

Dear Class Secretaries and Treasurers,

Thank you to all who were able to attend the 121st Annual Meeting of the Association of Harvard College Class Secretaries and Treasurers. I am thrilled to announce that we had 124 members in attendance, making this the highest attended Annual Meeting ever! Although the meeting was once again virtual, we do hope that you found value from the speakers and connection from the social breakout rooms. You can view the group photo screenshots on the <u>Officers</u> Lounge page.

It has been a true honor to serve as President of AHCCS&T for the past two years. I look forward to what will come next, and I am sure that the incoming executive committee, under the leadership of Tom Quirk '74, will continue the good work for this group.

Chris Duble '75 AHCCS&T President Emeritus

Class Spotlight

Renny Little (1955 Secretary): We held a Zoom meeting last May to celebrate our 65th Reunion. Ninety-nine classmates participated. Top hats off to David

James, our Zoom master, and Bob Blacklow, chairman of the 65th. Plans are to hold further Zoom meetings in the future.

Henry Marcy (1960 Secretary): The Harvard Class of 1960 recently conducted an auction of what else? Class memorabilia from past Reunions. Forty-one bids were received; ultimately, 16 of 20 available items (ties, vests, umbrellas, windbreakers, sweatshirt, etc.) were auctioned off. Winning bids totaled \$1330.16, accrued to the Class treasury!

Rod Kessler (1971 Secretary): We are enjoying a steady stream of online symposia and gatherings including: *HR71 Black/And a Mirror*. What was it like to be one of the few Black students entering Harvard/Radcliffe in 1967, and how did the next four years go? With recollections and responses. *Staying in Shape When We're Falling Apart:* The why and how of elderly exercise. *HR71 Pandemic Story Slam:* Our stories in 150 words or fewer. *HR71 House Reunions* (ongoing).

Dana Krumholz (1976 Secretary): Our Class successfully held 13 separate Zoom socials (one for each House) to build enthusiasm and strengthen House connections in our reunion year. Each House Representative hosted their own event. Invites were sent and House Reps followed up with emails to Housemates. A reunion co-chair joined most of these socials, either as a Zoom host, House member, or guest. The Zoom socials gave Housemates the opportunity to reunite and to hear details of ongoing reunion activities for our 45th. Some of the attendees had never before participated in a reunion event. Housemates also helped us find "lost" classmates and, sadly, added names to our In Memoriam list.

Claire Mays (1981 Secretary): The 40th Reunion of HR'81 reflects our "creative, connecting, and caring" Class. Six co-chairs and a committee of 30 produce a far-flung virtual Reunion. The team targeted 8-10 online events, opening with a Winter Solstice Party then House socials. Enthusiasm has now birthed 45 events, involving over 500 classmates, 200 active as organizers and speakers. Our trend roots in personal five-minute "Glimpses" at our 30th, and creation of the "Societal Reinvention Table" at our 35th. After a 36th Reunion of global ad hoc events, we co-developed a "Civility Game" in 2021. Our Book Club opens communication on systemic racism, our Arts Literature & Entertainment Showcase, regional and multi-faceted interest socials - military,

health, singles, shared themes emerging from the Red Book – inspire new connections and awakenings. "Missing this would be like missing the Blizzard of '78. Not what we were expecting, but a helluva lot of fun."

Debra Graham (1988 Co-Secretary): We had a fantastic, fun-filled talent show in March with 14 acts and almost 350 classmates who watched the two-hour performance. Acts included the Radcliffe Pitches from the late '80s who performed together for the first time since graduation, professional performers, original music, and a family ensemble. The performances were taped in advance and played during the show with brief interviews with the talent before each act. Classmates participated through the Zoom chat function and their praise for the performances and bonding over the chat was a highlight. We also ran Instapolls during the show as another opportunity to engage the audience.

Gabrielle Burton (1992 Secretary): Our Class had a strong year of Facebook engagement and Zoom events: on the pandemic; a cooking lesson of dishes and drinks inspired by Harvard Square dives; a conversation about the economy, environment, and justice system post-COVID; etc. We just celebrated our 50th birthdays virtually together – an evening of spontaneous storytelling. Opening with "Fifty," a poem by Leslie Fielder, we shared laughs, reflection, tears, and inspiration for the future. The event flowed with warmth and the celebration of community, culminating in a bold singing of "Happy Birthday." Upcoming are a class authors book chat and two overseas Zooms. As things open up, I imagine schedules will allow less time for frequent Zooming, yet I anticipate continuing virtual meet-ups to maximize class connection.

Alex Molnar (1996 Secretary): In preparation for our virtual 25th Reunion, our class committee has released podcast "*StoryCorps*" style interviews with classmates about their journeys – more focused on challenges, vulnerabilities, and unique paths than the usual accomplishments. It has been incredibly moving and really drawn our community together.

Thank you all for sharing your class activity and engagement! If you have news to share, <u>submit to the Class Spotlight</u> for the next issue of the newsletter!

Virtual Resources

Partnered Treasury Program

In order to minimize tax issues for class treasurers responsible for class treasuries held in bank accounts, and to ensure a seamless transition between class officers when applicable, the College Alumni Programs team partners with classes to provide HAA administration of class treasuries via the Partnered Treasury Program. If you are interested in learning more about the Partnered Treasury Program or have any questions, you can view the <u>Partnered Treasury</u> Program Handbook or email the College Alumni Programs team (haa_collegealumniprograms@harvard.edu).

Virtual Engagement Toolkit

The HAA has created a toolkit comprising resources, best practices, and how-to guides to help you connect with your Harvard network during (and beyond!) this time of physical distancing. Check out our <u>Virtual Engagement Toolkit</u>, which includes links to outreach and email guides, social media strategies (including facilitating difficult conversations on social media), and virtual engagement ideas. We hope you will find these tools useful.

Requesting a Class List

Did you know that Class Secretaries can request an updated spreadsheet of your class list at any time? Just email the College Alumni Programs team (haa_collegealumniprograms@harvard.edu) with your request! You will first need to complete the Volunteer Confidentiality Agreement to confirm that you will not share any confidential and privileged information, including classmate contact information.

Please view the <u>Officers Lounge</u> website to view other resources, such as <u>AHCCS&T minimum standards</u>, <u>class sites training documents</u>, and <u>Zoom information</u>.

HAA and University Updates

Honoring the Harvard Class of 2021

We will gather online as a community on Thursday, May 27 to award degrees and celebrate the achievement of our graduates. Ruth Simmons PhD '73 will deliver the principal address. You can view additional details about this celebration and view frequently asked questions on the <u>Commencement</u> <u>website</u>!

151st Annual Meeting of the Harvard Alumni Association

We hope you will join us on Friday, June 4 as we celebrate our global alumni community during Harvard's largest gathering of alumni yet! This year's event will kick off with a special pre-program hosted by the 25th Reunion Chief Marshal, Anurima Bhargava AB '96, followed by the main program, hosted by HAA President John J. West Jr. MBA '95. The program will also include remarks by Harvard University President Lawrence S. Bacow JD '76, MPP '76, PhD '78 and featured speaker Kevin Young AB '92, recognize the 25th Reunion Chief Marshal and incoming HAA president, and celebrate the 2020 and 2021 Harvard Medalists. You can view additional details on the <u>Annual Meeting website</u>!

In Memoriam

Please join us in honoring the Association member we have lost since the last publication of *The Quill and Key*, this February:

• Rosemary Sacco Cancian '45, Secretary

New Members

Please offer a warm welcome to the new Association members that have joined us since the last publication of *The Quill and Key*, this February:

- Joseph Rager '21, Treasurer
- Devin Srivastava '21, Secretary

For additional information and assistance, please visit the <u>Officers Lounge</u> or contact College Alumni Programs (<u>haa_collegealumniprograms@harvard.edu</u>).

We highly encourage you to <u>submit content for the next issue of the *Quill and* <u>*Key*</u>. Thank you for your service and dedication to your class!</u>