron Weiss called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
2. **Newsletter:** Ron Weiss reported to all the Newsletter Editor Greg Marshall had asked to turn over his responsibilities for health reasons. John Engelman has volunteered to complete and send out the May newsletter, and is helping recruit a new Newsletter Editor. Perhaps someone would be willing to share the job with Greg when he again feels up to working on the newsletter.

John noted that the Class of 1957 now distributes their Newsletter both electronically and in hard copy only to those who cannot get electronic mail. He will do further research, as, if our class could do this, we could save \$200 to \$300 postage per Newsletter.

Jim Lawrie, webmaster, was asked (by phone) how much our website was being used. He reported that immediately after the reunion, the site had around 150 hits per month, but has been tailing off since (April 2009 had only 8 hits as of the meeting date). Jim noted that he is working on making the picture viewing browser a little faster and user friendly.

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Jim Lawrie, by phone, reviewed handout material distributed by Ron Weiss. For the first 3 months of 2009, total income was \$1,237.22 (net of 50th Reunion gift income and transfer), and expenses \$1,331.13, for a net loss of \$93.91.

Current investments stand at \$9,151.09 in Vanguard Bonds, and \$16,327.54 in Vanguard Stock Index Funds. Checkbook balance is \$27,894.

The 50th Reunion gift received \$2,600 in donations, and \$2,655 was transferred to the gift account.. These donations were those handled by the Treasurer. Overall 50th Reunion Gift fund stands at approximately \$400,000.

Discussion followed on the tracking and accounting for the Gift donations. Ron noted that there have been two lists: one the Treasurer maintains, based on donations he sees, and a second that the College maintains tracking gifts from classmates directed to our 50th Reunion account as well as those that came in through dues, and which the College periodically provides to the Treasurer. The lists need some reconciliation.

Jim will continue to research use of Pay Pal. When he is satisfied with its operation, he will add a link to the website.

4. **Secretary's Report:** David Peck reported that the minutes of the January 24, 2009 meeting, had been distributed in advance. They were unanimously approved as submitted. Other news: Jeff Spencer recently died of a heart attack; an obituary will be prepared in the near future. David also noted that he had just created a Class of 1968 Facebook group, as another tool for improved communication with classmates. The Class of 1968 is now the oldest class with a Facebook group. So far, only one Friend: David Soren, but many more expected.
5. **50th Reunion Gift:** Bill Rich reported that the process is still "feeling its way", although with promising signs. New people, who have not had a history of donating to the DCF, have been making gifts, and some key leadership gifts. The challenge will be getting non-leadership classmates to ramp up their gifts.

Janet Rosa, from the Development Offices, suggested the DCF structure could assist, and suggested the Alumni Office could mail out marketing material. It was also suggested that the Dartmouth Outing Club be contacted, and their new head, Dan Nelson be contacted, both for support and for ideas on how to contact friend of the DOC to participate in the fund raising for the Gift.

6. **Mini Reunions:** Mike Lenahan, John Everett and John Engelman reported.
 - a. **Class Ski Trip** was a smashing success at Steamboat, February 28 through March 7, 2009. Gerry Bell provided a written summary to the Committee. 18 classmates (Mssrs. Bell, Wadlow, Fitzgerald, Lawrie, Griffith, Blair, Noyes, Fahey, Martin, Stonecipher, Dunlap, Donahue, Stromeyer, Emmel, Dibelieus, Pabst, Ridgway and Philip) and a total of 29 attended. It was noted that the Horse's Ass trophy was retired, but has morphed into a Horse's Ass Society with certificate. **Next year: North Lake Tahoe**, February 27 to March 6, 2010. Gerry also wondered if a Sunday River mini-ski reunion in January 2010 was a second and complementary idea as well.
 - b. John Everett is working with Jack Noon on an early fall camping mini-reunion to the **College Grant** over the weekend of September 18th through 20th. Trip would be limited to 12.
 - c. **Fall Mini-Reunion** was set for the Homecoming weekend of October 23-24 (Columbia) John Everett will work on venue, with Queechee Club suggested.
7. **Head Agent Report:** Dennis Donohue prepared a significant report, supported by a power point presentation. He thanked Janet Rosa and Debbie Stearns of the Development Office for their support. He also reported that Joe Nathan Wright and David Walden had joined on as Participation Co-Chairs.

The goal for this year is \$448,000, 384 donors, and 62% participation. To date, \$327,000 has been pledged or received, of which \$185,531 is cash received. Over 60 volunteers are working this season, and he hopes to grow that to 80 classmates.

He is optimistic of exceeding the goal, and anticipates a major push during the final weeks of the annual fundraising season.

Dennis wondered if the goals should officially be raised to \$500,000, 433 classmates and 70% participation. After discussion, the Committee recommended keeping the current goals, and striving to exceed them to meet the more ambitious goals. "Under promise but overachieve"

Dennis further suggested that we aim for 75% participation and \$5 million for the 45th Reunion, and 90% and \$12 million for our 50th Reunion.

Ron Weiss worried that a class push for our 50th Reunion gift in parallel with an aggressive Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) push might turn off classmates. Dennis thought perhaps the DCF push could be between January and June of each year, and the Class Gift push take place each Fall.

8. The next meeting of the Executive Committee was not determined, although a summer weekend in Hanover was suggested. Many members reported conflicts, so the potential timing, location and manner of the next meeting (possibly conference call) will be communicated to members in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Peck
Secretary