

CLASS OF 1967 NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY 2009

Winter, we are told, has taken over Hanover and the rest of the Upper Valley – lots of beautiful, white snow! Carnival cannot be far behind as this is being drafted.

Winter, of course, means the Boston Mini-Reunion, the longest running event in our Class' history. This year, it was held on January 24th, and 30 class members, wives and significant others braved the New England cold for what was described as a really nice dinner and opportunity to renew friendships. Several pictures of the event are immediately below. As our photographer commented, "I don't know any of these people. All of the people I know are young and beautiful."

And as our last newsletter was at the printer, we heard from our newest classmate, **Nancy Smoyer**, who reported that "I was at Dartmouth in April for the dedication of the Whitey Burnham soccer/lacrosse field, a wonderful event. Lots of folks came for it, friends of Billy's and David's from many classes. Whitey was in great form, enjoying all aspects of



the weekend, but I think that he may have gotten the biggest kick out of watching his former athletes play in the alumni game. At one point he commented to me that there were a lot of tired old grads out there bending over, hands on knees.

“The best part for me was that it gave me the opportunity to see old friends (Ed Gray ’67, Paul Killebrew ’67, and Dick Clapp ’67), meet new ones (Howard Dobbs ’66, John Carpenter ’64, Bill Duval ’66, and Larry Geiger ’66), and perhaps best of all, finally meet guys I’ve heard about and/or been in contact with for many years (Pete Barber ’66 and Bill Jevne ’66).

“Pete gave a wonderful speech at the dinner in which he spoke movingly about his long friendship with Whitey and the Smoyer family. Another highlight was a film made about Whitey, with some verbal sparring between him and my brother David, about their relative soccer skills. We had coffee and donuts in the Smoyer Lounger and lunch with Billy’s friends at Murphy’s restaurant, as well as several official events.

“All in all, it was a wonderful event, made even more poignant by losing Whitey this fall. He was a very special man who will be long remembered.” Nancy provides an e-mail address: fnrs@uaf.edu.

[Editor’s note: There has been discussion about our Class’ doing something in Whitey’s memory. All ideas are welcomed. Please forward them directly to Sam Ostrow, whose contact information is on the masthead of this newsletter]

We also heard from **Howard Sharfstein** while the last newsletter was at the printer. Howard writes that he is “[s]till practicing law at a large firm in New York City, although thinking about retirement. Miss my former partner, Jim Peck, who left our firm to become a Bankruptcy Judge in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York in Manhattan. As you probably know, Jim is handling the bankruptcy proceeding for Lehman Brothers.

“I am dealing with less lofty matters as President of my Synagogue (Central Synagogue), which has a membership in excess of 6,000 souls. I have truly

enjoyed my service as President, being able to provide guidance and direction to a wonderful religious institution.

“My daughter Ann (Class of 1999) lives in Lebanon, NH with her husband Dan (Class of 1999) and our two granddaughters (Sadie, age 4 and Nellie, age 4 months). Ann works for an educational foundation in White River Junction while Dan pursues his Ph.D. at Dartmouth in immunology and microbiology. Our other daughter Jenny (Class of 2004) lives in New York City and works at the Mayor’s Fund for the City of New York, a not-for-profit operating out of the Mayor’s office, which raises funds for various projects throughout the City. Currently, Jenny is organizing an effort to plant 1,000,000 trees in the City.

“Jill continues to teach Nursery School at the Heschel School on the Upper West Side. As Sadie says, ‘all is good.’” Howard’s e-mail address is howard.sharfstein@srz.com, and his office telephone number is (212) 756-2315.

We also learned that **Dick Clapp** received the 2008 Research Integrity Award from the International Society of Environmental Epidemiology, an honor bestowed on a researcher who displays integrity by “standing up to pressure.” Dick, who is an environmental health professor at the BU School of Public Health, was recognized for his efforts to pursue and publish an in-depth study of mortality among IBM employees in face of resistance from IBM and a journal publisher.

Dick subsequently wrote to explain the origin of the award. He “started my graduate education at Columbia Medical School (College of Physicians and Surgeons) in the fall of 1967. It was a tumultuous year at Columbia, and at many other universities around the U.S. and around the world, culminating in the student strike the next Spring. I got involved in the Student Health Organization and worked with other medical and nursing students on a public health project in Harlem in the Summer of 1968, right after the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert Kennedy. That was also the summer that **Bill Smoyer** was killed, and several of us mourned his loss at a memorial service in New Jersey. Lenox

Avenue, where I was working, was still smoldering from the reaction to the assassinations. All this led to a lot of soul-searching that resulted in my decision in another year to leave medical school and pursue work in public health

“I worked for the New York City Health Services Administration for the next two years, mostly trying to improve prison health care for inmates on Rikers Island and for the Borough Houses of Detention. Then I moved to Massachusetts and worked for two more years on improving health care in the State prison system. In my second year in Massachusetts, I took courses at the Harvard School of Public Health and got my Masters in Public Health in 1974. For the next ten years, I worked in community health and public health jobs in Massachusetts, married Paula Georges and had the first of our two children, and then got hired to set up the Massachusetts Cancer Registry in the Department of Public Health. In this job, I got interested in environmental and occupational causes of cancer and applied to the doctoral program in epidemiology at the Boston University School of Public Health.

“As part of my doctoral dissertation, I looked at the pattern of cancer in Massachusetts Vietnam veterans and co-authored two reports that were published in a peer-reviewed journal. These were part of the literature that eventually led to compensation for Vietnam veterans for various cancers and other diseases. I remain interested and involved in this work to the present, including documenting the health and environmental effects of the Persian Gulf War and the current war in Iraq.

“In the next decade, I worked in two public health consulting companies and became a faculty member at the Boston University School of Public Health. I continued research and publishing articles, took on teaching and advising students, and became a full Professor at B.U. and Adjunct Professor at UMass – Lowell early in this decade. As part of my consulting work, I led an analysis of the patterns of cancer deaths in IBM workers at several manufacturing plants around the U.S. I testified in a trial in San Jose, California, and attempted to get my analysis published in a scientific journal. IBM went to court to try to

prevent publication, and I had to hire my own attorney to assert the right to publish results that have public health importance. We eventually prevailed, and the article was published in a peer-reviewed journal. It was primarily for this effort that I was given the Research Integrity Award last October.

“My children are both adults now, and my wife and I are looking forward to retirement in 2010 when we will have time to do some other things. Looking back on the past 40 years, I certainly know I made mistakes along the way, but overall I’ve tried to contribute to improving public health in this country and several others (which is another story). I’m currently trying to pass on whatever lessons I’ve learned to the next generation of people working on the same kinds of things.

“That’s more than you probably wanted to hear, but that’s my story and I’m stickin’ to it.” Dick provides an e-mail address: Richard.clapp@gmail.com [*Editor’s note: Dick’s impressive story was virtually unedited*].

At about the same time, and related to Dick’s public health interests, we also heard from **Bill Yaggy**, who started at a very different point on his path toward public health and its benefits for the public. Initially, Bill “attended Smith College for two years after Dartmouth, along with classmates **Jerry Zaks** and **John Pendelton**, receiving a Master of Fine Arts in acting. I worked in show business for about ten years, mostly as a stage manager. In 1976 I was the stage manager at Center Stage in Baltimore, where I met my wife Amy Leveen. We have now been together for 32 years, married for 25. We celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary this fall with a trip to Charleston and Hilton Head, both of which we enjoyed a lot.

“We have two sons. Sam is a senior at Binghamton University and is applying to law schools. Considering the current job market, this is probably a good time to go to grad school. We hope there will be work for him when he gets out. Matthew is a freshman at Middlebury, where he is settling in nicely, rowing on the freshman crew and intending to major in film. He has a fantastic scholarship through a very interesting organization called the Posse Foundation, www.possefoundation.org, which recruits students with leadership potential from urban schools and

sends them to colleges in small groups of 10-12 (the posses). The foundation works with the posses for about 18 months before they leave for their freshman year to build the groups' cohesiveness, and to give them some college survival skills, and they serve as a support group for each other during their four years at college. They also have a faculty mentor who meets with them regularly while they are at school. Most of the kids are minorities, many are immigrants or children of first-generation immigrants, and many are the first in their families to attend college.

"I left the theatre in search of more steady employment in 1980, and eventually wound up as a fundraiser, focusing primarily on grants. I began this work at Planned Parenthood Federation of America in 1986, moved to the International Rescue Committee in 1993, and for nearly six years now have been at the African Medical and Research Foundation, www.amref.org. It keeps me very busy, but I enjoy it and get to travel to East Africa about three times a year, which is always fascinating. Through my work I have become a member of the board of the CORE Group, which is made up of near 50 NGOs working in maternal and child health development in developing countries. In this role I get to know and work with a lot of brilliant and committed leaders in the field. If I had the time and the money at this point in my life, I would go back to school to get a degree in public health – I find it a fascinating field that attracts really interested and committed people. Amy is also a fundraiser, but she is an independent consultant who helps nonprofits with direct mail and other types of direct response fundraising (telephone, e-mail, Facebook, etc.). Current clients include Episcopal Relief and Development, the Museum at Edlridge Street, and the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation.

"I am not much involved in Dartmouth activities these days, but Jon Mark '69 and Brad Stein '66 remain among our closest friends, and we see them often. I stay in pretty close touch with **Burt Franzman** and occasionally get in a visit to him and his wife Joan Epstein in Pelham, Massachusetts, where he works as a clinical psychologist. They also visit us from time to time in New York when they come to town to see their son Jared, an aspiring actor. I was delighted to get a call from **Mike Wolff** this summer. He was

in town for an ABA convention, and we had lunch together before he headed back to St. Louis, where he is a Judge on the Missouri Supreme Court.

"My avocation these days is playing music with a group of other old guys with guitars who all belong to our synagogue. Collectively we are the Traveling Jewburys, and we play songs we grew up liking, mostly in the folk, country and rock vein. I play guitar and washboard. If you search for Traveling Jewburys on YouTube, you can see and hear us – the quality is not very good – just home videos shot in noisy bars. But we have a lot of fun. And if any '67s in the New York area are interested, send me an e-mail and I will add you to the mailing list next time we have a gig. Best wishes to all '67s for a happy and healthy 2009."

Bill can be reached at byaggy@optonline.net.

We also heard from **John Hager**, who writes that he is "still settling phosphate chemicals in the southeast U.S. and Mexico after 31 years. Now working for ICL, an Israeli company that bought out the joint venture I was working for two years ago. Son Christopher is a graduating high school senior who is waiting for college acceptance letters and will hopefully go to school somewhere in the northeast. With our 401(k)'s in the dumpster, wife Blanca and I plan to continue working for another three years before throwing in the towel. Talked to Ed Gray recently, being a writer. He of course won't write any anonymous notes, so I'll do it for him. He's recovering from a serious accident at home that required major surgery on his kneecap and attachments to his leg. Since I'd had a couple of glasses of wine, I can't remember all the details. But he reports that the surgery was successful and he'll have a full recovery. Meanwhile, wife Becky and son Will, who is back at home after two years in Vietnam, are picking up the slack (Edsey always was a slacker, we all know). Have a safe recovery. Cheers.

John can be reached at 11025 SW 74 Ave, Miami, FL 35156. Home telephone is (305) 284-8831 and office phone is (305) 668-9159. E-mail: jkhage617@aol.com

Ellis Regenbogen brought us up to date, too. He wrote that "[t]he biggest change in life for me and my wife of almost 39 years, Sally (Pebbles to some

who'll remember her as my senior year Green Key and graduation week date) is our first grandchild Sam, now two. No one will be surprised to hear me say that he is an absolute joy, and the cutest thing in the world. He lives in Boston, so we don't get to see him in person as much as we'd like. We fill in with video internet chats on a near weekly basis and Sally, who is now retired and enjoying the life of luxury in Chicago, is quick to accept invitations to babysit when Sam's parents, one a surgery resident and the other a practicing OB/GYN, can't get their call schedules synched properly.

"We're coming up on five years in Chicago. We live right on Lake Shore Drive within walking distance of most things we want to do and with a glorious view of the lake. Every morning's sunrise is a new picture. Being a New Yorker, and having lived there most of my life, I must admit that Chicago is an easier, cleaner, less crowded and more accessible city to live in. I prefer the hot summers (and virtually year round golf) in Dallas, where we lived for 18 years before coming to Chicago, to the bitter winter months here, but Sally feels the opposite way and, except to visit Sam, it's not easy to get her out of here.

"I've been at USG Corporation (job number 7 or 8, I've lost count) for going on three years now as VP, Corporate Secretary and head of the corporate side of the law department. Great company and great people – very lucky to land there at this stage of my career despite the horrible housing market on which we are heavily dependent. I enjoy what I'm doing and the people I'm doing it with, and have no plans to retire before hitting 65. Unlike most of our classmates, that is still three years away for me. The recent economic crisis makes me wonder if retirement at that age will even be possible. For the moment, I have no clear picture of what I'll do to keep challenged and engaged once I do retire, other than play a bit more golf, and Sally and I haven't decided where we'll spend our retirement years. Something tells me it will be hear out kids, if they ever get themselves permanently settled.

"The internet has made it easier for us all to stay in touch, and a number of Zeta Psi brothers from the classes of '67, '68 and '69 have taken advantage of that to rekindle relationships. I was able to visit

Larry Barcella in D.C. within the last year after not seeing him for many years and have spoken recently with **Marty Gale**. There's talk of a mini Zete reunion, if someone will just take the reins and make the arrangements. Who knows, maybe in 2009? Anyhow, I've run on much longer than I had planned. Would love to hear from anyone who wants to pick up where and whenever we left off."

And to facilitate the communications, Ellis can be reached at 1240 N. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60610. Home phone is (312) 587-0485 and office is (312) 436-5978. He also gave two E-mail addresses, eregenbogen@hotmail.com (home) and eregenbogen@usg.com (office).

We also heard from **Rabbi Nesanel Kasnett**, whom we knew as **Stephen Kasnett** during our years at the College. He brought us up to date about his reconnection with Dartmouth. He wrote, "This summer I was invited by the College's Religion Department and the Dartmouth Hillel to lecture at the Roth Center for Jewish Life. Spending a few days on campus at a time of year when we were generally "outta here," seeing the Green in lush forest green and sort of overwhelmed by nostalgia and love of place (one grows more vulnerable to emotion with age), I decided then and there to reconnect. So let me fill you in on the past 41 years.

"Shortly after graduation I moved to Israel, having spent the summers of '66 and '67 there (the latter volunteering on a kibbutz after the six-day war). During the seven years I lived there two major events occurred: I became religiously observant (Orthodox) and I met and married my wife of now 36 years. We have been blessed with four children, all married, and a slew of grandchildren, and let me tell you that becoming a grandfather at age 52 was absolutely rejuvenating. Yana and I do for the grandkids as we did for the kids – wonderful outdoor activities (skiing, of course) combined with trips to the glorious American West.

"Professionally, after graduating from law school in '79 and studying for 16 years in yeshiva, I began writing: First, three books and numerous articles of original biblical exegesis; then, for the past 18 years,

as a senior editor and author at ArtScroll/Mesorah Publicans in Brooklyn, the Schottenstein Editor of the Babylonian Talmud (a 73-volume, 15-year project completed in 2005), and currently a translation and elucidation of Nachmanides' Commentary on the Torah."

He adds that "I look forward to returning to Hanover to lecture, and to hearing from fellow classmates." Nesanel (Stephen) Kasnett can be reached at 1602 57th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11204. His home telephone is (718) 853-0974, and his E-mail is nykasnett@verizon.net.

Bill Judd wrote in mid-January that "I still have two homes, but consider the one here in Maine to be my primary abode. As I am relearning from my Hanover days, the key to surviving a New England winter is to dress warmly. Our present cold temperatures bring back memories of sophomore year when I lived in the Wigwams and had an 8 AM physics class in Steele. The early morning trek to Thayer for breakfast and then onto Steel – guess I earned my granite of New Hampshire on those winter days. I am heading south this weekend so I can be in Virginia for the inauguration and to begin getting my house there ready to sell. Hope all is well with everyone." Bill can be reached via E-mail at whj3@tidewater.net.

Bruce Pacht wrote that he had seen **Bill Lamb**, who lives in Norwich. They had "shared . . . a cup of coffee in beautiful downtown Rio Blanco, a village in the Town of Hartford, which is undergoing an artistic renaissance." He also enclosed Jim Kenyon's Christmas season column from the December 21st *Valley News* about Bill and his wife Jenny, who had "[f]or five hours, . . . fueled by hot coffee and Gatorade, stood in a snow drift next to the I-89 South on-ramp [near the Ledyard Bridge in Norwich]. Their frozen mittens clung to placards proclaiming "For Xmas Cheer, Buy Less This Year," "Give Time or \$ to Charity" and my [the columnist's] favorite, "Keep Your Cash, Make Less Trash."

The columnist continued that "[s]tanding out on 12A five days before Christmas and urging people not to shop – that's what I consider crossing enemy lines. It's nothing new for Bill Lamb, 63, though. Back in the '60s, he spent a year with the Marine Corps in Vietnam. 'We realize that we're swimming upstream

against the current,' he [Bill] said. 'Americans love to shop, particularly at Christmastime.'" And in case you are wondering, the column noted that "Bill is hoping to find something for Jenny at the Norwich dump, which, as luck would have it, is open this year on Christmas Eve."

No indication of what Jenny did eventually get for the holiday. But Bruce reports that Bill is very entrepreneurial and innovative and noted that Bill had built a superefficient small home. Bruce is currently the Executive Director of the Twin Pines Housing Trust in White River Junction and is involved in the developing and operation of residential properties affordable by lower and middle income households. Bruce can be reached at bruce.pacht@tphtrust.org, with office telephone (802) 291-7000.

And setting some sort of distance record was **Ted LaRoche**, who made sure in a subsequent E-mail that we understood that he had taken his green reply card and mailed it from South Africa. Great stamps! Ted wrote that "[o]ur 1250 mile trek to Hanover seems to lengthen as the years pass, but it is wonderful to hear about our friends of yore! The Nashville area Dartmouth Club is reforming, and we continue to send great students to the world's pre-eminent College! Our best, and best wishes, to all."

In a subsequent E-mail, Ted elaborated that he was on a National Geographic Society trip that used a 1943 DC-3 for air transport "to four fantastic parks, two in South Africa, and one each in Botswana and Zambia. Ended the trip in luxury at Victoria Falls. Took both children, their spouses and our six year old grandson. One of the best trips we've ever taken." Below is a picture of Gloria and Ted taken on the trip.



He added about his family in another E-mail that “[a]t our 25th I sent a picture of myself and Gloria in our respective sweatshirts – Dartmouth and Vanderbilt. Our daughter Ashley wore her Vandy shirt (she graduated that year) and our 13 year old son had a ? predominantly displayed on his. But I lost the opportunity for a Dartmouth legacy when son David went on to graduate from Vandy Law and then practice for 15 months with my Vandy Law father, still practicing at 85. Dad house sat at AD one Winter Carnival and brought the brothers Tennessee moonshine – a good time was had by all.

“Gloria and I keep up with the Great Class of ’67 and the College – thanks to our classmates who have written to the newsletters and DAM over the years. We have taken a number of alumni travel opportunities over the years and have made many additional Dartmouth friends along the way. We’re still self-unemployed but manage to keep productively busy – too much so, Gloria says. Hope to make the next reunion and see every one again.” Ted can be reached at 2103 Shannon Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129. His home phone is (615) 390-4911 and he can also be reached via rflaroche@comcast.net.

David A. Brooks also made it to Africa, albeit the other end of that continent. He was written up by the *Buffalo News* in a feature about a trip to Saudi Arabia sponsored by the Saudi government and its oil company Saudi Aramco. The goal was for David, along with the other 25 participants, to spread the word about what Saudi Arabia is like to other Americans, especially in schools. As the article quoted David, September 11th “was really a big shock for them, and their image in America went down because most of the hijackers were Saudis, so they do this to generate a better image of their country.”

David’s background was ideally suited for this trip. After graduating from the College as an international relations major, he spent four years in the late 1960s with the Peace Corps in Morocco and then remained in northwest Africa for another four years, learning the western Arabic dialect in the process. David is now a Niagara Falls High School librarian.

And, as this newsletter was being drafted, Sen. Judd Gregg (R-NH) was nominated to be President

Obama’s Secretary of Commerce, with initial rumors about his potential successor being our classmate **Tom Rath**, a former Attorney General of New Hampshire. Tom, though, took himself out of the running, with the following explanation: “Despite the wishes of my wife and the concerns of my bankers, I would have taken a look at the interim appointment, but it was conditioned on a pledge not to run for a full term, which I had trouble with as it automatically made me politically impotent. So I won’t be the caretaker appointee.

“Running for the full term is another thing entirely and I have told various press outlets that I will consider that option. So my classmates best guard their wallets. Nice to be considered for this under any circumstances.”

In the announcement department, our Gift Planning Chair **Howard Sharfstein** reminds us about the Bartlett Tower Society, the College’s way of recognizing those who have included Dartmouth in their estate plans. There is no minimum dollar level to join BTS. All you need to do is name Dartmouth as a beneficiary of your will, a life insurance policy, retirement plan, or any planned gift at any percentage, and then send a copy of the Dartmouth provision on to the Gift Planning Office. Gifts through estate plans have an impact of up to one-third of all gifts received by the College, in any given year. In fact, in the last quarter, one of our classmates established a life income plan with the College.

Howard notes that “from a personal and professional perspective (my legal focus, for the past 39 years, has been trusts and estates), that including Dartmouth in your estate and gift planning may make a great deal of sense. By doing so, you will be supporting your College which I believe gave me, and perhaps you as well, a solid foundation for the ensuing years. And you receive significant income, gift and estate tax benefits. I am a member of the Bartlett Tower Society, and the thought that at my death the College will receive a bequest to express my gratitude gives me great comfort. We are getting older. Thoughtful and positive planning becomes more significant each passing year. If you would like support in this process, Dartmouth and I are there for you. In this context,



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perhaps I am suggesting ‘safe home’ for at least a portion of your assets.”

For participation, or just enquiries, please contact Howard at (212) 756-2315 or Rick, Susan or Angus in the Dartmouth Gift Planning Office at (800) 451-4067.

We are also reminded that there will be an election of a new Dartmouth Association of Alumni Executive Committee, for a president, first and second vice-presidents, secretary-treasurer and seven Executive Committee members. You can cast your ballots between March 25th and May 6th, and you will also have the opportunity to vote on a proposed amendment to the AofA constitution. Vote by snail mail or online, with details to follow. For election information, please visit www.voxthevote.org.

And lastly, in the announcement department, I have a number of summaries of the most recent Alumni Council meeting. They are too long to repeat here, but do let me know if you wish a copy, and I will send it, via E-mail or snail-mail, as requested.

As I always end, please send news, without which we cannot have a newsletter! Also, do continue sending E-mail addresses as we attempt to upgrade our website and Class communications ability.

Bob Burka
Washington, DC
February 2009