

Dear readers: Please note that these class columns were written and finalized before the global coronavirus pandemic and may contain references to events on the Hill and beyond that have since been modified, canceled, or postponed.

Volunteering? Enjoying life through travel or grandchildren? One thing I realized at this conference was that Cornell offers a wide range of ways in which you can volunteer and provide some service to the university. And it needn't be fundraising, even though lots of people at this conference do play a role in that. ❖ **Richard Hoffman**, 2925 28th St. NW, Washington, DC 20008; e-mail, derhoff@yahoo.com.

68 Gary Deems (garydeems@gmail.com) is the founding member of the Global Golf Centurions Club. To be eligible you must have played the top 100 golf courses in the world, as listed by *Golf Magazine* in any of their biannual rankings. So far, the GGCC has identified 46 people worldwide who qualify for membership. Gary completed playing the 1995 list, which included courses in 14 countries and 22 states. Gary welcomes questions about the courses on any of *Golf Magazine's* global top hundred lists. **Jack Lyons** (jwlyons3@msn.com) keeps busy coaching the local high school crew team, volunteering his skills as an orthopedic consultant at Volunteers in Medicine, and being an active traveler, with an emphasis on active as his trips mostly involve biking and/or hiking.

Timing is essential if you want to inform classmates of your involvement in a future event. This column, for example, was submitted to the *Alumni Magazine* in mid-February, so if you're going to appear on "Jeopardy!" in March, February is too late to inform us so we can use "the Force" to affect your results. Many times, it isn't possible to inform us in time. Such may be the case for **Alan Altshuler's** future appearance in Bedlam Theatre Co.'s Off-Broadway production of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*. After a highly successful ten-week run playing before sold-out houses and garnering a *New York Times* Critics' Pick, the show will be remounted this spring from late March to early May. Alan plays Francis Nurse and is on stage for about three-quarters of this three-hour classic.

David Hill, it seemed, had almost abandoned his quest to attain one of the rewards that eluded him as coxswain on Cornell's crew team. Senior oarsmen traditionally received an oar—or in the case of the coxswain, perhaps a rudder—but David was too heavy by 1968 to compete as a coxswain and so was denied that trophy. Following a disappointing turnout of his fellow oarsmen at our 25th Reunion, David was determined to gather the members of his highly successful freshman crew at our 50th. With the help of CornellConnect, he was able to recruit all eight surviving members from around the country. After the weekend **John Lindl** launched a fundraiser to buy and contribute a new Empacher Eight for Cornell's program. A short time after Reunion, Dave's teammate **Arnie Sierk** passed away and Dave received a call from Arnie's widow, **Christina (Hebenstreit)**, who told him that Arnie's oar had been discovered in the house she sold and she was willing to give the 12-ft. 2-in. slightly cracked oar to him. Dave concluded that it must have been karma that his reward for reuniting his beloved fellow oarsmen was that the trophy he sought for over 50 years was now finally at home with him.

We really love reading your Cornell-related stories. Please continue to send them. ❖ **Chuck Levitan**, CLevitan22@comcast.net. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/class-notes/>.

69 Greetings! Hopefully you have already paid your class dues for the 2020-21 dues year—and filled the accompanying news form with your recent updates, thoughts on current events, and reminiscences from your time on the Hill. Tune in to this column in the next issue to read some of those responses. If you haven't paid your dues yet, it's not too late! Go to <http://alumni.cornell.edu/classes/> and then head over to <http://alumni.cornell.edu/class-notes/> to fill out a news form, or send me a note at: ❖ **Tina Economaki** Riedl, triedl048@gmail.com.

70 Our 50th Reunion is almost here! Just a short month away. As you know, Reunion weekend will start on Thursday, June 4 at noon and will wrap up at noon on Sunday, June 7. Our festive 50th Reunion headquarters will be at Hans Bethe House, located at the "bottom" (so to speak) of Libe Slope. If you have not been back to Cornell for a couple of decades, the U-Halls were torn down, and fantastic upperclass dorms have replaced them. During Reunion weekend, campus shuttle buses will be available to transport classmates, as needed, to both our '70 activities and university Reunion events. At our 45th Reunion, I found that a diagonal trek up the Hill to the Arts Quad is "easier" than a straight walk up, a.k.a. the reverse of a tray slide directly down to the dorms.

If you have not already, be sure to register for this Reunion! You should have received the full Class of '70 Reunion registration packet, complete with information and forms, at the end of March. You can register online or via USPS mail. To get the "early bird" price for the full weekend and other Reunion packages, you must register by May 10. Classmates **Bill, ME '71**, and **Gail Post Wallis** are our experienced and skilled Reunion registration co-chairs and will be only an e-mail away from helping you with any special questions or concerns. Our special 50th Reunion e-mail address will directly connect you to chairs **Sally Anne Levine, JD '73**, and **Cathy Hogan**: Cornell70Reunion50@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing you back at Cornell in June.

Irving McPhail (imcphail@themcphailgroup.com) is the founder and chief strategy officer of the McPhail Group LLC, based in Amawalk, NY. His book, *Success Factors for Minorities in Engineering*, which was co-authored with Jacqueline Fleming, has been published by Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group. The results and analyses of a study established by the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering Inc. (NACME) and funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) are presented in Irving's book. The main intent of the two-pronged study was to determine differences between minority and non-minority engineering students, as well as differences between minorities in engineering and minorities in college in general. One conclusion drawn from the evidence is that minorities in engineering "are a special sort who solve problems rather than complain about failure or prejudice." Adjustment matters to engineering success while academic skills matter as much or more. The study indicates taking problem-based courses, doing research, and doing internships work powerfully to yield engineering success. One further point established is that women perform as well or better than their male counterparts.

In early January 2020, **John Heintz** was honored with Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia's prestigious

Servant of Justice Award. He is a partner in the insurance recovery group of the Blank Rome LLP law firm. John received the award in recognition of his "demonstrated faithful dedication and remarkable achievement in ensuring that all persons have equal and meaningful access to justice." His award was to be presented at the 31st annual awards dinner on April 22, 2020 in Washington, DC. John says that it was a great privilege to work with Legal Aid as he helped to advance the fight for fair and equal access to justice for those who need it most. John has served on Legal Aid's board of trustees since 2009, has served on the board of directors of the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, and has been a fellow at the Neighborhood Legal Services Program. John has made pro bono work a central part of his career for 40 years. He worked pro bono on issues of discrimination and unfair practices in both the housing and insurance industries. He has also been an integral part of his law firm's devotion to supporting their communities. Send your news to: ❖ **Connie Ferris Meyer**, cfm7@cornell.edu; tel., (610) 256-3088.

71 Along with many others in the Cornell community, I—Jim Roberts—was deeply saddened by the loss of two great Cornellians in the past six months. It's safe to say that our university will never be the same without President Emeritus Frank Rhodes, who died in February. While I was not in Ithaca during his presidency, I quickly became aware of his presence—and the great esteem in which he was held—when I came back



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