

Mighty Class of 1943 - Welcome Home!

The Daily Tar Heel

Thirtieth Anniversary Edition; Class of 1943

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Our Thirtieth Reunion...

'43 Makes the Scene Again - Back to 'The Hill'



Five Short Years Ago

AT THE 25TH REUNION—Various 'wheels' in the Class of '43 are seen at the gala 25th reunion, held just five short years ago in 1968. At the Chapel Hill Country Club reception [left] is Reunion General Chairman W. J. Smith of Charlotte with Dick Adler, famed Broadway producer, who was master of ceremonies for the evening's entertainment program. Steve Peck, Baltimore

banker and now a director of the General Alumni Association, is seen with former cheerleader Curry Jones, at center, while at right Class President Bob Spence looks over the '43 edition of the Yackety Yack with the then Secretary of the Alumni Association, J. Maryon 'Spike' Saunders.

But Only Two Formal Exercises ...

Commencement in 1943? There Were 3 of Them

—Remember the graduation exercises for the Class of '43?

It will be harder for you to do it than ordinarily, since there were at least three different commencements in an official sense—on March 14, June 1, and at the end of the summer session, Sept. 4, 1943. Formal exercises were held for only the first two. Diplomas were presented to about 100 at the spring exercises, held with traditional ceremony on Sunday, March 14, in Hill Hall. This followed the baccalaureate in the University Methodist Church, where the baccalaureate sermon on "How to be Strong" was given by the Episcopal Bishop Edwin A. Penick.

The March commencement marked the first commencement for the round-the-calendar students in the war-initiated speed-up program. Almost all of them were scheduled to go into the armed services on graduation.

After Benjamin Hall gave the senior valedictory, Dean House introduced former UNC President Harry W. Chase, then Chancellor of New

York Univ. In his address, Chase warned that the U.S. should avoid repeating its mistakes following World War I—by founding a strong international organization with "continuing will and purpose and faith."

A "parting word" was given by President Graham, who declared in part that "the war-bound graduates should keep in mind that 'no abuse of freedom should cause us to strike down freedom of assembly, speech, and publication which are the fresh resources of a free religion and a free state.'"

Almost 500 received their degrees at the June 1 graduation rites, at which diplomas were handed out by Gov. J. Melville Broughton. Dean House introduced Class President Bob Spence and the degrees were actually conferred by President Graham.

No actual commencement exercises were held at the end of the summer session, but 127 students completed their work at the end of the term, Sept. 4.

A Message from Our Leader

Dear Classmates,

This is to request that you forget the Democrate's Watergate and Mr. Nixon's Waterloo and let's return to the hallowed halls of Chapel Hill and indulge ourselves in reminiscing on the days when the old '43 gang were walking the paths of Chapel Hill in saddle shoes and rolled up trousers and primarily worrying whether they would be able to graduate prior to entering into permanent employment in Uncle Sam's service.

We look forward to an evening of no formalized program but merely one of elbow rubbing and some bending and meeting each other and discussing the loss of hair and the cost of educating children. Please do not indulge in weight problems and such as that!

Since our evening meal Saturday evening will be out at Kenan Stadium if any of you younger members of the class feel equal to the occasion and have memories that are vivid enough you may bring your blankets and indulge in after dark activities as in the distant past.

I certainly want to welcome all members of the class to this our 30th reunion together with their respective spouses and, if the case may be, any prospective spouses. We urge everyone to breathe deeply of the enlightened air of Chapel Hill, renew your ties, and loyalties and love for the University so that you can realize that in spite of its appearance of bigness it still stands for the same principles in democracy as well as education for the youth of today as it did in the year of 1943. Yes, even in this day and time we are proud to be Americans and Tarheels, born and bred.

Most cordially,

Bob Spence, Class President

Regrets Are Sent By Some in Class

Regrets from a number of '43 class members who wrote saying they were sorry they wouldn't be able to attend the reunion have been received in the Alumni Office.

Mrs. Andrew J. Gibbons (nee: Nancy Jefferis) sent word to this effect from Winter Park, Fla.—also said she was looking for a surplus copy of the '43 Yack, hers having been damaged by water.

Al Moore in Boston, Mass., said he was hoping that his daughter, Laura, now at Dana Hall, would be admitted to UNC in '74; sorry he wouldn't be able to attend the reunion.

Going on Greek Trip

Several members of the Class of '43 will be among Carolina alumni who'll leave next week on the fifth group tour sponsored by the General Alumni Association.

The 11-day junket, with approximately 180 in the party, will take them by air to Greece for five days in Athens and a four-day cruise of the Aegean Islands. Alumni Secretary Clarence Whitefield '44 is leading the trip.

The members of the 30-year class in the group include Helen Broughton Jenrette and her husband, J. M. Jenrette '41 of Raleigh, and their son, J. M. III '73, and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Smith of Winston-Salem.

Surprise everybody! We made it back to The Hill again!

The occasion of our 30th reunion brings to Chapel Hill many of us who started at the University in 1939, as well as others who joined up along the way—and not a few who came to us involuntarily via the armed services, but proudly accepted Carolina as alma mater.

The reunion committee's work, under the leadership of President Bob Spence of Smithfield and Local Arrangements Chairman Art Clark of Durham, comes to fruition this weekend, May 11-13. President Spence and UNC Chancellor Ferebee Taylor have issued special greetings to the returning '43ers, welcoming them back to the ever-changing but never "different" campus.

Registration for returning "old grads" began Friday morning with residence allocations in Morrison Hall by the Alumni Office Staff. Headquarters in Morrison are open all day Saturday, through the morning Alumni Seminar, tours of the campus, and through the evening reception and dinner at the Rams Club room in the Kenan Stadium Field House. The rousements will continue through the night in the '43 lounge on our floor in Morrison Hall.

Those who can do so are encouraged to attend the Annual Alumni Luncheon for all Carolina alumni at 12:30 p.m. Saturday in the Carolina Inn. At that time the officers of the General Alumni Association for the coming year will be installed. Another event of considerable interest to all of us will be the graduation exercises—on the new time-shortened plan—at 2 p.m. Sunday in Kenan Stadium.

A total of 789 degrees were awarded to members of our class at the two formal commencement exercises in the spring of 1943. This was almost 200 less than in 1942 because of World War II's drain on student enrollments. Yet more than 1,000 alumni now identify with the Class of '43.

Attendance at 25th Topped 370 Persons

More than 370 class members and their guests attended the gala two-day silver anniversary reunion for the Class on May 31 and June 1, 1968.

General Chairman was W. J. Smith of Charlotte, who was aided on local arrangements by Bill Cherry. Editor of the revised edition of the Yackety Yack was Hugh Morton, and of the Daily Tar Heel reunion edition, Sylvan Meyer.

The success of the affair was greatly abetted by the efforts of Finance Chairman Bert Bennett, who raised \$2,600 in special contributions from nearly 100 class members to pay the extra cost of the affair.

Altogether 187 class members returned, accompanied by 125 wives or husbands, and 69 children.

From the Chancellor

Having only recently returned to Chapel Hill after spending nearly two decades in New York City, I can assure you that the warmth of this village is still very real, both for the permanent resident and for the occasional visitor.

To be invited back, and particularly to have the rare opportunity to serve as Chancellor of the University, is the kind of thing about which most Carolina alumni would hardly dare dream. Yet, fortune has made this my lot, and I shall be eternally proud and grateful.

My own undergraduate days at Carolina were just a year ahead of most of you, and I shall look forward to renewing acquaintances and making new ones among your classmates. Whether you are coming from a great distance or from nearby, we want you to know that our welcome is warm, genuine and personal.

We hope that this 30th reunion will be a memorable and pleasant occasion for you, and that it will serve to rekindle your interest in, and your love for, this great University which we call our Alma Mater.

Ferebee Taylor '42
Chancellor

Holley Mack Covets Award for Distance

The class alumnus coming from the farthest distance to attend the 30th reunion will likely be Holley Mack Bell, who has been in Quito, Ecuador, since last August.

At the 25th reunion in 1968, Holley Mack thought he'd capture the honor by flying in from his post with the U.S. Embassy in Bogota, Colombia. However, he was out-distanced then by Paul Kattenberg, then in British Guiana but now in South Carolina.

Bell's new position with the U.S. Information Service in the capital city of Ecuador is 600 miles farther south than Bogota, on the west side of South America—just a few points below the equator—so Holley Mack anticipates capturing the mythical award for coming the farthest distance.

Reunion Planning Set at Meeting Held on Feb. 18

The 30th reunion was initiated at a planning meeting held Sunday, Feb. 18, at the Carolina Inn in Chapel Hill.

Thirty-four persons attended and discussed plans for the program, under the Chairmanship of Class President Bob Spence of Smithfield.

At this "pre-reunion reunion" session were Jack Jarvis of Lynchburg, Va., Libby Frazier Bartholomew of Wake Forest, John Wilson of Wilson's Mills, Al Smith of Raleigh, Marjorie Hurlbutt Cheshire of Raleigh, Art Clark of Durham, Tom and Ann Fountain Dill of Rocky Mount, Roy Stroud and Frosty Long of Charlotte, Johnny Pecora of Raeford, Hugh Morton of Wilmington, Louis Burkhead and W. J. Smith of Charlotte, and Marsha Hood Brewer of Pink Hill, in addition to President Smith.

Scenes ...

ART CLARK, rushing from Duke where he was to make commissioning speech for Duke ROTC cadets to 30th reunion in Chapel Hill. ☆☆☆ CHARLOTTE POWERS (Mrs. Robert) COPP, sending word late last month of her intention to come from Dearborn, Mich. ☆☆☆ Number of '43 alumni writing in to suggest that reunions be held in class groupings—such as having the classes of '41 and '44 meet at the same time and with the Class of '43. (Alumni Secretary Clarence Whitefield says consideration has been given to this idea, but notes that there are some scheduling and arrangements problems inherent in such a plan.) ☆☆☆ BILL CHERRY, spending the last few weeks in Charlotte at a special school for NCNB personnel, rushing back to Chapel Hill recently to be present for the formal induction of his son, Bob, a straight-A student at UNC, into Phi Beta Kappa. (Bill, classmates will remember, was chairman of the 25th reunion.)



Great Music from '43

REMEMBER THEM?—Tommy Dorsey and his trombone were in the Tin Can—replete with singers Frank Sinatra and Joe Stafford and an unidentified member of the Pied Pipers. The occasion was one of the big dance weekends in 1943. Last year photographer Hugh Morton snapped another of the name jazz band leaders of the 1940s—still unharmed in his upbeat rhythm: Cab Calloway, as he appeared before a 1972 Azalea Festival audience in Wilmington.