

**Class of 1970
50th Year Class Reunion
Newsletter**



Editor's Extensions

Marilyn O'Leary-Heaney

Even though, we will not be able to meet in person at our 50th Class Reunion at Gallaudet this fall, we continue to have more new information to share with you in this Newsletter No. 18!

There is another exciting story for you all in "Life Challenging Experience" article submitted by **Barry Harlan** and Vicki Shank Harlan about their unforgettable experiences teaching the deaf children in India. Also, a memorable letter from **Mary Telles-Ruffa**. Thank you, Barry, Vicki and Mary for contributing the heartfelt stories to our Newsletter.

I received a message from our chairperson, **Kathy McIntire Sutton** asking me to remind you all the postmark deadline to purchase the vest and/or anniversary book is **August 24, 2020**. Please take this date seriously and respond quickly.



Chair's Corner

Kathy McIntire Sutton, Chairperson

I sent an email announcing the great news about us getting the Medallion. I did a video explaining more about it. There is a written version of the video. See the links below:

Video: <https://youtu.be/kooYyMbBsXo>

Letter: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VrBXI1UeUa-ErvYWF187RXrCUBxp3vym/view?usp=sharing>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me – VP 480-305-0265 or Email chair70@robandkathy.net.

We are really excited about our virtual Alumni Emeriti Induction (or we can call it the Medallion Ceremony) in October. Joyanne Rasmus Burdett did a great job explaining about the Alumni Emeriti Induction in several of our Newsletters earlier this year. So if you want to read about it, go to www.gally70.com. Click the "50th Year Anniversary Reunion Event". Scroll down to "50th Year Reunion Newsletters" and click it. Her reports are in Issues #11-15. Enjoy!

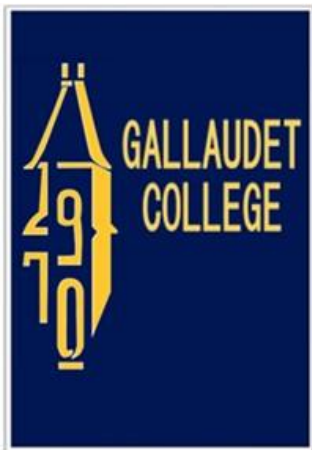
IT CAME TO MY ATTENTION that those who paid for the registration combo last February assumed that the vest and the anniversary book were already paid. **No! No! That is not correct!** Your registration form, hotel reservation form, and check were discarded (voided) by the Office of the Alumni Relations. We made **a new order form** only for the vest and anniversary book. The order form is in Fred Pickering's report. Please copy and fill it out. Remember the postmark deadline is Monday, August 24th. Only seven more days left!

I want to thank Gallaudet for working so hard to make it possible to have our virtual class reunion in October. Remember, Gallaudet has never had to deal with anything like this before. It is a new whole experience for Gallaudet and for us and everything we are doing is breaking new grounds. We will make the best of it and mark our time together this fall, then we will plan for our big bash sometime in the near future. Again, thank you, Gallaudet.



Apparel and Homecoming Parade

Janie Pearson, Coordinator



Some of the class members wanted to know what the emblem on the vest look like. You can see it now. The emblem on the left is our 1970 Class logo. If you have any questions, please contact me – janie12@comcast.net.



Class Treasury Report

Fred Pickering, Treasurer

We now have a total of \$6,749.06 in our 1970 Treasury Fund. This is great. Please do send your donation by writing a check payable to "Gallaudet University Class of 1970" and send it to **Frederick Pickering**, 1114 Morningwood Lane, Great Falls, VA 22066-1609. Thank you for your donations.

In case you have not received the Order Form for the Anniversary Book and Vest which I sent out a couple of weeks ago, see below for the order form. And I sent another one to those who have not responded to my first one. If you want to order the vest and/or the anniversary book, please do it asap. **The deadline is on Monday, August 24th. It must be postmarked on the 24th.** If you have any questions, contact me- fpic47@gmail.com.

Class of 1970 Anniversary Book and Vest Order Form

We are making plans to have a virtual class reunion in October. More information about it is on the way to you. That is why we want you to get your Anniversary Book and/or vest before the virtual class reunion. So please fill out this order asap. Don't wait until the last minute.

Print out this form. Please print clearly using black or blue pen.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email address _____

Section 1: Anniversary Book - \$35.00

Section 2: Vest - \$50.00

(Please see next page for size for Men and Women) Sizes run small. Past customers recommend ordering one size up. For example, if you normally wear Medium, we suggest you order Large. **PLEASE NOTE: ALL SALES ARE FINAL.**

Men Size: Please circle. S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL

Women Size: Please circle. S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL

Section 3: Make your order. Check what you want to order.

____ Anniversary Book \$ _____

____ Vest \$ _____

Total Purchase \$ _____

Please write a check payable to "**Gallaudet University Class of 1970**". Send the check and this form to **Frederick Pickering, 1114 Morningwood Lane, Great Falls, VA 22066-1609**. If you have questions about the check, contact Fred Pickering – fpic47@gmail.com.

Deadline: August 24, 2020

If you have questions about the Anniversary Book, contact Bernie Brown – berniepbrown@gmail.com. If you have questions about the vest, contact Janie Pearson – janie12@comcast.net.

NOTE: ALL SALES ARE FINAL!

Sizes run small. Past customers recommend ordering one size up. If you normally wear Medium, for example, we suggest you order Large. Final logo design TBD.
Any questions, contact Janie Pearson at janie12@comcast.net



Port Authority® Ladies Core Soft Shell Vest. L325

Keep your core warm and protected from the elements in this versatile vest that's easy on the budget.

- 100% polyester woven shell bonded to a water-resistant film insert and a 100% polyester microfleece lining
- 1000MM fabric waterproof rating
- 1000G/M2 fabric breathability rating
- Reverse coil zippers
- Zip-through cadet collar with chin guard
- Front zippered pockets
- Open hem

Ladies Sizes: XS-4XL
Color: Dress Blue Navy

LADIES SIZES	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Size	2	4/6	8/10	12/14	16/18	20/22	24/26	28/30
Bust	32 - 34	35 - 36	37 - 38	39 - 41	42 - 44	45 - 47	48 - 51	52 - 55
Waist	24 - 26	27 - 28	29 - 30	31 - 33	34 - 36	37 - 39	40 - 43	44 - 47
Hip	34 - 36	37 - 38	39 - 40	41 - 43	44 - 46	47 - 49	50 - 53	54 - 57



Port Authority® Core Soft Shell Vest. J325

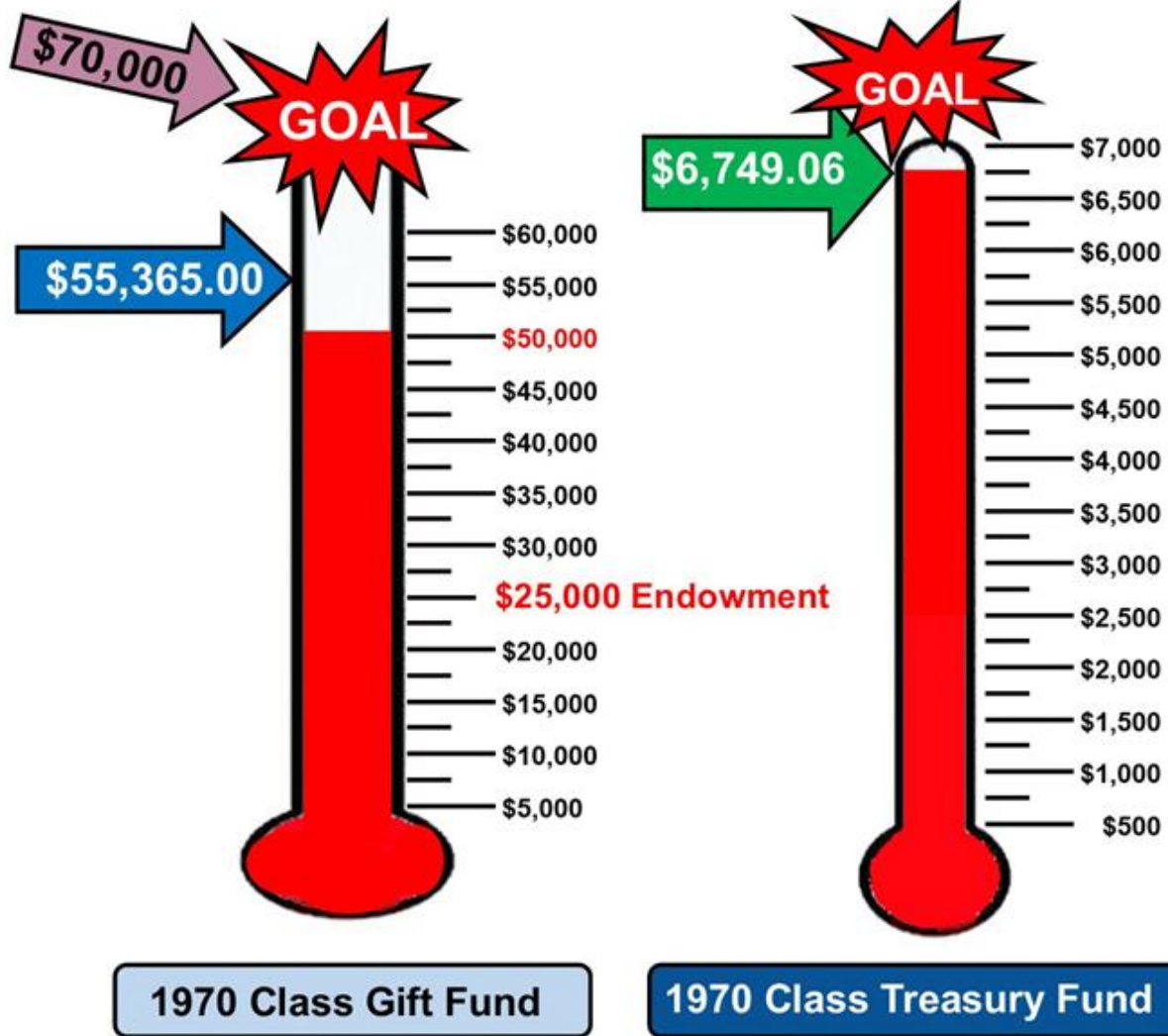
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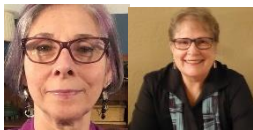
Adult Sizes: XS-4XL
Color: Dress Blue Navy

ADULT SIZES	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Regular/Tail Chest	32 - 34	35 - 37	38 - 40	41 - 43	44 - 46	47 - 49	50 - 53	54 - 57
Waist	26 - 28	29 - 31	32 - 34	35 - 37	38 - 40	41 - 43	44 - 47	48 - 51

Class of 1970 Fund-Raising Barometers



Updated by Paul Stefurak



Class Gift/Endowment Fund Report

Cynthia Neese Bailes and Celia May Laramie Baldwin, Coordinators

Class of '70 Gift Fund

Good news! We have raised \$55,365, up \$5,355 since our last newsletter, thanks to new donors **Anonymous, Clifford Boland, Michael A. Holland, Agnes D. Hall Houston-Polson, William F. Mosier, Allard A. Thomas**, and repeat donors: **Celia May Laramie Baldwin, Pamela Reid Katz, Edwin S. Leighton, Cynthia Neese Bailes, Norman L. Nelson, Janie L. Pearson, Cheryl J. Pierce, Mary Telles Ruffa, Mary Jean Secoolish,**

Joel M. Silberstein, Charles F. Theel, and two repeat donors who wish to remain anonymous.

We need to raise \$14,635 in order to reach our goal of \$70,000 by October 31, 2020. We will reach out to class members who have not yet contributed to our class gift fund. Our participation rate is at exactly 52.76%--86 out of 163 class members have donated. We do aim to raise this to 70% or more of our class members by October 31.

Our mantra: \$70,000 and 70%

Please take a moment to make a contribution right now! Here's the link:

<https://www.gallaudet.edu/office-of-development/giving-at-gallaudet/class-giving/class-of-1970>.

Class of '70 Endowment Fund

Last month we sent a survey asking for a Y/N vote on establishing the Class of 1970 Endowment for the purpose of scholarships for students in good standing who demonstrate financial need, and to include international students. The results of our recent survey are as follows:

Total Responses	38 (out of 162)
Yes	84.2%
No	15.8%

Eight classmates commented as follows:

Split into two endowments	2
US and Canadian students	2
US students only	1
US students first, then international	1
For Kappa Gamma	1
Define "in good academic standing"	1

And, one comment expressing a desire for periodical reports on the breakdown of US and international students receiving scholarships.

Given only 23.5% of our class members responded to this survey, we plan to take the decision process one step further. We have invited our top 10 donors, who have as a group contributed over 50% of the total funds raised to meet with us via Zoom on August 25th. Together we will carefully consider our options. We will confirm the scholarship criteria, explore a two-endowment option, and entertain any additional ideas.

A final proposal will be sent to you all for a vote. Stay tuned. In the meantime, go and donate \$30.00 or \$70.00 or \$700.00 today. Thank you!



“Life Challenging Experience” Essay

Marilyn O'Leary-Heaney, Coordinator



Our Unforgettable Experiences

Submitted by

Barry and Vicki (Shank) Harlan

Barry Harlan '70 and his wife, Vicki Shank '72 were volunteers the Jeevan Gnanodaya School for the Deaf in Chengalpattu, India, for three weeks in September and October of 2009. They shared their experiences and observations in an informal report to ASHA for Education, a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization based in the United States that works with over 200 projects across rural India. ASHA means “hope” in Sanskrit, which is a primary liturgical language of Hinduism in India.

The Deaf School in Chengalpattu is one of the projects ASHA for Education sponsors. You can read about Barry's and Vicki's experiences, with photos, here:

https://ashadocserver.s3.amazonaws.com/84_vb-jg-report.pdf



The Virtual Reunion Report

Jack Lamberton, Coordinator

I sent out a survey to 162 class members and 81 responded. That is almost 50% of the class members which I think it is pretty excellent. A big THANK YOU to those who responded.

At our monthly reunion committee meeting last Wednesday, July 22, 2020 (Abby Drake – Assistant Executive Director from the Office of Alumni Relations at Gallaudet was also present at the meeting), we reviewed the data we collected from you. More likely we will do a Webinar on Wednesday October 28 and a standard Zoom platform with 8-9 breakout groups on Saturday, October 31. I am now discussing with Myles Goldberg from the Office of Alumni Relations on what to do and how to do it, etc. I will make sure that you as

class members are also kept informed of the plans. And those of you who really need help will have an opportunity to receive some kind of training for our virtual reunion.

Here are the results from the survey. (All Email Addresses and Names have been removed for confidential reasons.) If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at jack@jlamberton.net or VP 510-585-9509).

Please note that the survey shows 85 responses. That means four people responded twice (first one for practice and second one for real).

- Do you have a laptop or computer? (85 responses)
YES 91.8 % NO 8.2%
- Laptop or Computer that you will use for the virtual reunion? (78 responses)
LAPTOP 55.1% COMPUTER 44.9%
- What operating system does it use? (78 responses)
APPLE 51.3% MICROSOFT 46.2% ANDROID 2.5%
- Does it have a built-in webcam, or an external USB webcam mounted (78 responses)
YES 83.3% NO 16.7%
- What electronic device do you use? (i.e. computer, iPad, iPhone, etc.) (7 responses)
iPAD 57.2% CELL PHONE 14.3% TABLET 14.3% OTHERS 14.3%
- Do you have a television? (85 responses)
YES 92.9% NO 7.1%
- If you have a television, what size? (79 responses) Large to Small
[> 60"] 01.2% [51"-60"] 24.1% [41"-50"] 22.8%
[31"-40"] 13.9% [21"-30"] 21.5% [11"-20"] 16.5%
[< 11"] None

If you have not done the survey, **it is not too late** to do it. Thank you for your cooperation.



Excerpts from the Knob Hill News

Helen Merritt Tingley and Ursula Klim Attia, Coordinators

o **Our Backward Party**

A gala time was enjoyed by a good-sized crowd of preprats at Chapel Hall on March 12. Everything was 'backward'. We attended this party wearing our costumes on backwards. For decoration, the busts and folding chairs faced the walls. 'Wald, run, play and dance backward' was our rule and if anyone broke this, we were fined a penny apiece. Tasty refreshments, consisting of punch, cookies, mints and nuts were served at the beginning of this party. Stacks of napkins and paper plates were at the wrong end of the table. Apparently, this was a backward party all right.

several games were played and then followed by some dances. We had a fabulous time, didn't we? Arthur Dignan, Ed Leighton and their wonderful social committee deserve a pat on the back!

Celia May Laramie

* * *

"If you have love and undersanding in your life, then you will have much happiness."

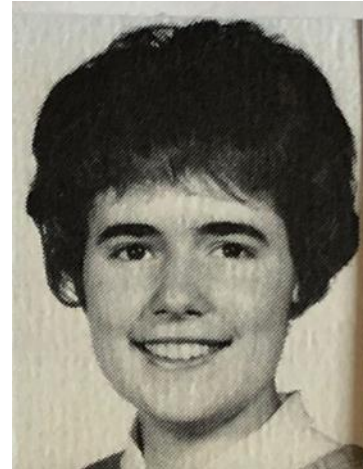
Willena Osmola

CAMP FUND NEWS

We are still working hard for the Camp Fund! I think we can make the "\$1200 Goal" if you will cooperate with me. The current amount in the business office is \$935.00.

We lost our assistant manager, David Whiggun, who now resides in the Prep Dropout Cemetery. We selected Robert Webster as his replacement.

Byron Cantrell
Manager



Celia May Laramie Baldwin



Willena Osmola McDevitt



Byron Cantrell

Memory Lane



Class of 1970
Graduation Day
May 18, 1970



A Letter to Class of 1970



To Class of 1970,

In the Issue No. 17 Newsletter, the photo of the graduation party for Class of '70 at my relatives' house popped in my memory after 50 years.

Let me introduce the hosts of the party, my uncle and aunt, Commander Carl E. Lair, Jr. and Rosette Stefanoni Lair, the Navy wife. Both Rosette and my mother are sisters. They live in Alexandria, Virginia, 3 miles from George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Uncle Carl prepared and cooked the glorious foods especially his favorite Caesar's dressing for us at the party.

Mary Telles-Ruffa *Uncle Carl came from Texas and Aunt Rosette, California. When WWII began, Carl saw action with the Navy and Rosette dropped out of high school and entered the work force supporting our country. In Livermore, California, the two met and got married. They had no children.*

Uncle Carl was the Naval aviator and carrier pilot in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters during both WWII and Korean War. His post-war duties included command, staff and administrative assignments at sea and ashore.

Uncle Carl was the executive officer and commanding officer of Fighter Squadrons and served on the staff of a carrier air group. He was the Commander of Naval forces in the Atlantic, Patuxent River Naval Air Test Station as well as the Bureau of ordinance aeronautics and naval personal at the Naval Intelligence School.

While I was a student at Gallaudet College, Uncle Carl worked at Pentagon. I visited him and he took me on a tour. Wow! It had everything such as PX store, clothing store, barber shop, salon, and café, etc. Also, it had a line of four wheeled vehicle carts operated by electricity connecting underground to Congress, the Senate and House of Representatives buildings, White House and other places.

I owe Rosette a lot because she first introduced me to Gallaudet College when I was a little girl. She showed me the photos taken of me on the Campus. While growing up, she always emphasized to me how important is to get a good education. Also, I am thankful to Gallaudet for giving me the opportunity to obtain a higher education. Gallaudet encouraged me NOT to drop out when I was in Preparatory Class after encountering a tragic experience on Friday, October 17th. Uncle Carl, at the age of 71, died of cancer on November 10, 1992 at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda. He rests in Arlington National Cemetery. Aunt Rosette is now 96 years old. She has dementia and is in the care of two very nice caregivers at the very same house where the graduation party was held!

I salute Uncle Carl and Aunt Rosette for their generosity to all of us including me!
Mary Telles-Ruffa

Correction: The location of the graduation party was in Alexandria, Virginia not Maryland as it was mentioned in the previous issue (Issue No. 17.)