

CLASS OF 1963 – ALUMNI NOTES SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2017

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On April 20, 2017, Bay Area classmates assembled at the Spinnaker Restaurant in Sausalito, just north of San Francisco, to honor out-of-town visitor **Michael Gates Gill**. In attendance were **Jon Larson**, **Bud Conrad**, **Ken Porter**, **Bill Robbins**, **Charles Faulhaber**, **Dick Moser**, **Phil Otto**, and **Guy Struve**. We each contributed a short extemporaneous iPhone clip for the class video Jon and Michael are working on leading up to our 55th Reunion. They look forward to wide participation in the video, which will run continuously at the 55th. Each of us will be invited to contribute his own video clips to the production. On May 11, 2017, only a few days later, classmates gathered again, this time at the Marines' Memorial Club in San Francisco. Lively conversation ensued among **Steve Callender**, **Tom Chun**, **George Clyde**, **Pennell Rock**, **Frank Wentholt**, Bud Conrad, Michael Gates Gill, Jon Larson, Dick Moser, Phil Otto, and Ken Porter, as the group talked about reunions, why they mean as much as they do, and the "new" Yale's contrast with the "old" Yale.

**Paul Field** relates: "I found a great project to help me transition from fulltime work to full-time retirement. I researched, wrote, printed, and distributed a 50page story of my family from 1901 to the present. Marshall Field had a genealogy of our family published in 1901 and I inherited an original set, so I was lucky enough to have at my fingertips information on the family up to the 20th century. So I began with the story of my grandfather, who started building his family and law practice in New York at that time. I researched him and then his four adult children, one of whom was my father, and what happened to them and their children down to the present day. I am the youngest cousin of my generation, so I found myself reaching out to some 14 first cousins once removed across the country to get their information and help, as well as the Internet, libraries, and musty boxes. It was a great experience, I learned a lot, and I got to know some wonderful relatives. I found that **Tom Wehr** and I are distantly related! This wonderful project took me exactly a year. And it completely cleared my head, and I'm ready for the next adventure."

**Mike Lieberman** has released *The Nano-Thief*, his first thriller, which is set in Houston, TX. Mike writes: "Join Lenny, an ex-securities trader turned sleuth, his son Barry, girlfriend Portia, and hacker Emma Meripol as they connect the dots that lead them on a carnage-strewn chase that will set you on edge and keep you guessing to the very end. It begins early one Christmas morning at a local Starbucks as Lenny watches a curly-haired barista add a suspicious packet of white powder to a woman's coffee. And, well, I hate to spoil the fun ....." *The Nano-Thief* is available on Amazon in Kindle and paperback versions. Fran Morriss writes: "A brief note to those who still remember **T. Wynne Morriss**, who died 40(!) years ago this October. He has nine divine grandchildren. The oldest, who graduated from Colby last spring, is doing medical research in Boston, and his lovely sister is a junior at Swarthmore. Their father is 'young' Wynne, a lawyer in New York City. As to the others, from my side, two will be starting college (University of Chicago and Washington University in St. Louis), and five more are thriving in schools in Seattle, Cambridge, and Cincinnati. This little update is not meant to crow about some kids Wynne never got to meet, but to thank those of you who stayed in touch over the years and helped move our family forward. We are grateful. (And, yes, a few of these darlings inherited the squinty eyes and a sense of the absurd!)"

**Wick Murray** has published a book, *America and the Future of War: The Past as Prologue*, which demonstrates that the character of war is changing at an increasingly rapid pace, with scientific advances providing new and more complex weapons, means of production, communications, sensors, and myriad other inventions, all capable of altering the character of battle in unexpected fashions. Wick explains why the past is crucial to understanding many of the possibilities that lie in wait, as well as for examining the course of American strategy and military performance in the future.

**Pennell Rock** writes: "I have recently had my first physical setback in life. Serious problems with peripheral vision mean that I can no longer drive, a huge blow to the unbridled autonomy I have enjoyed for 76 years. On the positive side, I am still working three months a year in Europe, doing the archetypal psychodrama projects I have been developing for years. They are now enjoying great success, much benefit to those participating, and a group of trainees who will carry on the work. Now I am mostly concentrated in Italy, both south and north. Best of all, over the last years I have developed a new love of the high seas. I just finished a 50-day cruise through the Caribbean, down to Rio for Samba and Carnaval and then the Amazon. It was brilliant. Visits are unfortunately superficial, but I prepare intensively so I know what I am seeing. Mostly I love standing high on the ship, glimpsing the great curvature of the Earth, contemplating the sunset."

**Ian Robertson** reports: "My wife Barbara died on May 2, 2017 after a twoyear struggle with pancreatic cancer. We had been together for almost 49 years. She was valiant to the very end. She never ever gave up. Her family and a few friends were with her. Had she not given me strict orders to limit visitors, the hospital would have been overflowing with friends who wanted to see her. An artist, she was extravagantly talented, particularly as painter and photographer. She loved fashion and created Devereaux, a clothing line that got instant attention in all the fashion magazines and high end retailers all over the country. She loved interior design and was constantly working on her apartment buildings and our homes in Kona, Santa Monica, and Palm Desert. She was an excellent athlete. A passionate golfer, at age 60 she entered the Los Angeles City Senior (age 50 and above) Women's golf tournament and was runner-up low net in the A Flight (handicap less than 10). At age 61 she was the runner-up low gross. At age 70 she entered again and was the winner low gross and low net for the B Flight (handicap 10 and higher). When we lived in Lake Forest, IL, she played left field and batted cleanup for the Mother Truckers, her undefeated softball team. Her loves were her grandson Beaudry, her son Dylan, his wife Katie, and all of her wonderful friends."

**Victor Sheronas** writes: "I had back surgery on April 12, 2017 – a laminectomy/decompression at L2-L3 with a spinal fusion chaser to stabilize the loose parts. I was laid up in the hospital for five days, then another two weeks in rehab. I've been home since May 2, 2017, and not laid up. I'm doing PT at home, which helps a lot. I had the surgery because my quadriceps and hamstrings had been getting progressively weaker during the past several months; which had nothing to do with my CIDP peripheral neuropathy in my feet. The neurologists kept telling me to get the surgery. The recovery is long – 12 weeks – and boring because it's so long; plus I can't bend, lift, twist or drive during that span. Patience is the word. Lest you all think me whiny, Guy Struve encouraged me to include this report in the Class Notes, mostly to encourage others contemplating the same or similar surgery to proceed with it. I'm now more than two months past surgery. The recovery is now actually six to 12 months, but it's all been worthwhile!"

**Richard Stuart Teitz** died on June 19, 2017 in San Antonio, TX. Born in Fall River, MA and raised in Newport, RI, Richard was a 1959 graduate of Rogers High School in Newport. He received his Bachelor's degree from Yale University in 1963, and did post-graduate work at Harvard University and the Fogg Art Museum. Richard spent more than 30 years in museum administration, including 12 years as Director of the Worcester Art Museum in Worcester, MA. He later settled in San Antonio, TX, where he was an educator, strategic consultant, restaurant reviewer, running coach, gallery director, and recently had begun painting. He volunteered with the Peace Corps in Panama, and helped many non-profits organize and obtain grant funding. He loved working with USAID projects in Africa and Georgia (formerly part of the USSR). He particularly enjoyed substitute teaching at Keystone School and interviewing high school applicants to his alma mater, Yale.

Richard started running in his thirties to prepare for a climb to the base camp of Mount Everest, and went on to run 173 marathons, including Boston, New York, and Capetown, South Africa. He coached many Team In Training participants and enjoyed continuing to win races in his age group. He came to New York in 2010 to do the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer with "Team Teitz", including his two daughters, son-in-law Travis, sister Alexis, and friends. In 2011 he completed a sail across the Atlantic with his sister Louise Ellen Teitz and friends. He loved to travel and went so many places!

Richard is survived by his children Rebecca Ackerman, Jessica and son-inlaw Travis Becker, and Alexander Teitz, and four grandsons, as well as his sister Louise Ellen Teitz, brother Andrew and sister-in-law Lois Teitz and two nieces. He also leaves with love his partner Ellen Spangler, her daughter and son-in-law Jessica and Bryan Taylor, and their son.

**Tom Chun** recalls: "As freshmen, Dick and I were assigned to the same entryway in Lawrance Hall. We roomed together at Silliman and as next-door neighbors on the next-to-top floor of Ezra Stiles (just below Paul Weiss's apartment). Both of us went on to Harvard for graduate studies, he in art history and I in law. Nevertheless, we had starkly different backgrounds. I was from the Far West (Honolulu, HI), he was from the Far East (Newport, RI). My father was a civil servant, his was a Harvard lawyer. I leaned right politically, he leaned left. I was inexperienced with girls, he had an uncanny attraction for passionate women. Obviously, we became lifelong friends. Dick was relentlessly cheerful and adventuresome. Although he was not an athlete at Yale (we spent much more time over beers than in the gym), he became an accomplished and persistent marathon runner (luckily, he was just out of range of the Tsarnaevs' bomb at the 2013 Boston Marathon). Late in life, he took on extended overseas assignments in Panama (Peace Corps) and Georgia (USAID). He also became a food critic and painter, and a prolific Facebook user. He took advantage of life's opportunities, and he faced its challenges with perspective and a sense of humor. Fortunately, his daughter Jessie settled nearby in Palo Alto. Hence, his visits became more frequent, and we typically got together over lunch to discuss, *inter alia*, his most recent adventures. It was a shock to learn that he had entered hospice care and that his most recent visit was his last. A Dios, faithful friend . . . "

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