

1968

Dear Classmates and Friends,



We are a wonderful class. Every year I marvel at the depth of our attachment to Penn, and the innumerable smiles that appear whenever I ask a classmate if they enjoyed their years at Penn, and are they thinking about coming to the 50th reunion which we have begun to plan for, as it is only three years away. These are conversations are always enjoyable, at least for me.

Penn today is vastly different from what it was in 1964 or in 1968. We thought that we saw great changes during those four years. Wow! Look at it now. Physically the university campus had grown and its grounds are abundantly green, well groomed and welcoming. Did you know that the campus now extends to the banks of the Schuylkill River? Though it rains too often when I am there, I always enjoy my walks which are long, nostalgic, and full of pride.

Coming back to the subject of our 50th Reunion, many of us are hard at work bringing groups of us together for the joy of good fellowship, and the opportunity to listen about what you want this 50th reunion to feel like.

All of us matter in the planning of the 50th, and not one of us should be shy in sharing their opinions. There will be food for thought as well as the other kind. Our reunion is also that 50th anniversary of the

year that changed America. We will be talking about that, and listening to speakers who wrote about, participating in, and studied the subject.

This winter and spring there were Class of 1968 alumni events in New York, Philadelphia, Washington DC, and Miami where the objective of meeting old friends and making new ones was amply satisfied. We are planning more events next autumn in Chicago, Atlanta, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, and Paris.

With all good wishes for a happy summer.

Alex C. Conroy

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Class President



Where Did We Eat? *Fond Memories about Mediocre Food*

Dining on Campus, 1964-1968:

There was no Zagat Guide for Philadelphia when we were at Penn. The DP was no help. We listened to the recommendations of our friends, or just followed their footsteps, sat down and ate. I thought that it would be fun to construct a dining guide to the Penn campus, and for special occasions to downtown Philadelphia. Where did we eat between 1964 and 1968?

West Philadelphia

On Campus. To begin: there were the meal plans. Freshman men ate in Houston Hall Commons, the women ate at Hill Hall. We paid for three meals a day, but few of us ate all their meals at the University Dining Service. If you ate dinner in the Houston Hall Common, there was a dress code of "coat and tie". I first ate scrapple there at breakfast. I had never seen or heard of it before. It was referred to as 'Philadelphia scrapple'. I marveled at its grey color. I remember nothing about lunches or dinners in Houston Hall. Nothing that I ate there became a favorite food. The members of fraternities and sororities ate very well. Some of them employed excellent cooks. For some, it was a very good reason to join a fraternity or sorority.



Cy's Penn Luncheonette (a.k.a. Dirty Drug) in the mid-1960s.

Off Campus. Across the street from the almost new Van Pelt Library, and from Hill Hall at the corner of 34th and Walnut Streets was the 'Dirty Drug' (aka Cy's Penn Luncheonette). There was an unrelated but equivalent establishment at 37th and Spruce across the street from the Quad's Main Gate. What was its name?

The lighting was bright, almost harsh, and the service was quick. I can't remember more than their hamburgers and French Fries. I may have eaten there at the dinner hour, but no one went there for dinner. For dinner, you walked up Walnut Street to the 3600 block where you found a few restaurants serving meals that were close to what you ate at home. There was Grand's and Pagano's. Grand's served "American food". Simple food, simply prepared. I do remember their chopped steak. The owner was Harry Grand who appeared proud to be on campus. He always wore a coat and tie, but that may have been the times, more than the location. There were two restaurants with Pagano's in its name. One called itself the Original Pagano's. The larger Pagano's occupied a large space and served typical Italian food. I remember the meatballs, especially their meatball sandwich on a hoagie roll.

I cannot recall precisely where Kelly & Cohen was located in 1964. I think that it was on Chestnut Street close to 34th Street. Later it moved twice, once to Walnut and 38th, later to 38th Street itself. There was nothing particularly Irish about their menu, and the only 'Jewish' item were bagels and lox which were a featured item.

The New Deck Tavern was in the 3400 block of Walnut Street. Its dining room was small, and the lights were dim. There were hard drinkers at their bar.



Could you order a meal at Smokey Joe's? I only remember burgers, and they were very good.

In 1966 or 1967 The Moravian arrived on Sansom Street across the narrow street from the Law School. Suddenly good food had arrived. You could have dinner here with an adult visitor and not have to apologize.

Center City

Eating downtown was a big deal. Though it was easy to get to Center City whether by taxi or subway-surface car, one didn't leave campus for something as mundane as a meal.

The Barclay Hotel had a dining room with an excellent reputation, and where you took your parents and family. Maurice's on Quince Street served very good Italian and French cuisine with operas playing in the background. Good seafood could be enjoyed at Bookbinders, one in Society Hill, and another near City Hall called "Old Original Bookbinders". Also near City Hall was another restaurant strong on seafood called Kelly's on Mole Street. If you had a family connection to the Union League, located on Broad Street just south of Sansom Street, you might enjoy a meal there with a member.

What you have just read is a work in progress: I know that there were restaurants where we ate that I have omitted. Please share what you remember with me.

My thanks to Carol Schlifer Clapp for her careful review of my draft, and for many factual corrections and additions.

Micky Neiditch
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Sharing Reflections About Retirements and Lives Enjoyed: *Ron Kriss takes his turn*



After graduating from Wharton, I went to Penn Law. I was sure I wanted to become a prosecutor. I took Arlen Specter's course in Problems of Prosecution – he was then the District Attorney of Philadelphia – which included an internship in his office. I got an offer to be an assistant DA and also got an offer from District Attorney Frank Hogan of Manhattan. Then I chickened out (full disclosure: I handled a case where a guy got into a bar brawl, went home to get his gun and came back and shot and killed the bartender. He got off. Oh, well, maybe that wasn't my calling!) Deep into my third year of law school, I had to start my job search from scratch. It was a tough market and at that point, most of the major law firms had slashed the number of new recruits and had filled their classes. But I did get lucky, and got an offer from Dewey Ballantine to join as a corporate lawyer.

I began at Dewey five months after Governor Dewey died. During Governor Dewey's leadership, the firm flourished. Soon as I arrived, their practice started to falter. I left in 1980 and business picked up again. I'm sure I was personally responsible for their doldrums! Fast forward, they went bankrupt in 2012 and became the world's biggest law firm failure. Glad I never got to sign the guaranty!

I spent my second year of law school "abroad" – at NYU Law School. One Friday night, I made an Oneg Shabbat at my parents' home on Long Island. A friend asked if he could bring a friend, and that's how I met Marni, now my wife of over 40 years. Marni is a speech language pathologist, still working and very good at what she does. She was beautiful at age 20 and is even more beautiful today. How lucky to be married to my best friend in the world!

We were married in 1974 and took a six week honeymoon out West. Then our kids came along, Jody and Nicole. Jody is a real estate developer in New York City and Nicole is a medical doctor

in Great Neck, both married. Marni and I are also Penn parents – Jody graduated from Wharton in 1997. Nicole went to Dartmouth and University of Miami Med School. We are blessed with four grandchildren and I agree with everybody who says grandchildren are the greatest. Imagine when the 4-year old asked me to play him in chess – and proceeded to beat me! The kid loves to win and caught me napping, but won fair and square.

While at Dewey, I had a plan called "Operation Florida" which was to relocate to South Florida. And so, in 1980, with Marni and the kids in tow, I made a reservation on TWA and when they asked me when I would be returning, I told them "never"! We live in Palmetto Bay, about a half hour south of downtown Miami. I'm still working, practicing real estate law at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, where I've managed the Florida office for the past 4 years. I was lucky to make a niche in distressed properties and the bust years in South Florida were among my best. I foreclosed dozens of major properties, including the largest office building in Florida, in which I'm sitting right now!

In my civic life, I've had some very gratifying experiences. Our children studied at South Dade Hebrew Academy, which fell on very hard times. The school was eventually seized by the IRS and foreclosed by the lender. I got involved in the rescue effort and became the school's fundraiser for 16 years and president for three. Over those years, we got the school out of debt and built a beautiful new home for the school, without a mortgage.

More recently, I was installed for my fourth term as president of the Miami-Dade region of Jewish National Fund. My region raised funds for a new fire station on Mount Carmel in Israel, the site of Israel's worst fire, that claimed 44 lives. It opened last year and makes me very proud.

We love traveling and have been all over, including 16 trips to Israel; we're planning our 17th in April. I also love downhill skiing, take zillions of pictures and have a huge collection of swizzle sticks (yes, I even belong to a club of swizzle stick collectors, honest!).

I wanted to go to Penn since I was a kid. Penn is a special place. I'd like to share one more story. My last semester, one of the instructors told me he had gotten a call from the Wharton office. They told him I was very close to graduating cum laude and that if my grade was a close call, he might want to consider that. He told me he was giving me an A anyway, but that sort of typifies my feelings about Penn. Some schools revolve around the administration. Some, the faculty. But Penn revolves around the students.

I'm very much looking forward to our reunion. I told Elsie that if the program is meaningful, I'm coming. And if it's not meaningful, I'm coming anyway. To me, the reunion is about all of us coming back to visit, seeing one another and recalling our special years at Penn. Can't wait to see you there – and would love to hear from you – krissfamily@bellsouth.net.



**FIRST IN CLASS,
FIRST IN FIELD
'68 WILL NEVER
YIELD**

Across Spain & Portugal | June 14 - 30, 2016

Sponsored by the Class of 1968



We begin our 17-day tour in Lisbon. Travel to Oporto and enjoy a cruise on the Douro River. Cross into Spain and visit the pilgrimage site of Santiago de Compostela. Stop in Leon with visits to the Leon Cathedral, Casa Botines, and the Castille Leon Museum. Continue to Bilbao where we tour the Guggenheim, visit the Fine Arts Museum, and embark on a day-long excursion along the rugged, beautiful Basque coastline. Spend two nights in the Pyrenees Mountain region before concluding the tour with three nights in vibrant Barcelona, where you have the option to extend your stay for 3-days/2-nights. To add your name to a priority reservation list, contact Emilie C. K. LaRosa at emilie@upenn.edu or 215-746-7442. Cost: From approximately \$5,828 total price including air, taxes & fees. Visit: www.alumni.upenn.edu/travel1968 for more information.

Penn's 259th Commencement



On May 18, 2015 6,318 diplomas were issued, including 2,611 Undergraduate degrees. U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations Samantha Power delivered the 2015 Commencement Address.

Visit www.upenn.edu/commencement to see photos and view videos of the ceremony.

To obtain URLs to commencement contact Class of '68 staff liaison Lisbeth Willis (lisbethw@upenn.edu / 215.573.7061)

Editor's Letter to the Class



Prof. Henry Gleitman's Psych I lecture in the Location Hall Basement, Oct. 1964.

Dear Fellow Classmates,

For reasons of cost that were entirely sensible, Penn's Alumni Relations Department transferred class newsletters to an electronic format several years ago, but once a year there is a printed issue which you are holding in your hands today. I hope that you enjoy it. Our task is to report on our class events, present, reflect on days gone by including your reflections, and look forward to Penn's bright future and ours. In this connection, our 50th Reunion looms large.

If you do not currently receive an electronic newsletter about three times a year, devoted exclusively to the Class of '68, and would like to, please send the e-mail address that you want us to send it to. You have my word that this e-mail address will be used for no other purpose. When wearing my editorial hat, my e-mail address is hmichael@alumni.upenn.edu.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and creative summer.

Michael 'Micky' Neiditch
Class of 1968 Vice President for Communications



A Class of '68 Event in Washington, DC

Old Friends and New Friends Celebrate Spring in Washington



Larry Nussdorf, Marilyn Glosserman, Jane Nagler Rich, and Michael Glosserman.



Leslie Maddin Bayer, Nate Bayer, Carol Henderson Gale, Betsy Scott Kleeblatt, and Randy Elkins.



Leslie Maddin Bayer, Leslie Mertz Kaplan, and Sam Kaplan.



Gail Sterling Isaacs and Elsie Sterling Howard.



Richard Katz, Betsy Scott Kleeblatt, Micky Neiditch, and Georgiana Ziegler.

Betsy Scott Kleeblatt and Leslie Maddin Bayer (and her gracious husband, Nate, Penn'66) hosted a Class of 1968 event on Friday, May 15th. It was a lovely springtime afternoon in Washington, DC with fabulous food, champagne and great conversation. It was wonderful to be with terrific classmates and their spouses and partners. Delighted to see -- among others..... Randy Elkins, Michael Glosserman, Larry Nussdorf, Leslie and Sam Kaplan, Carol Henderson Gale, Georgianna Ziegler, Jane Nagler Rich, Marsha Goldberg, Richard Katz, Jim Schaeffer, Micky Neiditch, and Elsie Sterling Howard.

In 2015-2016 we know there will be Class of '68 events in the following cities:

Atlanta: Hosted by Phyllis & Sidney Rodbell

Minneapolis: Hosted by Jack Goldenberg

Philadelphia: Hosted by Barbara Bravo

NYC: December 5, 2015 for Penn's Engaging Minds

NYC: Spring, 2016: Hosted by Betty and Jim Rothschild

Paris: Hosted by Don Morrison

There will be a Class of '68 Leadership Meeting during Homecoming which will be held on November 6 - 8, 2015. Details will be shared later.

A Call for Photos & Memoirs

An Appeal for Photographs taken during our years on Campus.

If you took photographs during the years we were at Penn, and are willing to share them, this would be an important contribution to our class history.

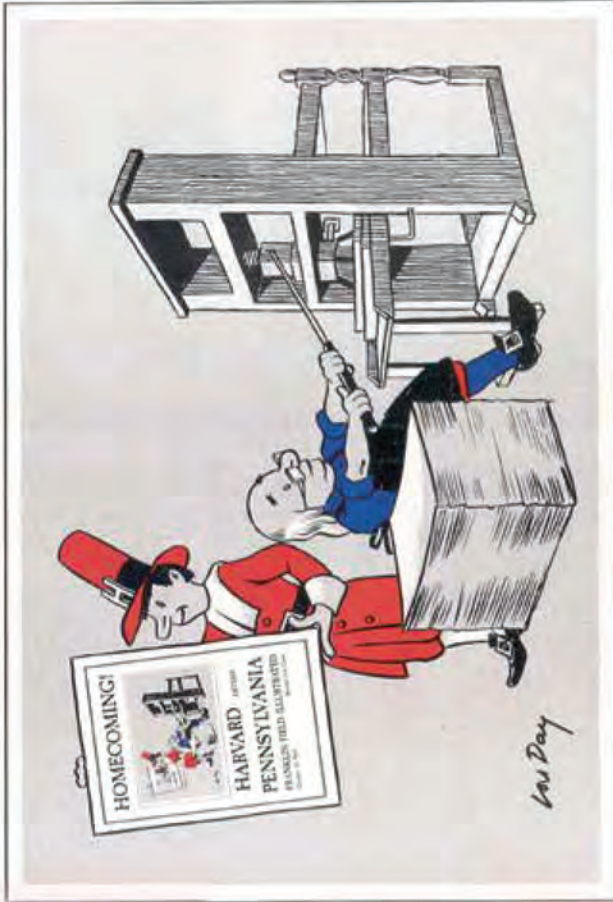
Please send our editor your memoirs and reflections on what Penn has meant to you at hmichael@alumni.upenn.edu





Class of **1968**

HOMECOMING!



HARVARD *versus*
PENNSYLVANIA

FRANKLIN FIELD ILLUSTRATED
October 30, 1965
Seventy-five Cents

Lou Day, the legendary graphic artist, drew this cover as he did countless other Penn covers.

*Were You There Fifty Years Ago?
Why not return to Franklin Field this Autumn?
Homecoming Weekend will be November 6 - 8.*