

## CLASS NOTES

April 2008

### 1968

REUNION JUNE 5-8

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Barton Jones, president of The Williams Club (among other high honors), started the momentum toward our 40th reunion with a gathering at the club in January. Attending were (along with many spouses): Ross Anthony, Trav Auburn, Bill Blanchard, Bram Jelin, Ed Nichols, Tom Nicholson, John Oppenheimer, Ned Perry, Peter Sartorius, John Schmitz, Bob Stanton, EJ Strassburger, Jon Weller and Bill Whitman.

Barton reports, "We had dinner at the club on Friday night, went to *August: Osage County* (we kidded Ross about family life in Oklahoma afterwards), then dinner at Fleur de Sel on Saturday and a guided tour of MoMA highlights on Sunday. A fine time was had by all."

John Oppenheimer also told me, with mild surprise in his voice, that the event was a lot of fun. It's just a fraction of the fun in store for June 5-8 in Williamstown. Be there.

Among the tri-state invitees to the Williams Club event who couldn't make it was Bob McCloud, with a pretty good excuse: "Thanks for thinking of me. I am, however, 4,700 miles away. Am still doing a Fulbright in Pristina, Kosovo. Will probably return to the U.S. for a while in June. But I have been offered a second Fulbright and am probably going to accept it for at least part of '08-'09 academic year. This is a pretty amazing place to be right now, with independence just around the corner. I am writing you from Durrësi, an Albanian port city that used to be part of the Roman trade route.

"The Albanians are a bit crazy in the way they celebrate. They must have brought in an entire shipload of firecrackers just for last night. It started early, when I was in the Internet café. The boys playing games there would interrupt for a few minutes, run outside, set off firecrackers, then come back in to continue playing. Finally, around 11:30 p.m. the noise was just one continuous explosion as firecrackers and cherry bombs went off all around the city. It continued until sometime after 1 (I finally developed

enough tolerance to go to sleep). They had fun. I had fun watching them have fun."

Architect Barton Phelps had a lengthy article in *Places: Forum of Design for the Public Realm* about his design for an arts building and student "commons" at The Thatcher School in Ojai, Calif. Thatcher is a secondary school in a rugged, working ranch setting, presenting special architectural issues. The article was entitled "Timing and Triggering: Clues from Antiquity" and was just as learned as that sounds.

In career news, Ed Rea reports, "At the beginning of August I started as executive director of the Ocean Park Association in Old Orchard Beach, Maine. Ocean Park is one of a handful of Chautauqua communities surviving from the late 19th century. It offers religious, educational, cultural and recreational programs during the summer—'more than just a day at the beach.'"

Randy Hodgson says, "After spending most of my time since Williams working as a planner for a number of Northern Virginia local governments, I am capping my government career working for the state of Virginia as a transportation engineer! I am looking forward to our 40th and have volunteered to help with golf and tennis reunion activities, so I encourage all '68 athletes to come prepared to uphold the honor of 1968 against other reunion classes."

I browbeat Bob Heiss into writing a few words: "With our kids just leaving the nest now, Arleen and I are not thinking about throwing in the work towel any time soon. Her management-consulting gig is at NIH these days, and my EPA international enforcement assignment continues to be fun and challenging. Our part of the China import problem is to do something about the engines and other products arriving in the U.S. that fail to meet the Clean Air Act and other standards. Generally, we are trying to share with other countries the proven techniques for operating effective domestic environmental enforcement programs. Also, I continue to be involved in controlling hazardous waste imports and exports. No complaints about the business travel opportunities: Cape Town, Marrakech, Dublin, Stockholm (with side trips to Estonia and Latvia)."

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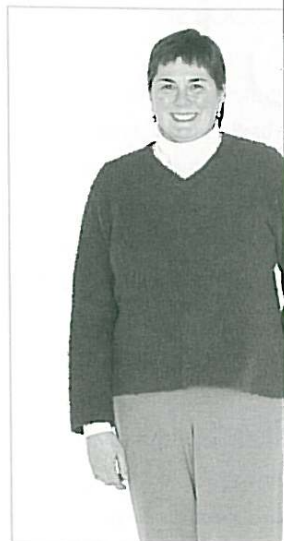
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Sue Galli, Sawyer Library admini

I am one of the newest additions Williams family. Being a wife, mother, three, and professional can make at times. Whenever I have free time cooking, walking, gardening, Housework, Meals Ministry at our church most importantly I love being my number one sports and music fan

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I sent two longer essays from **Vic Smith** and **Bob Scott** by the class e-mail system. If you did not get them, you either a) have not given the College or me your e-mail address or b) the message got trapped in your spam filter. Please make sure that anything from [pneely@chattanooga.net](mailto:pneely@chattanooga.net) will get through. It's usually by people other than me, so it's good stuff.

Finally, although it has been reported on the class list server, we note sadly the passing of **Jacob Van Dyken**, MD. Jake lived in Wayne, N.J. He was a staff member at Chilton Memorial Hospital, served as medical director of Wanaque Convalescent Center and shared an internal medicine practice. Survivors include his wife Gail, three children (son Jake and daughters Lara Roby and Leigh Kelly '97) and five grandchildren.

## 1969

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**Bob Whitton** says his Arellton Group consulting work has finally taken hold. "I have a good mix of retainer and project work, all in the broad area of graphic communications—operational work for publishers and direct marketers. A good deal of industry association activity as well, and I've deliberately kept the practice broad across several verticals. So far still fun and remunerative." Bob's better half Andrea still teaches at a Greenwich girl's school. "Our two children are long since married, and by February '08 there should be five in the next generation. All in New York state, so one way or another we can easily be in harm's way." Bob has met up with **Al Little** in Atlanta and **Peg and Spike Riley** in New Jersey, among others "who are keening over attaining the 60th birthday."

**Bruce Plenk** has left the public interest law business behind, becoming the city of Tucson's Solar Energy Coordinator. "Never too old to look for a new adventure, right? Out here in the Sonoran desert we have a lot of sun but, so far, not enough political will to really get going on solar. Enough of that backward thinking! Now it's time to get solar on lots of roofs, especially big ones. That's the new job."

**Chuck Webster** in Vermont has been "ensconced in eighth grade for 39 years. Will I make it to an even 40? Well, that's the current plan in my life in middle-school education. What a long, strange trip it has been when I reflect on all the panaceas that purport to solve the woes of public education. I still firmly believe that the education I received at Williams provided the best foundation for a teaching career in the public schools." Outside of the classroom, Chuck's antique outboard collection continues to grow, "with many restored and about-to-be restored motors. Just trying to preserve some history." Chuck ended with a plea: "Col-lins, Kitchen, Winick, Hassinger, Swan, where are all of you? Check in some time with news of the last decades!"

**Herb Ogden**, telling us of the best in Vermont life, reminds those of us with monster commutes: "One of the benefits of having moved my law office to Danby, two and a half miles from my home in Mt. Tabor, is that I sometimes can ski to work. I did it today in beautiful fresh snow that showed a multitude of interesting animal tracks."

President **Bob Grace** is "enjoying the balmy southeast. No water. Major drought. But 80-degree temperatures in December. Life can't get much better." Bob, accompanied by daughters **Heather '93, Holly '97** and grand-twins **Gracie and Pedro** ("putative Williams '26"), returned to the campus for the first time since our last reunion to see the Amherst game. Bob says a lot of positive change has taken place. He's also preparing for our 40th reunion, June 11-14, 2009. "**Fred Vinick** has agreed to co-chair our 40th reunion, and I will also be happy to help him and to work with all of you who want to participate in planning the event. Let us know if you wish to be part of the reunion committee!"

Approaching his 35th year of practicing law, **Tom Sipkins** was preparing for his older daughter's wedding in May. "Younger daughter thinking about going back to graduate school after working for three years." Ever the baseball fan, Tom says he can still hit. "Just can't run, catch or throw."

"As I pass my 60th birthday," wrote Dr. **Scott Paist**, "it is good to know that the readers of our class notes are mostly all in the same boat. With my youngest

child married this year and good sailing days not to be wasted, Donna and I are planning to 'suspend work'—as opposed to 'retire'—as of March. After 33 years of doctoring, it seems a good idea to throw away the beeper and Blackberry at least for a while and see the world. There's no question that the joys of life are to be found in things like listening to the late Beethoven quartets, trimming the sails just right and playing with grandchildren (although, so far, not all at the same time)."

**Dave Mason** writes that he is establishing his own company, Percept BioSciences, in the Atlanta area. (Reach him at [percept.bio@comcast.net](mailto:percept.bio@comcast.net), 770.330.0134.) "I saw the Amherst game at a bar in Decatur and wished I could have been there. Saw **Jack Maitland '70** and Coach Frank Navarro, both looking good. Except for gray hair, Frank was scarcely unchanged."

For **Wes Howard** in Denver, "Life is good! I am skiing more, downhill at Copper Mountain, being ever more productive at work, helping businesses and people fight or avoid fighting about money, and enjoying music, playing the blues harp and listening to more rock, blue grass and blues. Patti and I are enjoying the successes and growth of our children, 18 and 15. Patti had a total hip replacement two years ago and will have her other hip done in early January. After her recovery she should be mobile and pain free once more. All Ephs are welcome to visit for getting acquainted or reacquainted."

**Bob Lunn** has finished his ninth year directing the Master of Health Administration program at Missouri State. "That's longer than I've stayed anywhere in my prior 25 years as a health administrator. I never thought I'd wind up in the middle of the Midwest, but it's actually starting to feel a bit like home here. Well, not! But we are getting roots put down in the Ozarks. My grad students learn from course catalogs that I have graduate degrees from Duke and the University of North Carolina. So when they ask me why I came to Missouri State, I tell them I wanted to be at a big time basketball school. Alas, none have ever heard of Williams, nor have most of my faculty colleagues. They don't even ask if I mean Williams & Mary (sic). My kids are still young, so retirement in a sense



## CLASS NOTES

had discovered their country in common interest at last year's reunion. Harry writes, "It was great to share a little time with Gregg and learn more about his good work."

The big news from **Ted McPherson** is that the Williams alumni basketball team defeated the Williams men's junior varsity last January by the score of 92-80 before a sizeable Williamstown crowd. Scorers for the Eph alums included Ted with three points (basket and foul) and **Gordie Gee** with an NBA-range three-pointer in the closing minutes to clinch the game. In other news (as they say), Ted is now on the board of directors of Guaranty Financial Group, a NYSE company with 150 financial services branches in Texas and California. Meanwhile the new museum and visitor center in Gettysburg that Ted has spoken about previously opened in April to fabulous reviews. Ted's wife Sally had worked on it for the past five years and helped raise \$105 million. It consists of 140,000 square feet on 100 acres in a "green" building not far from the McPherson house. It focuses on American history, both pre- and post-Civil War. It has wonderful films, interactive galleries, distance-learning capabilities and the restored Cyclorama painting.

Yael and **Paul Lipof** were in Israel in early summer for the bar-mitzvah of their grandson Gabriel, who lives in Cambridge, England. They also celebrated the upcoming wedding of their son Eran, who lives in Manhattan. Gail and **Gregg Meister** were part of the festivities.

**Hank Grass** was in Williamstown in January to visit his friend biology Professor Steve Zottoli. He normally also takes advantage of being on campus to meet with students, but this time none were available. Hank says he truly loves his work attending to the emotional/psychiatric needs of fellow physicians both individually as a clinician (his first love) and secondarily in organized medicine, the latter because it needs to be done. He is energized by what he is doing, his family is healthy and happy, and so he has no interest in retiring.

**Bob Conway** published an epic work on the life and art of June Wayne, *June Wayne: The Art of Everything: A Catalogue Raisonné 1956-2006*. The 450-page effort has been published to enthusiastic reviews. Most works

like this are done after the death of the subject. In this case, the artist is still alive and fully participated in the effort. A reviewer described Bob's depiction of Wayne's central theme as a "profound distillation of her ideas."

That's a wrap for this edition. Thanks to all who sent in news. It was a high achievement issue. Congratulations to all. Have a wonderful summer, and your secretary will see you in the fall.

August 2008

1968

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The 40th reunion of the Class of 1968 was quite simply a wonderful weekend.

Eighty-eight classmates made it back for at least some part, and with spouses and guests the total came to 155 people. They came from near and far. **Robin Norris** lives in south Berkshire County, for instance; **Marsha** and **Ron Yee** came from Honolulu, **Jenny** and **John Murray** from London, and **John Counelis** from Athens.

Events began Thursday evening, with an informal buffet at the home of Diane and **Steve Phillips**. It was a great setting for the 50 or so people attending. The Phillipses' seasonal home, which looks out on the 13th hole of the Taconic Golf Club, includes an expansive covered porch where most of us spent most of our time. Steve is an attorney in New York as trial and appellate counsel in mass tort litigation, especially on occupational and environmental issues; he also teaches a seminar on advanced tort practice at Columbia Law School. Diane practices in the same firm. Steve generously offered his home for reunion events early in the planning process, and it was the perfect spot for the opening evening.

Friday's reunion highlights always include alumni lectures, and this year the most entertaining of all was **David Sipress'** review of his career as a cartoonist, in recent years for *The New Yorker*. David's slide show included his own work and examples from other cartoonists, beautifully organized and wonderfully presented.

But wait, there's more! David was introduced by **Barton Phelps**, with writing assistance from **Jim Thompson**, both of whom were Sage B entymates (and we all

remember Sage B) and Carter House roommates of David's. Barton is an architect in LA and Jim teaches art history at Western North Carolina University. Their description of David's work fell into flowery parody of the blather that makes up so much writing about art, especially hilarious when applied to David's rather ragged style of cartooning.

Dinner Friday was a ribs and chicken cookout served under the tent in front of Spencer House, the class headquarters for the weekend.

Saturday morning began with the traditional march from Chapin Lawn around the back of Williams Hall and on to the Chandler Field House for the annual meeting of the Society of Alumni. The highlight of that for us was the announcement that 1968 had raised more than \$550,000 for this year's Alumni Fund gift, beating the previous high for a 40th reunion class by more than 50 percent. Congratulations and thank you to the almost 70 percent of the class who participated, another great aspect of our performance. Special mention should go to **David Schulte** and **John Murray** for leadership gifts that were essential to our record-setting contribution. Class agent **Larry Levien**, helped by **Bill Shapiro**, **Bob Stanton**, **Kent Van Allen**, **Barton Jones** and others, made the persuasive phone calls that reminded all of us to be part of this great effort. **Cathy Yamamoto** and **Betsy Howard** in the Williams Development Office turned the chaos into order. Great work by all concerned, and it was recognized by a rousing cheer for our performance at the annual meeting.

I feel compelled to add immodestly that at the same meeting I received the Thurston Bowl, the annual award given to a class secretary, presumably for outstanding performance. My thanks to those of you who respond to my plaintive pleas for news; your notes make all this possible.

Saturday afternoon began with a lively discussion in Spencer House led by **Bob Scott** and me in our roles as current trustees of the College. I hope the 38 or so classmates there found it as stimulating as Bob and I did.

From there we went immediately to a panel on the year 1968 itself and the impact of all that year's major events. The panel included **Michael Yogman**, who led the event, **Sherman Jones** and **Robert Herzog**, plus Professor

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**Scott Wong**, who has taught a course about 1968 during Winter Study. At times the audience participation seemed rather random and unconventional, which seemed appropriate to the subject, but in retrospect the discussion was just the right mix of widely different perspectives to make the review comprehensive. And if it seemed a bit self-indulgent—so what? What does anyone expect from graduates of that tumultuous year?

Saturday evening began with cocktails in the lobby of the new '62 Center for Theatre and Dance, across the street from Spencer House, and dinner was under a tent adjacent to the theater. The power was off all along Route 2 as the event began, following a freakish limb-on-a-wire accident near West College. Nevertheless, everything went smoothly. Few in the crowd knew that the College Dining Services had performed heroically behind the scenes; they carried the lamb and swordfish entrées to a restaurant about five miles away, cooked them there and got them back with perfect timing.

Dropping by for dinner were College President **Morty Schapiro**, VP for Alumni Relations and Development **Steve Birrell** '64 and outgoing President of the Society of Alumni **Rich Levy** '74.

Then, about the time that group moved on to another class gathering, in came our favorite former dean of freshmen, **John Hyde** '52. John has told me since then how touched he was that so many '68 classmates came up to speak with him that evening.

**John** and our own **John Hyde Murray** are some sort of second cousins, a fact that they were unaware of until our John arrived at Williams. The Hyde family's involvement with Williams goes back to a forebear's election as a trustee in 1802. Both Johns have recently discovered more family history and shared it with each other. Some of it is novelistic. Our John's great-grandfather (Class of 1860, a link also unknown to our John until after he was accepted to Williams) was banished from the family's Boston home when he secretly wed the Irish maid. Come to the next reunion and get him tell you the story.

Also part of Saturday night was the election of new class officers: President: **John Oppenheimer**; VPs: **Michael Yogman** and **Ned**

**Perry**; treasurer: **Bob Stanton**; secretary: **Paul Neely**. Adult beverages had been served before the election. This slate serves until the 45th reunion, June 7-9, 2013 (save the date).

Some piecemeal notes: **Charlie Lambert** told me, graciously, that he pretty much hits "delete" whenever he sees an e-mail from me. **Clark McFadden** was widely considered to be the person who looks most like he did 40 years ago—still thin, brown hair, gentle smile. Somewhere there is a portrait of him getting older. **Herzog** is a close second. **Mike Lavigne**, our leading back surgeon, had to cancel at the last minute because of a family illness, but he was represented by three classmate/patients. **Cathy** and **Tom Nicholson** seemed to be the best dancers Saturday night. Not the craziest though; that honor goes to **Phelps** and **Norris** (don't ask). **Garrett Thornburg**, despite some 10-digit losses at **Thornburg Mortgage**, says confidently that he's "still standing." He was attending with his wife **Catherine** and their children, who are 8 and 5.

You might expect to hear a lot of career talk at a 40th reunion, but in fact that sort of conversation had to be drawn out intentionally. What you heard most was people talking about their children. **Arthur Cambouris** had just come from his daughter's law school graduation. **Mike Herlihy** is deeply involved in work in Africa, following his children into that. **Patty** and **David Schulte** were there with **Grace Gordon**, David's stepdaughter, who will enter Williams in the fall as the fifth member of his blended family to attend the College.

There's not much preening that goes on. Maybe we all know each other too well for that. Fact is, though, you discover at these reunions that you get along with some people a lot better now than you did 40 years ago.

Finally, special thanks from all of us to outgoing Class President **Bill Shapiro**, who led us into the 40th with such great diligence and enthusiasm. These things don't happen on autopilot, and **Bill** put together a great team for a great reunion.

1969

REUNION JUNE 11-14

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I cede the opening of these notes to **Fred Vinick**, co-chair of our upcoming 40th reunion, who has asked me to remind everyone of said event. But I can't improve on Fred's missive: "Get the word out that our classmates should really try to get to this one. We want the reunion to be a meaningful, personally enriching, enjoyable experience. I think we're all old enough to be over the college rah-rah stuff—the reunion will not be one big fraternity party, at least not on my watch. Also, hopefully we've learned enough about life after 40 years in the real world to have gained an ample dose of humility while retaining a sense of humor and a bit of intellectual curiosity. So we're not getting together to see who's the biggest big shot, who made the most money or who has the most influential friends. I think we can do much better than that. Time to renew old friendships and start some new ones. We really were a special group of people who came together during troubled times. That has to be worth something." Well stated, Fred.

On a personal note, **Fred** has been retired for almost a year from Genzyme, where he was senior VP for drug discovery. He's settled in a small country place in upstate New York called Halfmoon, about 12 miles north of Albany and 12 miles south of Saratoga. "Boy, was it ever easy to walk away from working for 'the man.' A few months ago I figured out that I should have gone to med school. A little late, huh? I'm enjoying life in upstate N.Y. I still do a little consulting for several small pharmaceutical companies, but it's really just for fun. I'm definitely not trying for a second career—one was more than enough." At the reunion planning weekend in May, **Fred** saw **Alan Dittrich**, **Bob Grace**, **Rudy Spraycar** and **Dick Peinert**, all of whom are working on the event.

**Tom Goodbody** reports daughter **Caroline** '08 graduated from Williams in June and son **Nick** '03 will be a visiting assistant professor of Spanish at Williams for the



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was enriched by their friendship and acquaintance at Williams, for which I am so thankful."

**Ching Po Ko**, a.k.a. Ken Ko, who had been "lost" by the alumni association for a short time, has been found. He is living in Shanghai.

**Jack Hunt's** daughter **Lisa '03** completed her MD and is at the Texas Medical Center for her residency. Lisa's twin **Helen** was scheduled to be married in the fall in California. Meanwhile **King Ranch** continues to grow, now with 1,300 employees (ed.n. Jack is CEO). Jack observes that they have lots of issues to deal with as they are now involved in 10 different agricultural commodities. He says, "I can't overstate my frustration with idiotic government programs, state and federal, for ethanol and wind energy. U.S. consumers will pay a very high price for 'feel good' energy policies. They will do much more to damage the environment and economy than the problems they are allegedly aimed at."

**Hank Grass** is psychologically well but starting to accumulate some age-related health issues: arthritic knee—no more running—and some blood pressure and cholesterol problems. In spite of that, he enjoys cycling, skiing and generally staying active. His family is fine. Both children are married, and he has three young grandsons. His psychiatric practice is very fulfilling. He is also training younger psychiatrists at their medical school.

**Bill Clendaniel's** son **Cam '01** married **Sara Hausner-Levine '02** last summer. The wedding was in Brooklyn in front of about 25 Williams grads from as far away as India. **Jake Taylor's** son **Steve '01** held the chuppah. Following Bill's retirement, he and Ron spent the summer vacationing around New England. Bill has also settled into a number of volunteer roles. Among them is treasurer of the Massachusetts Historical Society, the nation's oldest and a major independent research library. It is the repository of the papers of John and John Quincy Adams and many of Thomas Jefferson. Bill is also a VP of the Friends of the Public Garden, a private-public partnership overseeing such spaces as the Boston Common, the Public Garden and the Commonwealth Avenue Mall.

**Tom Mahler** spent a difficult summer in hospitals and rehab

facilities following a quite serious bout with pneumonia. At publishing time he was making a strong comeback. He's a very determined guy and a real role model in the way he and his devoted wife Barb have dealt with his debilitating stroke, suffered about five years ago, and its aftermath.

Meanwhile your secretary and Winnie were able to spend the last two evenings at the Republican National Committee convention in St. Paul in September. We weren't delegates, just invitees of a suite owner. It was a unique opportunity and a fascinating experience. Meanwhile I also entered the race for mayor of our city, Wayzata, Minn., a western suburb of Minneapolis. I was apparently successful enough in scaring away the competition that I was able to run unopposed in the November election. The result is that I take office as the next mayor of Wayzata on Jan. 1. The previous mayor is an Amherst alum, so we are keeping a Little Three dynasty intact on the northern prairie. Beat Amherst!

Thanks for all your reports. Have a good winter, and I'll see you in the spring.

**December 2008**

**1968**

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Some follow-ups on our great 40th reunion and some catch-ups on news that was pushed aside for that event:

"It was terrific to see everyone at the reunion," **Michael Yogman** writes. "**David Sipress**' talk was the highlight of the weekend. I am eagerly awaiting our 50th. Meanwhile I am taking on a new challenge in addition to the board of the Boston Children's Museum; I am now the chair of the Massachusetts Children's Mental Health Task Force and hope to start some new prevention initiatives for preschool children." We can't help but wish you well on that, Michael.

**Al Swan** reports on another Williams gathering, the wedding of **Foster Cronin '03** and **Amanda Murphy**. "Our son **Matthew Swan '03** was best man. ... Foster comes from a large Williams family, which includes his parents Emily and **Bob Cronin '69** and aunt and

uncle **Susie '75** and **Ted Cronin**. Susie is an extremely talented sculptor, as anyone who has visited The Harrison Gallery on Spring Street can attest. Her husband and our classmate Ted has not yet been to a reunion but promises to come to our 100th." (C'mon, Ted, divide by half.)

"Just before the reunion," **Al** continues, "we went on a Williams alumni trip to Krakow, Prague, Vienna and Budapest—a trip advertised in one of those glossy brochures we all get, and which, after looking at the price tag, I usually discard, but this one we could not resist. Dean **John Hyde '52** (accidentally renamed Hudek by the tour company, a moniker he officially adopted for the trip) was our tour leader and gave three memorable lectures on the Habsburg Empire. He gave us a reading assignment and promised a quiz but in the end relented with a pass for everyone. We had a delightful time with his brothers **George '49** and **Steve '64** and their wives June and Alice."

**Bob Stanton** tells us, "I have been elected VP of the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine and will become president in July 2010. This organization has about 2,600 members who serve as the team physicians for most of the professional, collegiate, high school and amateur teams in the country. It is the largest organization of its kind in the world."

A nice story of success from **Ed Nichols**: "I finished my first year as Colorado State historic preservation officer (SHPO) and president and CEO of the Colorado Historical Society this summer at about the same time as we got legislation passed through the Colorado House and Senate and signed by the governor for \$112 million in funding for a new Colorado History Center and Museum. We will break ground on the new facility in June of '09 and move into it in early '12. I urge any member of the Class of '68 to come out and see us as we construct this new center in downtown Denver."

**Bob Chambers** writes from Way Out West: "We're into our eighth year in Whitefish, Mont., and enjoying every minute of it. With all that's going on in the world these days, the state's moniker as 'The Last Best Place' takes on even more meaning. Despite the small size of our town (c. 6,500), we've got a

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## Documenting the n

"Bird keeper, bowlers, bridge player, cookie  
costume designer, electrician, production  
consultant, stitcher, technical director, a  
We are very different people but t

professionally in the '62 Center

for Theatre and Dance.

### Laughter works wonders when

you work late

at night."



**NATHANIEL WIESSNER,**  
MAINSTAGE TECHNICAL  
DIRECTOR; **BARBARA**  
**A. BELL,** COSTUME  
SHOP MANAGER;  
**MARY PFISTER,**  
DANCE PROGRAM  
PRODUCTION  
MANAGER



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seven-mile-long lake, a big ski mountain, rivers, parks, golf courses, a symphony orchestra and chorale, a community theater and a professional theater company—not to mention Glacier National Park a short drive to our east.

"Our 40th reunion in June was a blast. The weather cooperated, and Williamstown looked as magnificent as ever. The new Paresky Center (replacing Baxter Hall) fits much better into its spot than I had anticipated. There's even a curving snack bar room at the south end to remind us '68ers of the good old times in its predecessor. One of the most memorable aspects of that weekend was my stroll to the college cemetery. My maternal grandparents and my aunt are buried there, so I wanted to pay my respects. What struck me was the number of professors I had had who were now in that cemetery. It made me realize how many years had actually flown by. I spent the longest time by Bob Barrow's grave-stone. He was by far the most remarkable, wonderful, unique professor I've ever studied with. An often curmudgeonly genius with a wicked (but utterly captivating) sense of humor and an unbeatable musical pedigree."

Among those who weren't at reunion: **Henry Hecht** says, "I merely want to say how wonderful it has been to have two mini-reunion dinners in Berkeley with **Mark Donovan** and **Clint Wilkins** over the last few months—especially since I missed the 40th in Williamstown."

A newspaper clipping from Rutland, Vt., includes **Steve Sease** and two other skiers on Mount Mansfield. The photo goes with an article about early spring skiing, and the handwritten message at the top of the clipping says, "A rare Sease sighting. There are a few '68ers left who still love winter."

An article last spring in the *Amherst Citizen* announced a public lecture by "nationally recognized landscape designer and author **Robert Gillmore** ... to share wonderful ideas on gardens!" Bob has written two books: *The Woodland Garden* and *Beauty All Around You: How to Create Large, Private Low-Maintenance Gardens, Even on Small Lots and Small Budgets*. (Okay, tell me you would have guessed that 40 years ago.)

Finally, two serious notes.

First, one of tribute. In June, **Barton Jones** completed a four-year term as president of the Williams Club in New York. His time has included holding together an enormously challenging business plan and working with the College toward a long-term resolution of the club's status. Through it all he has won widespread admiration in New York and in Williamstown for his hard work and generous spirit. He didn't do it for money, power or glory. They aren't part of the deal. He did it for the College, and in that context we all owe him our thanks.

Second, after the reunion I got two personal e-mails from **Jim Thompson** and **Barton Phelps**, revealing that each of them has Parkinson's disease. Bart said the crazy dancing at Saturday night's reunion dinner was "on my part, I think, a product of the perfect blending of alcohol and Parkinson's." Jim, with his usual grace, said, "Having shared so many other significant quirky scenes, Bart and I are now both Parkinsonian, which I hope will allow us to grow weirder together." Much progress has been made in treatment for Parkinson's, and I know all of us wish Barton and Jim the very best. I count them as friends, more so than I did even through three years of co-habitation in Carter House. That is one of the blessings of re-connection as actual adults.

## 1969

REUNION JUNE 11-14

Richard P. Gulla  
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Reminder! Mark your calendar and make your reservations for our 40th reunion, June 10-14. President **Bob Grace** and Reunion Chair **Fred Vinick** and their committee are working hard to ensure a fabulous 40th and get as many classmates as possible to return. So plan to attend.

**Tom Sipkins** was in the Purple Valley in July and "had dinner with **Frank Louis**, who is closing in on his retirement from the counsel's office of the IRS. Frank is way too cerebral for that legal mumbo-jumbo anyway. **Dick**

**Peinert** and I then played in the Alumni Golf Tournament, winning our flight. Hope others from the class show up in the next few years, especially those who can actually play golf. In all respects, Dick is unchanged; still a curmudgeon, but great fun."

**Earl White** is still doing mental health counseling, presently with a child and family mental health program in Wilmington, Del., and was (pre-election) "feeling proud of Delaware's Joe Biden and his great accomplishments." Earl spoke with **Neville Hughes**, "who continues doing well in NYC as comptroller for the country's second largest soup kitchen. Peace/blessings to all, with hopes for positive change via elections and new leaderships."

Congratulations twice to the pride of Texas, **Larry McCullough**. First, he was honored with the inaugural appointment to the Dalton Tomlin Chair in Medical Ethics and Health Policy at Baylor College of Medicine, named for the longtime chief legal counsel at Baylor. Larry is now in his 21st year on the faculty (33rd overall as an ethics professor). Second, his tome, *the Cambridge World History of Medical Ethics*, which he co-edited with Robert Baker of Union Graduate College-Mt. Sinai Medical Center and William D. Williams of Union College in Schenectady, was published. Larry describes it as the first global history of medical ethics, a 63-chapter volume, with more than 900 pages and 55 contributors from around the world. "This project took more than a dozen years but, as readers will discover, it was worth every one of them. Our colleagues have produced beautiful scholarship, with which I am immensely proud to be associated." Larry continues his scholarship with physician colleagues and teaching medical students and residents. "If someone had told me 43 years ago back in Sage 22 that this is what I would be doing after Williams, I would not have believed it."

**Francis Moriarty** "had the pleasure of seeing **Paul Neely '68** for the first time since graduation during President Schapiro's stop in Hong Kong at the start of a Williams delegation's visit to China. Paul and I had a chance to enjoy a bit of dim sum and get a glimpse of the harbor while catching up on classmates and lamenting the future of