



HARVARD-RADCLIFFE CLASS OF 1966

Dear classmates,

March, 2020

Herewith is the March newsletter. As always, any news or comments should be directed to me at tblack@post.harvard.edu rather than hitting reply.

Perhaps, by now, you've also heard that the university has required all student to vacate through the end of the academic year with classroom activities shifting to on-line instruction. I'm told that those students who can't go home (Asians, etc.) have been allowed to stay in selected houses for the duration. That also means that there will be no normal commencement, originally scheduled for May 28. There will be some kind of on-line program on that date with an in-person commencement when it is safe to do so. Finally, president Bacow and his wife have tested positive for the virus. No one is exempt!

Geza Serenyi has provided the following:

4 of my classmates from Portsmouth Priory graduated in the Class of '66. I just received the following news about Patrick McGowan:

Hi Geza,

I have received sad news.

From reliable social media sources our Portsmouth classmate Patrick James McGowan passed away on October 17, 2019. Pat moved to Chiang Mai, Thailand at least 15 years ago and settled in the quiet countryside in the Doi Saket District just outside the city. He was generously involved in his community there, where he enjoyed an active, simple, peaceful and relaxed life with many close friends. He was visited by his late brother, Lea just last year. For the past couple of years he courageously and gracefully fought the cancer which took him. He remained at his home until the end of September before entering the McKean Center for his last few weeks. His funeral services were held on October 23 and 24, and he is interred at a cemetery in Chiang Mai. It seems that he left no survivors.

Best regards,

Rick

Nov. 5 - interred and grave marker placed in a cemetery in the Chiang Mai area

Oct. 23 / 24 - funeral gathering of friends at McKean Center and formal Buddhist ceremony on the second day.

Oct. 17 - died at McKean Rehabilitation and Senior Center in Chiang Mai

Sept. 21 - 29 - left home to enter hospice

Lived in the Doi Saket district of Chiang Mai since at least 2005

Can the Harvard Alumni Association verify any of this information? I do know that his twin brother Lea McGowan '66 also died in 2019.

Giza

Robert Olsen provides the following:

Tom, on November 15, 2019, I attended the funeral of our classmate John Ferrell, who died suddenly after years of declining health. (It was more than odd to see my best friend from college exhibited in a mortuary meeting room like so much chopped liver.) John was also a graduate of Columbia Law School (where he was class president one year), married Neena Kapur, the beautiful Indian woman he picked up crossing Harvard Square, and spent his career practicing investment banking and securities law, and supporting his family, in the New York area. His son Sam reached out to several of John's college friends about his passing.

Louie Hoffman Kent has informed me of Tony Randall Rosenberg's obituary which appeared in *The Boston Globe* on 3/25/20.

Peter Brooks and family volunteering in time of COVID-19:

Since 2014 My wife Mary, my daughter Erica and I have been devoted to a nonprofit organization in Pleasant Hill, California called White Pony Express. As an alternative to Food Banks, our largely volunteer Food Rescue Program has delivered over 10 million pounds of food in 6 years. Rather than store food, we deliver it to a network of shelters, pantries, "soup kitchens," and schools on the same day we receive it from such donors as Whole Foods, Starbucks and Safeway, plus a string of Farmers' Markets..

Our School Pantry program delivers to schools where over 80 percent of the students are on the school lunch program. Now that the California schools are closed, we arrange with alternative sites near the schools, often churches, for the school families to get their food.

It's exciting work, even if my own participation is now from my home during the necessary lock-down because of the pandemic.

Tom, you wanted some up-beat news. I hope this qualifies, because I am getting great joy from it!

Elaine Bostwick writes:

Tom, here is some upbeat news for you. The cherry blossoms are in full bloom here in northern Virginia. People are laying on the grass reading or just snoozing. People are walking dogs of all different kinds, or pushing baby strollers. It is a relaxed Springtime scene. The cherry blossoms are puffy and pink and pretty and create a world far from our cares...

Russell Maulitz writes:

Upbeat news as requested.

Hi Tom,

I'm not sure our paths every even crossed. But in either case I want first to thank you for your herculean efforts at narrating our class's fortunes and declines. Anyway, lots of *good* news from me and my wife. After Kristine re-upped for another five years at Columbia, which is good as long as it's only half time, my even *gooder* news: I'm excited to've taken up half-year residence in a tiny and happily under-lauded SE corner of Tuscany, the Val di Chiana. Those who've been there know the name of the village, which seems to be a magical bubble with no cases of The Virus. We love the life there. So I've just been given the status of official residency by the Italian consulate here in Philadelphia, meaning I can stay as long as I like, buy (or rather insure) a car, and even buy into the national health. (Easy to come by if you're of Italian ancestry. Less so if your name is "Maulitz.") Now if I can just find a way to get back over there....

John Morris adds:

I moved to California about 30 years ago. I retired then. I was in charge of building our retirement home...and garden. Now I live at Troll Knoll, our home in a garden. During this "shelter in place" I have to walk with my wife, Ann, and two boxers over miles of walks and paths daily. I get to work with my hobbies and obviously enjoy being sprinkled with fairy dust often. I attribute part of my experience to attending school at Harv

Ben Dunham's submission:

Just back from my talk on March 1 at the National WWI Museum in Kansas City, where the "Etched in Memory" exhibition from my collection of etchings by J. Alphege Brewer has been extended until April 19. The Museum webpage is at <https://www.theworldwar.org/explore/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/etched-memory>.

For more information about these etchings, visit <https://www.jalphegebrewer.info/etchings> and <https://www.jalphegebrewer.info/war-etchings-context>.

I'm hoping that the exhibition in an expanded form might be taken up after that by other institutions...museums, colleges, churches, research centers, and the like. If classmates have ideas about potential sites, with executive contact information, please send me an email at dunhamb@post.harvard.edu.

Anne Sobol writes:

Briefly, our classmate/my roommate Helen Jencks Featherstone contacted me in December about signing the petitions to get the Harvard Forward candidates on the ballot for this year's Overseers election. They seek to get more recent graduates involved in governance of the University and to press for Harvard's divesting from fossil fuels. After signing the petitions online through the University's incredibly cumbersome procedure (voter suppression?), the project caught my fancy. I got in touch with the young people at Harvard Forward, and they sent me a list of 68 names and physical addresses of Harvard degree holders in my 95472 zip code in rural western Sonoma County north of San Francisco. I sent letters to everyone proposing meetings to sign the physical, watermarked paper petitions provided by the University (much easier for signers than the online alternative). I also

contacted friends with Harvard degrees (like my brother). All told by the end of the period for collecting signatures at the beginning of February, I count myself responsible for 35 signatures including my own. The first signature I got was from our classmate Richard Power who lives nearby in Sebastopol, but who I had never met. One of the last was from Craig Donaldson, my childhood friend and our classmate who lives in Lincoln, MA, where I grew up. A number of the signers came to our house in the country west of Sebastopol, and the whole process provided a welcome diversion for my husband and his caregivers as I shouted over my shoulder "got to go meet so and so to get a signature," and reported "I got another one!"

I urge you to vote in the Overseer election April 1 - May 19. **As I said in my letter to locals in 95472 zip code, "I think we should empower young people to do what they see as necessary to protect their future on this planet."** The Harvard Forward slate of five young people, to me, provide a more attractive group than the establishment candidates selected by the Harvard Alumni Association. Go to harvardforward.org to learn more about the effort.

The Harvard Forward young people put the Harvard Crimson in touch with me, and I was mentioned in the Crimson's article about older graduates supporting the Harvard Forward effort. <https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2020/3/9/alumni-campaign-harvard-forward/>

Class	Name	Date	Place	Spouse	Address
65	William Saum	12/18/2019	Orangeburg, NY	Laurie Ferguson	83 Closter Rd. Palisades, NY 10964
66	Garret Rosenblatt	2/22/2020	Flagstaff, AZ	Tanya Lee	7270 Slayton Ranch Rd. Flagstaff, AZ 86004
66	David Napior	2/2/2020	Dobbs Ferry, NY		
66	Martha M. Gordon	2/5/2020	Barton, VT		
67	Jeane Neville	1/25/2020	Boston, MA		
67	Barry Portnoy	2/25/2020	Eaton, NH		

Thanks for your news.

Tom Black

Co-class secretary