**50th Reunion** (*Continued from page 3*) - Danett Friedenson led an exploration of Beebe Lake via canoe for a little band of hearty septuagenarians.

At the class meeting immediately after brunch on Sunday, a quorum of classmates approved the slate of class officers for the next five years. **Susan Mair Holden**, now emerita, passed the baton to **Bruce Wagner**, our new class president.

We left campus taking happy memories and renewed friendships with us, making plans to gather again for our 55th reunion.

50th Reunion Co-Chairs: Linda Meltzer • Joan Melville • Bruce Wagner









# The Class of 1964 Cornell Tradition Fellowship

NAme

Dear Class of 1964,

Greetings from the Hill! My name is Taylor Meadows; I am a junior at the School of Hotel Administration. Thank you so much for your generous donation.

I chose to come to Cornell specifically for the Hotel School. Combined with my passion for travel and people, the hospitality industry is the perfect fit for me! I can actually pinpoint the moment it was meant to be. When I was 10 years old, I was checking into the Ritz Carlton Atlanta Buckhead with my mother when the doorman greeted me as "Miss Meadows" without me having to tell him my name! The pure joy I felt from this has made me want to make people feel that way ever since.

On campus most of my involvement is tied to the Hotel School. The Hotel Leadership Development Program and Hotel Ezra Cornell keep me busy on campus. Hotel School Ambassadors allows me to share my passion for the Hotel School with prospective students.

During the past two summers I have spent my time working for Starwood Hotels & Resorts. This past summer I was the intern to the Director of Rooms & Related for North America Hotels for Starwood. I continue to work with Starwood, remotely, during this school year. My interests are primarily hotel operations and human resources.

Again, thank you so much for your support and I hope to meet you next time you are on campus!

Best, Taylor Meadows



President & Webmaster Bruce Wagner bdw5@cornell.edu

First Vice President & Membership Chair Linda Cohen Meltzer lcm12@cornell.edu

Second Vice President - JFK Memorial Award Chair Cindy Wolloch cwolloch@yahoo.com

Secretary Judie Pink Gorra judiepink@yahoo.com

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# Cornell Class of 1964 News!

Dear Classmates,

I am delighted and honored to start a five-year term as your new class president. At this point our officers have substantial Cornell volunteer experience -- not to mention life experience. (See the list of officers at the left.) For me personally, this position caps decades of Cornell volunteer leadership activities in admissions, my local Cornell Club, Cornell Council, Cornell's Adult University and our class, as webmaster, vice-president and 50th Reunion co-chair. I also squeezed in a 35-year engineering career.

New to an officer position this term is our class secretary, **Judie Gorra**, who takes over from **Barbara Attardi**. Also new is **Phyllis Goldman**, who has taken on dual roles: class newsletter editor (from **Carolyn Whitman**) and class historian (new!). **Elliot Gordon** will partner with Phyllis in newsletter design.

Fortunately, others are continuing: Linda Meltzer, long-time class leader, is membership VP; Cindy Wolloch (JFK Award VP); Barbara Brim (treasurer); Bev Lamont (outstanding class correspondent, seemingly forever); Tim Davis and Adadot Hayes (Cornell Annual Fund co-chairs); and Nancy Butler (affinity chair). I'll continue as webmaster. A highlight for hundreds of us last year was our 50th Reunion, in June, which attracted 530 people, mostly classmates. (See the accompanying reunion story.) Our class website has over 1,100 photos from reunion. Over 100 classmate volunteers helped in so many ways during the four days of reunion. I and my reunion co-chairs, Joan Melville and Linda Meltzer, appreciate how much those volunteers contributed to everyone's experience. In a post-reunion survey, over 90% of attendees rated the reunion outstanding or very good. Carolyn Whitman is already planning our 55th Reunion, so please hold the dates: June 6-9, 2019.

In January, the Class Council convened for our annual mid-winter meeting, a part of the Cornell Alumni Leadership Conference held in Boston this year. As we have for many years, we had among the largest turnouts (and most enthusiastic alumni) among the 60+ classes represented at CALC.

So please stay in touch: visit our website, join us on Facebook and submit your news to the class column. And have a wonderful 2015.

Class Website: Cornell196 Dues (Pay online): Pay the Homepage Dues (Pay by check): "C Box 25841, Lehigh Valley, PA \$55.00 annual, includes st \$65.00 annual, includes st \$65.00 annual, includes st \$65.00 annual, without st \$30.00 annual, without st \$15.00 additional postage

Class news: Bev Lamont, Address/Email/Phone c Class Facebook Page: fa



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Spring 2015 President's Message



#### Bruce Wagner, Class President

### **Key Portals**

64.org
hrough the Dues and Giving Link on our Class Website
Cornell Class of 1964" and mail to: Cornell University, PC
18003-9695
subscription to Cornell Alumni Magazine
ooth '64), includes Cornell Alumni Magazine
ubscription to Cornell Alumni Magazine
e for Cornell Alumni Magazine outside the USA
blamont64@comcast.net
<b>hange:</b> Linda Meltzer, lcm12@cornell.edu

Class Facebook Page: facebook.com/groups/cornell1964

# 50th Reunion Magic

## The Class of 1964 John F. Kennedy Memorial Award

o celebrate our fiftieth reunion, the class published The JFK Memorial Award, the History and Grantees, compiled by **Cindy Wolloch** and edited by **Janet Spencer King** and **Elliot Gordon**. This retrospective of fifty years of grant making introduces the beneficiaries of our Senior Class gift, from 1965 until 2013. Their stories are inspiring. A few copies of the book remain. If you did not receive one at reunion or would like one, please contact Linda Meltzer at lcm12@cornell.edu or Cindy Wolloch at cwolloch@yahoo.com.

Three of our winners joined us for a panel at the Reunion Forum. Amy Mall '83, Jared Genser '95, and Ilir Zherka '89 (photo below), discussed their careers in natural resource protection, human rights law, and citizen participation, respectively. The Fo-



rum culminated with the conferral of the 2014 JFK Award to Samuel Ritholtz.

Sam, a New York native, was an International Agriculture and Rural Development major, with a Development Economics concentration, in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. In addition, he accrued three minors: in Global Health, Africana Studies, and Latin American Studies. He intends to focus on a life devoted to advocacy on behalf of international displaced populations and refugees. As Sam wrote in his application, "I recognize the role that the United States has in the international humanitarian community and believe that it can be a leader in promoting positive change in this field." One of his professors wrote, "Sam has an impressive capacity to use innovative means to transform great ideas into actions for change toward public good."

Sam managed a stellar academic career while busying himself both on campus and off with work and service. He studied in Buenos Aires, interned and volunteered in New York City, supervised counselors at a camp for special needs children in New Jersey, conducted research into flooding in Tanzania and into risky sexual behavior among youth in Bangkok. Sam anticipates

pursuing a PhD/JD to contribute to the body of knowledge on refugees and to protect and support the human rights of displaced populations. His referees call him polite, kind, considerate, compassionate – and brilliant.

Sam writes, "Throughout my Cornell career, I have developed into a critical thinker that still wishes to make a change in the world. I thank Cornell for always challenging me to hold myself accountable and to improve my own work." We, in turn, thank Cornell for continuing to turn out exceptional students like Sam. The Class wishes him all good fortune in the years ahead.

Our 2015 competition is now under way and is being managed on campus by the Public Service Center (psc.cornell.edu). PSC will honor our winner at its year-end dinner. This year's award will remain at \$12,000.

The award endowment experienced a nice spike in donations after reunion. Classmates wishing to contribute will find instructions for doing so on the class web page: Cornell1964.org/jfk/jfk-donate.html.



From left: Samuel Ritholtz, Joan Melville, Carolyn Neuman, Susan Mair Holden, Cindy Wolloch and H. Michael Newman,

This year's JFK Award application review committee is composed of classmates Judie Pink Gorra, Tim Davis, Susie Mair Holden, Janet Spencer King and Chair Cindy Wolloch; and Award alumni Jared Genser '95 and Katie Dealey '00. Katie, who is with Teach for America, is new to the committee; Joyce West '86 is taking a break this year. The alumni's contributions to the review are invaluable and will become even more prominent in the future. We thank them for their service.

**Cindy Wolloch** 

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The number of Classmates paying dues in-L creased in 2014 to a total of 473. We send a big Thank You to those who are staying connected to Cornell and our class!

Please continue to pay your dues by mail or online (see Key Portals, page 1). Barbara Lutz Brim, Treasurer



A few 50th Reunion Yearbooks are still available; contact Linda Meltzer. Each book, including shipping, is \$28.

We had a glorious 50th reunion – truly a weekend to remember. The memories have kept us warm all winter!

A record number of classmates and guests -- around 530 -- showed up to celebrate our big milestone. The great turnout was largely due to the diligence and skill of our affinity chair, Nancy Taylor Butler, and the enthusiastic volunteers she enlisted to encourage classmates to attend.

Bruce Wagner, our wizard webmaster, organized and sent out periodic witty and inspiring reunion email blasts, while providing copious information about the reunion on our class website. Carolyn Stewart Whitman, our publicity chair, and Nancy Taylor Butler curated the Class of '64 Facebook page. A skilled organizer, Linda Cohen Meltzer, managed every detail of the reunion with tireless dedication.

The fun started three days before the reunion when a team of classmates headed by co-chairs Linda Cohen Meltzer, Joan Melville, and Bruce Wagner arrived on campus and set to work transforming our headquarters at Court/Kay/Bauer, the largest dorm on campus, into a festive place, strategically placing banners, balloons, geraniums, and posters everywhere. Music from the '50's and '60's played softly in the background while photographs taken during reunion (thanks to Bob Friedenson and his able volunteers) ran constantly in a slide show in the lounge. Our seven enthusiastic undergraduate clerks helped with all the preparations and weekend events.



Volunteer greeters, organized by Carolyn Chauncey Neuman, were on hand in their red aprons, to welcome each new arrival. Registration flowed smoothly, overseen by the capable Barbara Lutz Brim, the registration chair. Each classmate received a keepsake copy of our impressive 50th Reunion Yearbook edited by Janet Spencer King and Elliot Gordon and the JFK Memorial Award book of essays, along with one of the Cornell 1964 50th Reunion Caps donated by Mark Colman and a few of his Beta Sigma Rho fraternity brothers.

Class president Susan Mair Holden organized volunteer hosts and checkers for our meals and events. These hosts were welcoming presences who added much warmth and delight to our schedule.

Classmates chuckled at Thursday evening's slide show, a humorous meditation on the way we were and are today, given by Bruce Wagner and Joan Melville. Our ice cream social introduced the new Cornell flavor "Triple Play," a deeply chocolate treat available at the newly renovated dairy bar.

On Friday morning, faculty stars Glenn Altschuler and Isaac Kramnick opened our Class Forum with a fascinating account of the history of Cornell in the early '60's. The second half of our Forum consisted of a lively panel discussion among three of our JFK awardees, led by Award chair Cindy Wolloch.

Later, an exhilarating class-sponsored program organized by Steve Einhorn featured Cornell's talented debate team's lively consideration of intellectual diversity on campus.

The Fabulous Greaseband performed at our gala class banquet on Friday night, featuring musical favorites from our adolescence. Watching the stage show inspired some of us to dust off our dancing shoes and try out our old moves on the dance floor. Undaunted, we danced again after Saturday night's buffet dinner to the retro tunes spun by DJ Bob Higgins '81.

Our Saturday noon Classmate Remembrance ceremony on the shores of Beebe Lake, chaired skillfully by Nancy Lore Einhorn, opened with Eileen Corwin Mason's moving violin solos. Classmate Rev. Kathleen Peterson presided with gentle warmth over a service which comprised readings from scripture, original meditations, and the recitation of our departed classmates' names by several volunteers.

The Sherwoods, led by Paul Reading, sang old favorites at the picnic lunch that followed. Later, our perpetually youthful and energetic Alice (Continued, page 4)



